

Project Progress Meeting

21st March

Cresswell Village
Hall – 7pm



Making a Difference

in Cresswell, Ellington, Linton and Lynemouth

1. **Attendance:** Pat McCann (Chair); Rebecca Matthews (Minutes); Jean Gardner; Christina Manners; Bob Manners; Sal Armitage; John McCann; Barry Mead; Kevin Hindmarsh; Bill Tarbit; Kevin Stoodley; John Robson; Peter Holloway; Max Cairns; Joyce Bell; Mary Taylor; Anne Bromley
2. **Apologies:** Cnlr Milburn Douglas; Andrew Gooding; Neil Taylor
3. **Task Group & Project Updates**

Liz and Tom Dunn are no longer involved in CELL Big Local. We would like to say a massive thank you to them both for their help getting the Housing Task Group started and for their contributions and support.

CELL Life (Jean Gardner)

CELL Life was sent to the printers on Monday afternoon. The newsletter needs to be delivered to the Delivery Service (Thru Yor Door) by the 5th April 2016. John McCann is going to chase up Arriva for their leaflets as they are being delivered at the same time and we will need them by Monday 4th April.

We are already looking at compiling the next one so if anyone wants something included let Christina or Jean know.

We would like to say a massive Well Done to Jean Gardner, Christina Manners and Bob Manners for getting the next CELL Life edition complete.

Youth (Pat McCann)

Currently the youth cell project is working three nights of the week engaging with an average of 30 young people each week.

The sessions consist of:

- Wednesday - Linton Youth Drop-in for 8 - 18 years of age 4pm - 8pm.
- Thursday - Lynemouth Youth Drop-in for 8 - 13 years of age 4pm - 8pm.
- Friday - Youth Bus picking up young people from each village when book onto bus and bringing to the YMCA in Ashington and then returning to the villages at the end of the session.

Milestone Progress:

- 43 young people have engaged in sexual health, drugs and alcohol awareness training/information sessions.

- 4 young people are currently taking part in Level 1 youth work training, as part of this training the young people have been helping to deliver youth sessions alongside staff at the Lynemouth younger years sessions.
- 2 groups of young people have completed key fund level 1's (organising small trips) with the idea of, at their stage 3 application they will look to organise youth events across all four villages over the summer months.
- 1 young person is interested from the Lynemouth youth sessions at taking part in the Tall ships.
- Bus sessions are engaging 8 - 10 young people most weeks with the odd dip here and there, usually around school term finishes or when events are taking place.

Moving Forward

By the end of April the youth team are looking to open up the age range of the Thursday Lynemouth sessions due to demand from young people, this may mean split sessions. Currently staff members are suggesting improvements that could be made to the Lynemouth Pavilion that would allow more young people to engage with the programme and help make the pavilion feel more welcoming to young people as a space. Summer activities/programme. Actively seeking volunteers from the Cell area as well as providing full FREE training of volunteers. Widening provisions across the cell area.

Pat McCann, Kevin Stoodley and 2 x YMCA staff members met with John from Community Foundation and discussed the Community Foundation funds (£10,000.00) which we can apply for. This means we would get 2 x qualified youth workers (youth apprentices) to work within the four Villages. They would be provided with training and the age range is between 16-21 years of age. This will have to be discussed further and then more information will be provided.

Strengthening Communities (Christina Manners)

Craft Fayre

Rebecca has organised a small group to be able to offer a Craft Fayre in the Lynemouth Institute. Their first endeavour was on Sunday 20th March 2016 and it was well attended by both stall holders and members of the public. Cost of running the Craft Fayre was £64 and income was £105. We would like to say a big Well Done to Rebecca, Mary Taylor and Joyce Bell for organising the event. Another Craft Fayre will be held on Sunday 26th June 2016 so keep an eye out for posters and information.

Community Kitty

We have one definite application; which the task group will be discussing at their next meeting, and several tentative enquiries.

Tall Ships

Kevin S has managed to secure match funding for 2 young people from the CELL area to volunteer as part of this project. Kevin has worded the application form and letter around CELL Big Local getting the young person to give use some thoughts on what the youth of the area would like to see improved/changed, as well as a commitment to volunteering on a new/existing project.

Housing and Community (Bill Tarbit)

Community Buildings Feasibility Study – Public Consultation Event took place on Thursday 17th March at the Resource Centre and the Institute where plans for the proposed co-location of community buildings in Lynemouth were displayed.

There were over 100 people who visited the exhibition; a report is being prepared by the consultant, Karen Wood, who will present the findings of the consultation to the community groups and organisations in the village in due course.

Following a meeting with the County Council's Housing Team, social landlords Bernicia and Isos, there is a need to develop a strategy to deal with community groups, landlords, problematic empty properties and private rented properties in the villages of Lynemouth and to a lesser extent, Linton.

Work to develop this strategy is on-going.

Jobs (Andrew Gooding)

The virement for one of Andrew's projects has come through and will be sorted over the next couple of weeks when Vikki Thompson is back to work.

Transport (John McCann)

On the 30th March 2016 a new timetable will be put up around the four villages as the clocks go forward. There are also two different changes to the Morpeth Market Minibus route:

- The bus will go through Ellington, use the Plough bus stop as a pick up point then turn at the roundabout at the bottom.
- Cresswell – the bus will do a detour to the Drift Inn and will turn around.

John stated that the Sunday Service is looking good and locals are continuing to use it.

John McCann met with County Hall to discuss the process of the CELL Big Local bus stop signs to get put onto the lampposts etc, CELL Big Local will only be paying for the fixing of the signs but this may be covered via the Council. The Morpeth Market Minibus timetables are being put onto the normal bus timetables around the villages.

Environment (Kevin Hindmarsh)

The second path was completed today which takes you from the allotments in Lynemouth to the first bridge.

420 trees were planted in Lynemouth Dene. Roughly 40 volunteers turned up which were mainly families but overall it was a successful day.

Kevin circulated two fund approval forms for his Environment task group, which has been approved by the Partnership.

On the 30th March 2016, Friends of Lyne Dene and Groundworks are holding an Easter Egg Hunt for anyone to go along. A poster has been distributed around the mailing list, put onto the Facebook page and also on our CELL Big Local Website for you to find out more information.

Pele Tower (Barry Mead)

Unfortunately, Barry's application for the Heritage Grant was unsuccessful. On the other hand they were told that it was a 'strong bid' and they were the only group told to reapply in June 2016 where a decision will be made in September 2016.

4. **Any Other Business**

Peter Holloway is looking to start a new Scouts group in one of the four Villages. With Linton, Ellington and Cresswell being in the Morpeth District it would have to be held at one of these Villages. Peter has spoke to Ellington First School about holding the 'head quarters' there and they were very enthusiastic.

Ellington Village Hall needs support from CELL Big Local. Unfortunately, there has been no contact up to now but we think this may be down to the funding form to be finalised. Bill Tarbit is going to contact George Jackson about the funding and support they consider.

A new system is being considered for the Morpeth Market Minibus cards. The new process will be to contact Rebecca at Lynemouth Resource Centre instead of using the boxes.

A decision will be made at the next Partnership meeting for a date for the future plans to be put together.

The deadline date for individuals to apply to be on the Partnership will be Tuesday 9th April 2016.

Our CELL Big Local website needs to be more user friendly and also needs updated. At the next Strengthening Communities meeting, a date will be put together for Rebecca to go through the website with another CELL Big Local member to remove all old documents that no longer need to be on.

5. **Next Meeting**

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 21st April 2016 at Linton Village Hall from 6:30pm, following on at 7pm will be the next Project Progress Meeting (also at Linton Village Hall).

Pat McCann

Chair

Chair for the meeting: Date: 21/03/2016