

Consett Area Neighbourhood Forum – Management Committee

7pm, 27 August 2024

Zoom Video Conference

Attendees:

Christine Thomas – Chair
Mike Shiels – Secretary
Anne Louise Grant – Treasurer
Mark Russell – MC member
Ian Peart – MC Member
Richard Lumley – MC member
Lucy Reed – Data Protection Officer
Niamh McDonald – MC member
John Million – MC member

Apologies:

Anthony Robson – MC member
Kelli Turner – MC member
Maureen Clyne – MC member
Jo-Anne Garrick – Planning Consultant

Minutes

1. CIO status update

Review ongoing with Debbie Lamb. Draft constitution is nearing completion and pending final review from Debbie. Still need to clarify how the CIO relates to the Forum, and whether they continue to co-exist or the CIO supersedes the Forum.

Anthony is the last trustee still to sign – should get his signature this week.

2. GIS Mapping update

For next full Forum meeting, Ian is confident that we can display mapping that exists for heritage and green spaces. “Story Map” as shown to MC meeting on 15 August, is his recommended approach to putting information link on the CANF website. We will need to caveat that this is currently ‘draft’ and not the final version for the Neighbourhood Plan consultation. Ian and Christine to meet with Mel to get this updated on the CANF website.

We have over 700 potential green spaces identified to date, but we will not put forward this many in the final plan. We need clarity over the criteria to be used to triage the proposal. We want to reflect the feelings of Forum members about what is important to them, but also consider the strength of criteria supporting each area. Christine to seek more advice from Jo-Anne about what to propose to the Forum as a methodology.

Ian is ready to generate spreadsheets (by area) for heritage assets.

Niamh can generate a list of the most significant green spaces, as examples to review at the Forum.

3. Locality Update

No progress update from Locality – now seems unlikely we will get any useful information on Housing Needs by the September Forum.

4. Preparation for September Forum

We need to think about:

- How to engage a small number of volunteers to help gather the required information to complete the GIS. If we want 3 people per ward (5 wards) that is 15 people total – including MC members who want to do this.
- Original photographs would be best, as these have no copyright issues. Otherwise, check carefully that online photographs are not protected by copyright / commercial licence.
- Christine will include draft agenda on Forum invite, e.g.:
 1. Progress update since last Forum
 2. GIS mapping update
 3. Discussion of green spaces and heritage assets
 4. Next steps: completing the Neighbourhood Plan

5. Future Events

Thursday 26 September: Building Self-Belief AGM, 4-7pm, Derwent Manor - Christine will include some of the collaborations with CANF. All MC members are welcome (please RSVP to email Christine sent out).

Friday 27 September: Derwent Valley AAP Environment Conference, at Consett Rugby Club. Christine is delivering a presentation, where the CANF Green Spaces and the potential for the development of a series of community gardens will be mentioned and encouraged.

6. Actions completed / new actions

Actions were reviewed and updated - See action log.

7. Date / time of future meetings

- Management Committee meeting – Monday 9 September, 7pm, location TBC
- Next Forum (29 September) is St Johns Hall, Moorside
- Following scheduled Forum meeting for 19 January 2025 (likely Steel Club, Consett – to be confirmed)