

COMMUNITY PLAN FOR CALDERBRIDGE AND PONSONBY.

Dear all,

Please find attached the output from our discussions earlier this year on the production of a Community Plan for our Village. As a next step the Parish Council would like to get all those people who offered to help move this forward (and anyone else who would also like to help) to discuss where to go from here. My apologies at the length of time it has taken to move things forward but a number of things kept getting in the way, all the more reason to try and spread the load a little and move things on more quickly. We've booked the Village Hall on Thursday 27th June at 7pm, please come along and help us decide where to go next.

You will see in the attached notes that we have a Village website up and running to help inform people more quickly. I'd also be grateful if the people who have offered (or will offer) to help could let me have their email addresses so that we can communicate directly and quickly without the need for continuing with mail drops.

OUTPUT FROM VILLAGE COMMUNITY PLAN MEETING: 21STFEBRUARY 2019.

1. We had a very good round table discussion for about 2 hours on the evening of 21st February with 5 Parish Councillors (George, Tony, Philip, Tyson and Bob) attending along with about 40 Villagers. Bob opened the discussion by explaining the background to Community Plans and why we needed one. A Community Plan is produced by a Community to identify the important things it wants to make happen. Without one it will be impossible to identify and prioritise the issues we need to take forward if our Community is to thrive. Additionally a current Community Plan will be increasingly important where Communities are seeking external funding and support to help them deliver their aspirations. It really needs to be a Community Plan because the wider Community will need to both own and deliver it, a Parish Council does not have the resources or manpower to produce and deliver the plan on its own.
2. Villagers took the opportunity to raise and discuss topics that were important to them and then write them down on flipcharts and "stickies". A quick analysis is that the points raised shows they fall in to a number of themes which are summarised below. A number of Villagers also volunteered to help with the production of the plan and its subsequent delivery.
3. The Parish Council, held on 12th March, chaired by Alan Rigg, considered the themed output and started to put together a plan which will involve those who offered help to review and prioritise what can be done in the short, medium and long term. We may eventually get to a position where, in addition to the points raised below, a number village organisations also have a section in the plan. Once we have an embryonic plan we will share it with businesses in our Community to seek their input, involvement and support. The final plan will be shared and progressed using the improved communication methods it will help to produce.
4. The key themes which people identified were:

A: ROADS AND TRAFFIC.

Provide a Pelican Crossing.

Village By-pass with alternative river crossing.

Speed Cameras or community speed watch.

Extend 40mph Zones North and South of Village.

Footpath improvements, Narrow at both ends of Village on A595.

Flooding Issues (need to check what this means)

Footpath to Ponsonby

Footpath to Beckermet cemetery to join up with Cycle track South of Thornhill.

Improve parking in the Village.

B: VILLAGE AMENITIES AND APPEARANCE.

Long Walks improvements – info boards, preventing dog fouling, seats, signs etc.

Village play area – equipment, appearance, events.

Increased number of buses (most terminate at Thornhill).

Monthly working parties to clean up and identify/fix problem areas. (Broken railings, signs etc)

Provide defibrillator in the phone box.

Provide sheltered housing in the village.

Show it is a village not an A595 corridor – flower tubs and boxes etc.

Maintain wall damaged by Sellafield traffic (?)

Dog poo bin by traffic lights

C: COMMUNICATIONS.

Community Newsletter, amenities and organisations and Calendar of events.

Improved mobile phone coverage.

Village Facebook page.

Deliberately involve businesses, housing association and young people

Waste bin by bus stop floods.

Community Day and special events.

D: VILLAGE HALL.

Operate a “Gather” type Community centre

Replace Village Hall with a “Gather” type Community on its site.

Regular coffee morning/ lunch type events, a number of people who live alone would welcome this.

Patio/ BBQ area on site of shrubbery.

Provide WIFI in the Hall

Provide a computer in the hall – on line shopping.

Post Office in Village Hall.

Village notice Board.

E: CHURCH.

Stop the church falling in to a state of disrepair.

What future does the PCC see for the church(s)

5. A number of Villagers have offered to help move things forward:

Craig Docherty (on line networking)

Yvonne and Johnny

Mary Thompson

Dave Stubbings (for Anglers)

Lillian Strand

Don and Liz Mackay

Neil and Eleanor Glaister.

Christine Curwen

Peter Maxwell

Jo Hughes

Ray and Joyce Hodge

Steven Round (various topics)

May and Sandy Macdonald

After the meeting:

Peter and Tracey Russel

Sam and Craig

Sheila and John Gainford.

6. As a next step the Parish Council would like to get together those people who said they would help move things forward. If you haven't volunteered yet but want to get involved please come along! We probably won't be able to address all the suggestions people have made but we will be able to progressively address a number of them by getting a small number of groups of people working in parallel. Ideally we will let people get involved with the topics they are interested in (noting that the Village Hall Committee and Parochial Church Council already exist to progress their areas of interest), and discuss if we need a small group to help pull things together overall. It would be great if those people who said they would help could give me a point of contact so we can get in touch more easily.
7. Finally one of the things people asked for was a Community Website to help us share information and let people know what is going on. I'm really grateful to Scott, Yvonne and Hilary for their hard work in starting to develop a website for our Community. This will really help us all communicate more quickly and effectively. Please have a look at the good things

they have achieved to date on www.calderbridgeandponsonby.co.uk. IF you haven't got a computer personally see if a friend or neighbour can help.

Best regards

Bob Jones, on behalf of Ponsonby Parish Council

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