

Area Planning Meeting held. 5 th October 2021

Speaker Greg MacDonald was introduced to group as Interim Economic Development Manager in Eden. , position being for 6/12 . — — He introduced the 6 page document on business , development , area planning , mapping a way forward, tourism, which can be viewed before 29 th October and commented upon (documentation previously sent to all Councillors in September by Parish Clerk) on EDC website.

There are 12 work streams which include :- town centres, tourism, farming and this forms a basis for conversation with the Government. Any investment needed then there's a bid opportunity.(contact EDC Councillor LS) .Suggestions being :— 1.-Transport-CCC transport plan - innovation and impact of autonomous vehicles- car share- link to climate change. 2. A suggested app where you could book a seat in a taxi (6 th formers) for regular commitments rather than booking whole taxi per person. 3. Repair Cafe and Community Workshops, Community Kitchen.

Map on document is misleading since the road from Penrith via Hartside to AM is missing. (this to be rectified)

There are numerous transport problems throughout AM for school children to elderly.

This will help shape the agenda for the new Unitary Authority.

Discussion on farming by Fellfoot Forward and ANOB.

Farming here in the Eden Valley is very different to those lower down. NFU is fighting on behalf of farmers with the Government. Big changes on the horizon , eg. single payment will have gone by 2025. , as Will subsidies.

Thank you to Greg.

Action Plan Updates.:- 1. Economic Development on AM — — No one from AMBA to elude to what's happening. A Marketing Plan being developed for Penrith, so, could there be one for AM. RESOLVED — TM and CD to contact AMBA.

2. Front Street —- Mostly complete. Cobbles look beautiful, but before road can re open the area needs sweeping and for Cubbies to return to do the testing, and then remove barriers. (Barriers still in place to prevent people walking on the cobbles and vehicles running over them). No opening date as yet.

3. Markets:- 6 now complete. Lessons have been learnt and review to be held by those having taken part shortly. . Tents and tables are now available for hire (charges as yet not agreed upon) . There will possibly be a Christmas event at the Station (date to be decided upon) . Looking into possibility of a Market Charter for Alston , A M thinks there was one some time ago, and AR says there was a Kings Charter dated from 1791 . RESOLVED Highways LM ,CCC TM , Alston AR to look into it.

4. Good Neighbour Scheme—- still no progress. Community funding for projects such as Community Kitchen, Men in Sheds needed.

5. Community Projects :— — A. Community Kitchen— —Still in the planning stages. Will now be at the Masonic Hall. Volunteer Cooks required. There is potential for more funding to be available from EDC. (LS)

B. Men in Sheds —-Progressing.(TH)

C. Repair Cafe— —Involved at events on the Moor . Looking for a more permanent space to work from (GM)

AMP are involved in progressing these 3 activities along.

6. Emergency Plan —- needs updating soon

7. Hardship Funding —- still available through EDC.

8. Top School and Oakley Trust— — AW gave a report on the fact that the Trust cannot make the figures work .For them it is not financially viable. Will inform all Support Groups and AMPC of their decision and will put on Facebook.

Sad news indeed , even if not totally unexpected. What now with the school ? This will be up to CCC but likely be put up for sale .

Priority therefore from all this will be to see :— Men in Sheds, Repair Cafe, Community Kitchen, up and running. See a permanent home for the Youth Group. Development of Allotments for food growing and link into Community Kitchen. Have a base for Motor homes that is unavailable in Alston.Area Planning Group to lead on these with help from AMP , as previously mentioned.

9. THI Scheme—- Report from SK —- Public Realm vote was overwhelming “ To Do Nothing”!

. Thirteen (13) shop fronted properties will have been completed by the end of the year . 2 more than expected . An achievement for everyone involved but special thanks given to SK and BG .

10. Community Wheels --- At the moment this is being used by CCC for school transport.

Group Member Reports --- 1. Historical Society --(AR---) Street Name Plates in situ. Phase 2 will be looked at in the Spring2022

2. Fairhill --(LS). -Bike track -At Pre Planning stage.

Play Area --Some new equipment installed

Wall of New Bowling Club Extension--- Artistic mural being commissioned, for artist to work with a number of young people in providing the art work.

3. SAMS--(AM) Now a Limited Co. Waiting to open a bank account. Looking into appointing a Solicitor and therefore possibility of a judicial Review, Private Ambulance providers, attending NWAS at AMPC meeting in November .

4. Youth Worker now employed to also cover Alston Moor.

5. Workspace in Rural Areas (GM) --- What does our area need and what is it lacking . RESOLVED-- GM to speak to IG and others from AMBA .

North Coast 500 / North Pennine 300. (CH) --- AONB circular walk / circular drive around Alston . Please contact EDC (Sally Helmsley) or CH / SK for further information .

Next meeting December.