



# Minutes

## Distington Big Local Annual General Meeting

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 6pm by Zoom

**Present** : 40 approximately

**Apologies** : Karen Hodgson

### 1. Welcome

Rhoda Robinson (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those who had been involved in Distington Big Local over the past year, especially with the difficulties presented by the pandemic.

### 2. Minutes of Previous AGM

These had been passed as a true record.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer gave an update of spend over the past year, talking through the account to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. The accounts are to be uploaded to the website. A question was asked as to why the amount set aside for the playpark had been reduced. The treasurer explained that was all the money available currently. Another question queried why the village maintenance project ran at a loss. It was explained that DBL subsidised the project. There was concern as to what would happen after Big Local funding ceased.

### 4. Annual Report, Ingrid Morris, Project Manager

Ingrid gave a presentation on the work carried out by Distington Big Local in the past year and proposed future projects. This was also presented in the form of an annual report. This is on the website.

### 5. Architects' update on the housing scheme.

The plans were amended following previous planning objections. Alan outlined the new plans and showed a fly through presentation of the revised scheme. Questions were answered relating to vehicle access, parking, height of the building and windows. Some additional measurements were requested. Alan and Bill replied to concerns.

### 6. Housing 21 introduction

Zoe outlined the background to Housing 21 and their Court principal. The site would provide retirement living for over 65s, and in some cases over 55s depending on health needs. The site would have a court manager 5 days a week. Residents from Distington and the immediate area would have priority to homes. A question was asked as to whether the site would be gated. This was not the case but there would be fob entry to the apartment block. Residents would have pendant or bracelet alarms in case they needed support.

### **7. Local Trust update**

Pete Duncan explained how Big Local worked, saying how plans drawn up by DBL were ratified by Local Trust before money could be drawn down. A review of the plan was carried out – at times persons coming from London to discuss with the board. If the money was not all used in a plan it was recovered by Local Trust until applied for again.

### **8. Questions from the public**

Additional questions were asked. These related to the size of the apartment block, whether any units would be able to be bought on a shared ownership basis.

### **9. Election of New Board Members**

Nathan Martin and Elaine Ismay were elected to the board.