

Subject: Working Group Meeting

Author: Lisa Marshall

Date: 26th May 2015

Location: Dolgellau Council Offices

Present: Pete Cole (FFC)
 Hugh Harrison (FFC)
 Mark Wiles (ACC)
 Phil Parker (FCC)
 Sylvia Stephenson (FFC)
 Louise Pennington (NRW)
 Lisa Marshall (YGC)
 Louise Hughes (GC)

Copy: Fairbourne Project Board

Item No	Action	By who	Date
1	LM welcomed two members of ACC to the meeting.		
2	<p>House Prices: Following the report produced by Greg Guthrie which compared the effect on house prices in other areas across the UK subject to a SMP; RICS have agreed to meet with the Working Group to discuss this issue and a way forward in order to tackle the issue of estate agents under-valuing houses in Fairbourne and also address the issue of mortgage lenders not lending on properties with less than 60 years lifespan.</p> <p>The following members of the Working Group expressed a wish to attend the meeting, which would be held via video-conference: PC, MW, PP, SS and LM.</p> <p>LM to arrange meeting on: 29th, 30th June or 3rd July 2015.</p>	LM	Asap
3	<p>Business Values: PP raised the query as to whether any comparable research had been carried out relating to the value of businesses in Fairbourne. It is reported that the development at the Penrhyn Bar and Grill appears to have been a great success. LM raised this issue with Greg via email on 24.04.15 and will chase for a response upon Greg's return from annual leave.</p>	LM	Next Meeting
4	<p>Public Realm Improvements: MW raised the question as to whether it would be possible for work to be done on the public realm, given that Fairbourne is to remain a viable community for the next few decades at least. The village has numerous aspects which need attention, including crumbling</p>	LM	Next Meeting

	<p>tarmac on main roads, car park, pedestrian crossing etc. Also, it was suggested that there be more appropriate signage at the entrance to Fairbourne indicating all facilities/attractions that were available within the village.</p> <p>LM has spoken with GC Highways and Economic Development teams however, no funding is available. She suggested we keep a look-out for funding opportunities via, eg, Joseph Rowntree but to maximise a positive return it would be better for a community group to apply directly.</p> <p>MW asked if it would be possible for a YGC officer to spare some time working with him to draw-up costings and budget headlines which would then be used to produce outline design/feasibility the following year, if funding were available. LM committed to investigate this and revert accordingly.</p>		
5	<p>Transportation Infrastructure: Following on from discussions in the recent Project Board Meeting, LP explained that she attended coastal meetings on a regular basis at which Network Rail were also in attendance. She committed to provide these contacts to HW in order that we could make the necessary in-roads and start a regular dialogue with Network Rail in relation to the future of the Cambrian Line.</p> <p>During the recent meeting between FFC and Carl Sargeant, this issue was raised. The minister undertook to ask that his officers research what was happening with the plans for SMP and the railway and to clarify issues relating to what has/hasn't been devolved. PC was invited to chase for a response had nothing been heard by a few weeks after that meeting. PC will be chasing the minister this week.</p>	<p>LP</p> <p>PC</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Next Meeting</p>
6	<p>Frequently Asked Questions: LM advised that she had received a very comprehensive response from the relevant officers for each of the outstanding questions on the FAQ document. However it was felt that these responses were too detailed and lengthy for circulation to the general public in their current format. With this in mind, more simplified responses were now being re-worked and would be available by the end of June.</p>	LM	End June

	<p>LM stated that the simplified version would be circulated, with a note stating that a more comprehensive response being available upon request. Both versions would be made available on the website. All present agreed this was the right way forward.</p> <p>With regard to the re-organisation of the full FAQ document, PC stated that FFC would initially work on this document and try to categorise the document, which could then be edited and re-designed by YGC as appropriate.</p>	FFC	TBC
7	<p>Annual Report: Copies of the Annual Report were handed out and all present agreed this was a very good document.</p> <p>As previously stated, copies would be made available at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsagent in Fairbourne • CAB Bus • Library Bus • Forthcoming public event • Dolgellau Library <p>Availability of the report would be published via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.fairbourne.info • www.cyngorarthogcouncil.cymru • Village hall Facebook page • FFC Newsletter • Sibrydion Newsletter (MW to forward contact details) <p>LM to produce narrative for inclusion within the Arthog Community Council website and newsletters.</p> <p>Copies will also be sent to all relevant stakeholders and a digital copy will be available on relevant websites and upon demand.</p> <p>At the previous Working Group meeting it was suggested that copies be sent direct to all local estate agents. This was discussed in further detail and it was felt that due to some of the pictures contained within the report, it would lead to reaffirming the concerns that the estate agents already had about Fairbourne. It was therefore proposed that a presentation/session be held in Dolgellau for all local estate agents where they could attend and receive a copy of the report along with a</p>	<p>MW</p> <p>LM</p> <p>LM</p>	<p>Asap</p> <p>Asap</p> <p>Update next meeting</p>

	<p>presentation of the project and its aims/successes. This would provide the correct information to the estate agents in addition to building good relationships with them, contributing to combatting the negative image of houses in Fairbourne.</p> <p>LM suggested it would be better to visit the estate agents directly to invite them to the event rather than simply ring, in order to gain more commitment to attend and counteract any initial negative feelings about the project. All present agreed with this approach.</p> <p>It was also suggested that RICS be present at the end and LM would approach them once a date had been agreed for the event.</p> <p>LM stated that copies of the report would be given out to attendees of the ICE Conference 'Learning to Live with Flooding' which YGC are attending in June 2015.</p>		
8	<p>Flood Leaflet:</p> <p>LM had previously sent a copy of the 'Flooding – How does it affect me?' leaflet. FFC and ACC confirmed they would like a version producing for Fairbourne (not a generalised one). LM accepted this and agreed to produce a version for approval by those present and the Project Board.</p> <p>LM stated that due to a request by GC Chief Executive to demonstrate return on investment, we would have to distribute this leaflet prior to the next public event then undertake an exercise at that event to gauge 'how informed' residents felt after reading the leaflet.</p> <p>LM stated that GC would be distributing these leaflets by hand to ensure all households received a copy and that the leaflet would be mentioned in community</p> <p>All present agreed with this manner of dissemination.</p>	LM	TBA
9	<p>Next Public Event:</p> <p>The next public event was discussed again in the absence of any further progress being made with the flood warden scheme. In addition to this scheme being 'launched' at the event, information relating to the following would also be there.</p>	LM	Update at next meeting

	<p>a) Three new projects to be funded by WG, eg, Feasibility of the Buy to Let scheme (and what this involves), Impact the SMP2 has had on the people and community of Fairbourne and finally, asking how the residents of community can establish their own 'knowledge bank' as part of the 'Building Community Resilience' project.</p> <p>It was suggested by the group that work commences on what the project 'models' might look like, eg, who would be on the work groups, how the projects would progress and what matters might be covered. This information could then be passed-on to attendees of the event.</p> <p>b) Groundwater Monitoring Project, with locations of boreholes, progress so far, etc.</p> <p>c) Update on work at Friog Corner, by NRW</p> <p>It was agreed that estate agents be invited as they would, by that date have met with the project separately and would be fully aware of its objectives.</p> <p>It is the aim to have this public event prior to the next Project Board Meeting and with this in mind, Friday 10th July 2015 was agreed (with a contingency date of Friday 17th July in the event multiple stakeholders were not available to attend).</p> <p>It was also stated that the public event should go ahead, irrespective of whether the flood warden scheme was operational or not as commitments have been made by the board to the residents of Fairbourne.</p>		
10	<p>Chair of the Emergency Planning Task/Finish Group: The progress of the Flood Warden Scheme and the Task/Finish group in general was discussed and it was felt that in order for the group to conclude it's activities in a more timely manner, it should be merged with the Working Group.</p> <p>Currently, two tasks remain outstanding: Embedding of the Flood Warden Scheme and an emergency response exercise. LM and Eirian Redmayne have both made contact with Mike Scott from the scheme and MW (representing ACC today) will also speak with MS on this</p>	LM	Next Meeting

	matter. LM spoke with ER last week at length regarding the scheme and ER maintains her commitment to run the emergency exercise some time from September 2015 onwards.		
13	Any Other Business		
13a	It was advised at the meeting that Julian Kirkwood is now Chair of ACC.	HW	Asap
13b	FFC requested a statement on the progress of the Borehole scheme, for their next newsletter.	LM/KK	Asap
13c	LM was asked to approach Kerry Keirle regarding the recent Contract Notice published advertising for a researcher to work alongside the remaining Fairbourne Projects. Information requested was namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement timetable • What contingencies were in place in the event no suitable organisations submitted a tender? • Why were the project board not notified that the tender was being released? • Why were the project board not consulted on the content of the Contract Notice, as the scope is very vague? • Work undertaken by the researcher should be in consultation with the project board. 		
13d	LP to provide narrative update of Friog Corner to PP or PC for inclusion within their newsletter.	LP	Asap
13	Date of next meeting: Friday 10 th July 2015, 10.00am at the village hall in Fairbourne.		