



Quarterly Report to Members

This quarter started off with the AGM, attending by about 50 members and guests, who all kindly rose above the odd dis - appointment to chat and share ideas.

Many thanks to Pauline Edwards and Kate Stanfort, who retired as trustees because of other commitments in the town, and welcome to Yvonne Ritchie who joined as a new trustee.

The AGM focussed on plans for the future of Front Street. Work on ideas for rejuvenating the shopping experience continue in partnership with the Town Council in the hope that funding can be found to maintain a vibrant and attractive town centre.



Art on Front Street

In the same week, Prudhoe's first ever Art Trail hit Front St. organised in partnership with Paul Stangroom Fine Art. Paul is pictured above at a crowded launch event in NO 22 café with Mayor Tracy Gilmore and myself.

Thanks to all the traders and artists who took especially those who went the extra mile in providing refreshments and hosting evening events. Visitors came from far afield and we hope that the Art Trail has helped put Prudhoe on the cultural map.

Youth Project grows up



Since the first meeting convened by the Partnership last November, Prudhoe Youth Project (PYP) has now grown into a registered charity in its own right, been awarded funding by Prudhoe Town Council for detached youth work two evenings week and a series of summer holiday activities inc this trip to St Mary's Lighthouse- above.

There are ambitious plans for further growth with applications pending for advice sessions, holiday activities and eventually a full time development worker. PYP aims to work with other youth groups in the town to increase opportunities for young people. Thanks to the new trustees and youth workers for making such a promising start.

The Future of East

Sit down to read this item: After the Town Council decided not to progress plans to refurbish East Centre, the Partnership has agreed in principle to seek an asset transfer to take over the building and refurbish it for young people in the town.

Trustees believe it is a much loved building on a landmark site in the town and that young people deserve a fit for purpose building for the twenty first century.

This would be a major undertaking comparable to building Spetchells Centre and any final decision to go ahead depends on discussions with other interested parties and convincing ourselves that it is financially viable to refurbish (or even rebuild) East and to run it on the same terms as Spetchells Centre.



At the moment, we are keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in taking part in the New East or has ideas and contacts to offer. We hope to discuss this all with members at the forthcoming members evening on 28th October.



In other news....

Spetchells Centre has brand new signage and the exterior has been repainted in good old purple and white. We want to keep the building sparkling 'as new'. The new tables, purchased with a generous donation, are a great hit too and enable us to lay out the meeting rooms in more flexible ways.

We are offering 'Dementia Friends' training as part of our project to make Prudhoe more accessible and supportive of people with dementia.

We continue to explore how best to link people who want to volunteer to local community groups seeking volunteers.

We Love Prudhoe

If you haven't done so yet, check out our new video at www.prudhoe.org, starring Josh the champion scooter rider and come along to the members evening on 28th October to help us plan the next steps. Thanks for your support in all sorts of ways.

George Hepburn, Chair of trustees
October 2019