

Glendale Community Forum
Thursday 29th April 2010

7pm at The Cheviot Centre

Present: Jane Pannell (Chair), Rachel Sinton (GGT Admin), T R Sharp (GGT), E Brown (Kirknewton Parish Council), Barbara Rattcliff (GGT), Frank Mansfield (GGT), John Cooper (NCC), Joyce Robertson (Wooler Parish Council), Alfreda Hindmarsh (Local resident), Rosanna Reed (Wooler Parish Council), Iain Hedley (NNPA), David Buckle (GGT), Kate Bagenal-Lowe (Local resident), James Joicey (Ford & Etal Estates), Tom Johnston (GGT), Sue Bevan (NCC) and Kirsten Francis (NCC)

1. **Welcome & introductions:** JP welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Roy Searle, Anthony Murray, Brian Watson, Roger Miket, River Tweed Commission, David Larmour, Yvette & Mike Hope, Elspeth Gilliland, Patsy Healy, Alan Holmes, Linda Murray, Clive & Angela Hallam-Baker, Margaret Logan, E K Macaulay, Kevin Malloy, Hugh Logan, Marc Johnson, David & Sheila Tennet, Inspector Beguid and Janet Brough.
3. **Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
5. **Election of Chair:** David Buckle took the Chair for this item. 1 nomination was received for Jane Pannell who was unanimously elected. There remains a vacancy for a deputy chair – is anybody interested?
4. **Report of activity since the start of Glendale Community Forum:** **Report attached from JP**
6. **Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th February:** These were agreed and signed.
7. **Matters arising from the minutes and not elsewhere on the agenda:** In item 4 it should read “play area” not pay area. There are still no suggestions for a local business champion. The delayed item on the eco museum will be held over again to the next meeting.
8. **Glendale Opportunities – 10th May event:** This will be the start of developing a community plan looking at sustainability. A sub-group has been formed which has looked at headline issues such as the high numbers employed in agriculture compared to the national average, the high number of micro-businesses, demographics and the ageing population. The community plan aims to identify the priorities of the area and set actions and targets – it will be evidence based and hopefully will ultimately help to attract funding to the area. There are 27 localities in Northumberland – three have been given pilot project status - of which Glendale is one. The meeting on the 10th May will bring together key agencies and community members to look at the four main areas of; Business and the Economy, Housing, Communication & Transport and Demographic change. They will explore and develop an action plan and vision of where we are now and where we want to be in 20 years time – and how to get there. The plan will look at what actions are

needed and will help to attract investment. A draft will be produced before the next Forum meeting which everybody will be able to comment on and suggest additions etc. James Joicey said that Newcastle University and the centre for rural economy have produced some important pieces of work – *these are attached to the minutes*. It was suggested that Phillip Lowe might be a good speaker at a future Forum meeting.

Joyce Robinson said she was weary of people trying to change things and that she worried that the area might not change for the better. JP pointed out that with an ever aging population it was important to ensure that the correct services were in place and that preservation of what is best locally is of vital importance. James Joicey and Kirsten Francis both pointed out that change happens and that this plan was a way of foreseeing changes and managing them in a positive way to the benefit of the whole community. JP added that the plan will also change with time and will be constantly reviewed.

9. North Area Partnership update: Report attached from JP.

There were no questions.

Please find attached to these minutes a form regarding broadband services – if you have an issue please complete the form and return to locality.development@northumberland.gov.uk

10. Eco Museums: Postponed to next meeting

11. Issue raised by Ted Brown – pharmacy prescriptions: During the winter snow the problem arose of getting prescriptions filled – done through good neighbours with 4x4s etc. but surgery will only issue for one month at a time which could lead to problems. A letter was sent asking for this to be changed to two months – this request has met with a positive response. There is also now a Wednesday bus so people from Kirknewton are trying to arrange all appointments for this day. So solutions are being found. Ted is to do a newsletter to residents telling them of these developments. It was suggested that the surgery should be asked to do a newsletter to patients informing them about the change to two months and that perhaps there should be a press release. An item could go onto the Wooler website. JP commented that in the context of the Community Plan all these issues were inter-related especially with the ageing population.

12. Any other business: There was none.

13. Date and arrangements for next meetings: The next meeting will be looking at the draft Community Plan with a relevant speaker – Thursday 15th July – 7pm Cheviot Centre. The plan could then also be presented at the GGT AGM on July 21st.
Thursday 16th September – 7pm Cheviot Centre.
Thursday 9th December – 7pm Cheviot Centre.
Thursday 17th March 2011 – AGM – 7pm Cheviot Centre.

The meeting closed at 7:50pm