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Zoom Meeting October 13th 2020

Present

Ian Jackson, Robert Clegg, Bob Wetherly, Ann Stott, Vivienne Ashworth, Gillian Price, Michael Price, John Kay, Barry Cropper.

1. Introductions and welcome.

The Chairman, Ian Jackson opened the meeting at 7.05pm.

2. Apologies for absence

Nick Andrews, Shaun Clancy, Tony Rumbelow

3. Submissions for A.O.B.

Ian Jackson, Trust statement

4. Declarations of Interest.

None

5. Minutes of previous meeting on September 15th. and Matters Arising.

Minutes agreed, no matters arising.

6. Treasurers Report

Canalside Development Group	£1277.82
Flood Resilience Group	£230.81
Civic Trust	£1840.09
Total	£3348.72

Previous Zoom meeting cost to be deducted.

7. Planning Application updates.

This item is covered in other items within the minutes.

8. Canalside Development Group update.

With current Covid 19 restrictions and former Trustee/Member Julian Farnell suffering long-term with an injury, Bob Wetherly suggested seeking advice from Shire Cruises and Pennine Cruises.

Pennine Cruises have converted a boat to a catering outlet and will be in a position to advise on any pitfalls that may be in the way.

John Kay is in touch with Julian Farnell who will give updates as and when they become available.

9. Save Our Greenbelt update.

The Group are preparing to launch a Social Media campaign once they have gathered all the relevant information and data. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions any kind of event is out of the question but they are hoping to display banners and QR codes directing people to their Facebook page. Robert Clegg gave a brief overview of the latest developments with regard to the updated GMSF plan but Stockport/Tameside are in objection. Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham has stressed that if the plan is not accepted the entire greenbelt could be under threat. Another area of debate is the proposed Roch Valley development in Smithy Bridge where the number of houses has been reduced from 210 to 200. Conjecture is that this is to make way for a road connecting Smithy Bridge Road to Albert Royds Street and/or to reduce the risk of flooding.

The Trust and Greenbelt Group have put together a document outlining all the proposed and ongoing developments in the area and to highlight concerns of the impact they will have on Littleborough and outlying districts.

The document is included in these minutes as an attachment.

10. Flood Resilience Group update

Liverpool University are still taking readings from the data loggers at High Peak due to the ongoing Covid 19 problem.

Juliet de Little from Sheffield University has sent an advert for volunteers to take part in her research. The advert has been placed on the Trust Facebook page and also on Discuss Littleborough.

The group had a Zoom meeting with Sarah from the National Flood Forum to catch up on local matters. Blocked gullies in Smithy Bridge and the Artesian Well at the New Street site were two matters discussed.

11. Electric Scooters.

Bob Wetherly expressed concern over the use of e scooters as a number of serious accidents had been reported.

Barry Cropper explained the legislation that the government were trialling the use of electric scooters in certain areas. The scooters are hired and the company hiring out the scooters also provide insurance. Anybody else using this type of vehicle must provide their own insurance and also comply with the restrictions on where they can be used.

12. Operation Dragster.

Lancashire Constabulary have recently carried out "Operation Dragster" which targeted illegal use of off-road vehicles mainly in the Whitworth / Edenfield area. A number of people in the Littleborough area have expressed concerns of similar anti-social behaviour of people on unlicensed dirt bikes and quad bikes in and around the area. Dragster is an ongoing operation and it was suggested that a letter/email to the GMP Traffic department suggesting they target Littleborough would not go amiss.

13. LCT, Promoting ourselves to the public.

Members have suggested ways of making the Trust more visible to the community. Suggestions were to target local shops and business with a leaflet drop and offering advertising space on the Trust Website/Facebook pages in return for displaying a Trust sticker in their window.

Social media is an obvious way of promoting ourselves and while our social media skills are still limited, we have seen favourable results from items that we have posted on Facebook and Discuss Littleborough. Anybody with skills and experience in these dark arts would be most welcome to assist.

14. News and Events

None to report

15. AOB

Chairman Ian Jackson suggested issuing a comprehensive 'press release', to highlight and consolidate all proposed/potential planning applications for residential development, both within, and areas surrounding Littleborough. This would assist the residents of Littleborough to appreciate the impact on infrastructure etc., if they were to go ahead.

The press release would also demonstrate LCT and the Greenbelt Group working together to minimise any such impacts.

Next meeting via Zoom will be Tuesday November 10th. Start time 7.00pm.

Canalside Development Group



Registered Charity No. 1174714