

# PRUDHOE YOUTH PROJECT

( formerly 'Initiative' see minute 10)

## Minutes of a meeting of trustees held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Present:** Chris Barrett, Dorothy Dickinson, Cllr Tracy Gilmour, George Hepburn ( chair), Don Hutton, Rachel Noble, Cllr Gerry Price, Davina Radford, Claire Robinson, Cllr Angie Scott, Richard Shrimpton, Peter SurrIDGE,

**Apologies:** Kiz Crosbie, Vesta Moore

**1 Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November were agreed.

### 2 Matters arising:

- (i) Prudhoe Town Council has appointed Cllr Gerry Price and Cllr Angie Scott as their representatives. Cllr Tracy Gilmour attends in an individual capacity.
- (ii) Prudhoe Community Partnership has appointed Vesta Moore and Richard Shrimpton as their representatives. George Hepburn attends in an individual capacity as interim chair until Easter.

### 3 Registering as a charity

Marc Johnson from Northumberland CVA gave a presentation. He suggested that PYP should register as a Charity Incorporated Organisation as this was not the easiest method of registration and would be appropriate for a charity of the likely size and scope of PYP. The registration could either be as a 'foundation' in which case trustees appointed their successor or as an 'association' in which case the charity had members who elected the trustees. Marc recommended the 'association' model.

PYP would need to decide on its objects and complete an application to the Charity Commission. Marc recommended using the model constitution provided by the Charity Commission as this allowed the application to be processed more quickly.

It was difficult to know how long this would take ( weeks or months? ) and Marc said that PYP could set up as a 'small charity' to allow it to open bank account but trustees decided to act under PCP umbrella in the meantime.

Trustees agreed to proceed as Marc recommended and Peter, Claire and Rachel agreed to draft a constitution based on the Charity Commission model hopefully in time for the next meeting.

### 4 NCC Review of Youth Services

Trustees noted the review which reorganises the county wide youth service from an area based service to a thematic service with resources prioritised for the most deprived areas of the county. This could lead to changes and reductions to the youth provision in Prudhoe. Gordon Stewart had confirmed that the provision in Prudhoe would not be reduced.

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## 5 Consultation with other agencies

- (i) PCHS: Chris is making arrangements for a presentation to pupils and will bring a power point presentation to the next meeting.
- (ii) GPs : Davina tabled a response from Prudhoe Medical Group which noted the increase in mental health issues among young people and the need for better information about signposting young people.
- (iii) Highfield: Rachel reported Highfield concerns about mental health, support for LGBT pupils, life skills and also signposting.
- (iv) Police: Response from Gordon is still awaited
- (v) Waterworld: Chris reported Waterworld keen to offer use of facilities

Don suggested we gather statistics about the incidence of different issues. Claire offered to contact youth offending team; Chris PCHS and George CAN with a view to gathering information that could eventually support funding applications.

Gerry offered to ask East for statistics and also to arrange a meeting with East staff so trustees could get a better idea of the services available there. Gerry also offered to arrange a meeting with George McReedy.

## 6 Visits to other projects

Arrangements were finalised to visits to NE66, Slix and Hexham Youth Projects. George asked if those visiting could provide short reports, preferably in writing, on learning points for PYP.

## 7 Values

Trustees discussed the initial statement of values and aspirations drawn for the discussion at the November meeting. Several additional points were agreed which reflected the consultations above and the revised version is attached to these minutes. It is also agreed to hold a special meeting or away day to discuss values in a few months time.

## 8 Objectives for 2019

The schedule of activities was agreed but trustees were aware these were still evolving and that in particular consultation with young people must be a high priority.

## 9 Commissioning detached youth work

The draft tender was discussed. George explained that he had discussed the tender with different interested parties and felt the need to proceed quickly in order for an agency to be appointed who carry out the necessary preliminary work in order to start street activities at the beginning of April.

The tender expected the detached workers to consult young people over the year about how they saw life in Prudhoe and what activities they wanted provided in order to shape PYP plans and future funding submissions.

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Trustees proposed some amendments which were included. It was agreed add Jigsaw in the tender list but not to publicise the tender opportunity in order keep the number of tenders to a manageable number. Several trustees said that from their experiences the likely costs were realistic.

Gerry explained that Prudhoe Town Council would not be able to give a final decision on funding the proposal until the end of January. It was agreed not to issue the tender document until funding was secured. Gerry emphasised that PTC may not be able to fund to the value of £20,000 given other calls on its budget.

It was considered important to be able to offer a full year contract in order to attract good applications. Trustees accepted that funds for the residential could be raised from other sources but maintained that the substantial funding needed to be provided by PTC for the scheme to go ahead. The support of PTC in encouraging PYP to make this proposal was welcomed.

Don, Angie, Rachel, Claire, Richard and George offered to form sub group to select a provider.

## **10 Project name**

George report concerns from Keda Norman of Hexham Youth Initiative that it was already confusing that both Hexham and Corbridge were 'Initiative'. They were assumed to be the same organisation. Keda also said that young people did not identify with 'Initiative'. It was agreed to use the title 'Prudhoe Youth Project' instead and maybe to consult young people about a catchy name during the course of the consultation.

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm.**