

**Distington Big Local Ltd**  
**Distington Community Centre, Church Road, Distington CA14 5TE**



**Distington Big Local Ltd Board Meeting**  
**5<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 3pm**  
**Distington Community Centre**

**Present:** Rhoda Robinson (Chair), Norma Pritt, Annette Whitehead, Paul Tharagonnet, Ingrid Morris, Victoria Pooley (Minutes) Julia Powley, Karen Hodgson, Carl Cooper, Sue Hunter, Christine Pattinson, Alison Boyd, Josephine Greggain,

**Apologies:** Pete Duncan, Elaine Ismay, Tina Hewer, Frank Hewer, Clayton Sutton, Shelley Hewitson

**Not Present:** Hollie Dennis (PCSO)

**66.17 Welcome**

The chair welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**67.17 Conflict of Interests**

None

**68.17 Minuets of October meeting.**

Were passed as a true record.

**69.17 Land Development**

Halsall Lloyd have been appointed to carry out the Feasibility Study and Community Consultation. Copeland Community Fund have advised that £10,440 match funding has been awarded to us in principle. Written confirmation is yet to be confirmed. We are also hoping to secure another £5,000 from Copeland Borough Council. If successful with both applications this will equate to nearly 75% of the £20,880 costs for the work. The work is due to be completed around May 2018. The potential buyers of the land behind 9 & 10 Church Road have been advised that DBL will fence off the bit of land by the end of January 2018. Action: RH. The Board agreed to put a wooden fence in this area, the owner of these gardens will have responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of this fence. The Board also agreed to repair/replace the fence around the site from the fairy path next to school and the entrance to the site if needed. This would be a temporary boundary fence (probably wire) around the land until something permanent is put in place later on during the project. Action: RH.

**70.17 Football Pitch Maintenance**

A draft Maintenance Agreement has been written then agreed by the Board. Action IM to make amendment – no one to have keys cut and no one under the age of 18 to enter the container. It was suggested to purchase special keys that can only be copied by the original manufactures. The container from Lawson's is in place at the football pitch, the cost was £600. At the moment the container is not closing properly. Action VP to ask Lawsons to fix this problem and source a padlock and key.

Reports have been made to Big Local that the football pitch was not re-instated up to standard. We have spoken to ISS who have advised that they did what was requested at the time to get the pitch to a good standard for use. To get the pitch to a pristine condition would apparently have cost at least 3 x times the amount paid. ISS have provided us with a quote for annual pitch maintenance, which would cost £1001 + VAT. The Board agreed to maintain the football pitch the same way that the CASC maintain the rugby pitch. This would include our handy man Ronnie spraying the pitch regularly with weed killer, then rolling it with an industrial roller. The Board agreed for this cost. Action VP to enquire if we are able to use Lawson's roller. The herbicides and pesticides to be kept inside a locked cabinet inside the container.

#### **71.17 Bus Shelters**

The request stop (Workington bound) on the Main Street is now in place. The Perspex has been replaced, as agreed, on two of the shelters. Action RH to paint shelters. Three ashtrays have now been mounted in or around the bus shelters. The cost of the ashtrays (5 in total) was £60.24. A request to move a bus stop on Main Street (Whitehaven bound) further along the street, is now being dealt with by the Parish Council. If Highways agree to the move and a shelter can be accommodated, DBL will fund a new shelter. The Board have agreed to the cost of providing a new shelter.

#### **72.17 Health Walk sign**

One of the Health walks sign on Barfs Road has been broken. The cost of replacing the broken part of the sign is £86 (inc VAT). At the meeting on 17/10/17 the Community & Environment Group agreed to the spend for fixing the sign.

#### **73.17 Maintenance Store Room in the Church**

Ronnie has a store room in the Church cellar that he does not need/use any longer, he will vacate the premises in January 2018. Any equipment can be stored at his home or in the new container. In February 2016 it was suggested that DBL might pay £80 per annum rent for the space. We have had use of the space for 2 years and 3 months bringing the total cost to £180. The Board agreed to this spend. (There was no real conflict of interest as it was relating to a rental agreement but JP didn't vote due to her link with church).

#### **74.17 Treasurers Report**

Julia advised that the reports are from April 2017 – October 2017. Please see treasure's report.

#### **75.17 Retirement of directors**

In our Memorandum of Association it is written that all Directors must retire from office at the first AGM. All Directors stood down at our AGM on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017 everybody then stood for re-election and were voted back in. At each subsequent annual general meeting, one third of directors must retire from office (if their number is not 3 or a multiple of 3, the nearest number to one third must retire from office). In order to determine who stands down when, we drew names 'out of a hat'. The first 4 drawn out will retire after 1 year, the next 4 after 2 and the next after 3 years. The first 4 names drawn out were; Christine Pattinson, Carl Cooper, Josephine Greggain and Sue hunter. They will retire in September 2018. The next 4 names were; Alison Boyd, Karen Hodgson, Norma Pritt (Vice Chair), Paul Tharagonnet, They will retire in September 2019. The last 3 names were; Annette Whitehead, Julia Powley (Treasurer), Rhoda Robinson (Chair). They will retire in September 2020. All retired directors can stand again for re-election at the AGM and be voted back in. Any new Directors joining the Board in subsequent years will be slotted into this rota.

## 76.17 Our Next Plan

Our current plan runs until March 2018. We have decided to put together a 2 year plan which, if successful, will run from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

The Board agreed to the following budget for the next plan.

Community Chest/Transport Fund	20,000
Programme Support	100,000
Village Maintenance	50,000
Distington Club for Young People	32,000
Play and sports facilities	50,000
Residents support, training & capacity building	6,000
British Legion Land Development - mostly revenue. We will apply separately for funding for any capital works	10,000
Footpath Development	1,000
Bus Shelters	6,000
Advice Project	21,000
Community Events	10,000
Community Centre Extension	50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£356,000</b>

Action: IM to submit our next plan to Local Trust for approval.

## 77.17 AOB

**Hinnings Road Land** – We discussed the possibility of putting a play park on the Hinnings Road land. In the past DBL has made numerous enquiries about whether we can use / acquire the land from Copeland Borough Council. An asset transfer of the land to DBL would be an ideal solution. We have been in touch with them on numerous occasions but have as yet not made any headway. Action VP / IM to continue to pursue this matter. The Young People & Families group have agreed to take this project on.

**Digi club** Weekly sessions were discontinued in October. Residents can now ring the office to make an appointment to see Paul for any help they require.

**Christmas Light Switch on** The event was a huge success. It is estimated that approximately 250 people attended and around 145 of those people joined us for refreshments in the DCYP afterwards. Our thanks go to many volunteers, new and old, who helped to make this happen

and to Bennetts who only charged for the tree, not the installation of it. In future years it might work well to also have a carol singing and mince pies around the tree nearer to Christmas.

**Christmas Window competition** This will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. Residents must return their forms to the office before 12<sup>th</sup> December. Prizes are £25, £15 & £10. Judges will be from, DCYP, Surgery, Parish Council and the Church.

**Annual Review** This was carried out on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017. In future reviews will no longer need to be carried out annually but towards the end of a current plan.

**Young People and Families Group** Next meeting Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 6:30pm at DCYP

**Road Sweeper** Reports have come to Big Local that the footpath at Prospect View is full of leaves and is causing problems/danger to residents using the path. Action VP to inform RH to pressure wash this when back from leave.

**Thank You letters** We received two thanks you letters from Distington Youth Rugby and Distington Old folks Reunion Club.

**Grants Panel Meeting Dates** Dates for next year TBC.

**Christmas Office Closure** Staff will be on leave during the Christmas week and the office will be closed.

### **Dates of Next Meeting**

Board Meeting – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 3pm in the Community Centre

### **Sub Group Meeting Dates**

Community & Environment and Residents Wellbeing Groups meeting on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 9:30am in the Community Centre.

Young People & Families Group meeting agreed for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 6:30pm in DCYP.

Land Development Group meeting – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 2pm in the Community Centre.

**We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!**

**From all the Big Local Office**

