

Consett Area Neighbourhood Forum – Management Committee

7pm, 29 June 2026

Online meeting: Zoom call

Attendees:

Christine Thomas – Chair
Mike Shiels – Secretary
Anne Louise Grant – Treasurer
Lucy Reed – Data Protection Officer
John Million – MC member
Richard Lumley – MC member

Apologies:

Anthony Robson – MC member
Mark Russell – MC member
Maureen Clyne – MC member
Ian Peart – MC Member
Kelli Turner – MC member
Jo-Anne Garrick – Planning Consultant

Minutes

1. Update on Neighbourhood Plan

Christine sent all updates to Jo-Anne on 23 May, but not progressed, and now an issue with funding (see below).

Niamh has done all the mapping; Christine did a spreadsheet of the green spaces. A few discrepancies need to be tidied up.

2. Consultancy fees and shortfall

Jo-Anne has requested the following additional funding:
£1,650 to complete pre-submission draft.
£4,620 to support submission and examination processes

Jo-Anne has suggested some ways to reduce her effort, if we can complete some parts ourselves. Christine to ask Jo-Anne for the templates she mentioned.

MC agreed that we should review the remaining work and ask Jo-Anne to perform only tasks where her planning expertise is essential.

3. Additional sources of funds we can pursue

National Lottery – Awards for All
Point North Community Fund
CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money – if DCC collect this (check with Stuart)
Councillors (if they have any funds left)

4. Finances

As of the date of this meeting, the available balance of funds in the CANF account was £2,900.

From this we will need to cover ESRI licence renewal, insurance and any further payments to Jo-Anne, as well as any annual charge applied by the bank for holding the account.

5. Deadlines / prep for next Full Forum meeting

MC agreed we should aim to finalise the pre-submission draft for Full Forum review.

6. Planning updates

No further updates since last MC meeting. Work on hospital site seems to have come to a complete halt.

7. AOB

- Meeting Steven Reed to see whether they will release 106 money to pay for a statue in Consett.

8. Date / time of future meetings

- Next MC meeting: Monday 20 July, 7pm
- Next Full Forum: 12 July, 2pm