

EVENTS GROUP MEETING
Friday 17th March at 2:30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs J McGee (Chair), Cllr Mrs E Burt, Cllr Mrs N McGee, Eddie Wilkinson (Activities/Education Co-ordinator Ferndene Children's and In Patient Services), Julie Morrow (Allied Health Professional Lead for Children and Young People)

Bob Stokoe Memorial Shield

Cllr Mrs J McGee welcomed everyone and offered an opportunity for introductions which was taken up.

Julie Morrow gave a brief description of the Ferndene site within the old Prudhoe Hospital grounds. Ferndene opened in autumn 2011 and is a purpose built £27 million inpatient centre which provides inpatient assessment and treatment for young people with complex health, behavioural and emotional needs including those with a learning disability. Ferndene is the first such integrated service of its kind in the country. The modern facilities provide accommodation for children and young people from the north-east of England and Cumbria and some of the specialist services also receive referrals from across the United Kingdom.

Ferndene has 40 beds in four different units, including a Paediatric Intensive Care Unit;

- Riding: a six bed unit providing comprehensive assessment and treatment for patients aged from 4-18 years with mild to moderate learning disability (4 to 12 year olds) or moderate to severe learning disability (13 to 18 year olds).
- Fraser: a twelve bed unit providing comprehensive assessment and treatment for patients aged from 12-18 years with mental health and developmental needs and mild to moderate learning disability.
- Stephenson: an eight bed low secure unit providing comprehensive assessment and treatment for patients aged from 14-18 years with mild to moderate learning disability and a requirement for high levels of supervision in a safe environment.
- Redburn: a fourteen bed unit providing comprehensive assessment and treatment for patients under the age of 18 with early onset psychosis or complex mental health disorders.

Julie handed over to Eddie Wilkinson to describe his role with regard to community and events. Eddie described the events run by the council that Ferndene had been involved in; 'In Bloom', the 2012 Olympics and the Tour of Britain. As well as being involved in events Eddie explained that Ferndene is also used regularly by members of the public: Diane Shane Stone has a well attended circuit exercise class every Monday that sees up to 100 people attending; Sunderland Football Club train their west area academy students at Ferndene, Prudhoe Youth Football Club (PYFC) have training sessions in the sports hall and Eddie has worked alongside the Prudhoe Town Council Young People's Forum (PTYPF) and Prudhoe East. Eddie described that they do not charge to use the facilities but they receive help and assistance 'in kind' as a result of these links. Diane Shane-Stone provides trampolining for the young people, PYFC help at events and Stevie Robson who coaches young people for Sunderland is a great support.

Eddie introduced the Bob Stokoe Memorial Shield as an inaugural football match that they hoped would prove so popular that it would be the first of many. Ferndene came up with the idea about a year ago and have been looking at ways of making it happen. The links are obvious to football fans; Bob Stokoe, a Mickley resident was the manager that took Sunderland through to the FA Cup final on 5th May 1963, beating Leeds 1-0. Eddie and the team hope that the festival type atmosphere that was created all those years ago can be re-created in Prudhoe for a match between Prudhoe Town and Sunderland u23's on Wednesday 17th May.

The football match is a charity event to raise money for the children and young people who use the service at Ferndene in Prudhoe. As well as being involved as much as possible in the event, the funds raised will be used to buy outdoor sports equipment for the young people, helping to encourage physical and mental health through team sports and physical fitness.

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Sunderland Football Club has offered up some players and the match promises to be a very high profile event. The football ground has been offered free of charge by Alex Waters as well as use of their insurances as this would be an affiliated game; Pop Robson is also likely to be involved and it is hoped that Bob Stokoe's daughter will be available to present the shield. A 'Safety Advisory Group' form has been completed for NCC as well as visiting the local police to outline the event. Eddie confirmed that an events management plan was in place and there was a commitment from a local dance group to put a show on at half-time. Eddie initiated that they hoped the Town Council would support the event by putting up the colourful bunting earlier than usual and by encouraging the traders on Front Street to get behind the Prudhoe team by decorating their windows, like they did for the Tour of Britain coming through the town. Cllr Mrs J McGee asked how the young people from Ferndene could be involved and it was confirmed that they had been active in the design of posters, tickets and flyers and that some would attend if they were clinically well enough.

It was AGREED that the bunting would be put up on 7th or 14th May and that the Town Council would run a competition for shop windows, similar to that of the Tour of Britain. The closing date for the shop front competition was agreed to be 12th May and the young people would be judges with the Town Council putting up the prizes.

Although there would be a press release for the event, **it was AGREED** that the Town Council could put information out earlier and communication would be two-way to ensure the correct message was being put across. Cllr Mrs J McGee declined the offer to be in the photographs for the publicity of the event in view that it was likely to be during the period of Purdah.

Parking was discussed and Cllr Mrs Burt mentioned that SCA were very supportive during the Children in Need event. It was also clarified that the car park situated at the Co-op was a public car-park. Eddie said they intended contacting The Falcon, Prudhoe Golf Club and would include SCA also.

Posters for the event, along with tickets had already been given to the administrator and it was discussed that £3/adult and £1/child was an affordable rate. Tickets would be available from Ferndene, Prudhoe Social Club, The Spetchells Centre, Diane Shane-Stone and from the Prudhoe Town Football Club.

Eddie Wilkinson and Julie Morrow left the meeting

2017 Event Dates

The following events were confirmed:

- Highfield Fest - 25th June 2017, 11am until 5pm
- SCA Prudhoe Miners Race – 1st October 2017
- Christmas Lights Switch-On – 24th November 2017

Events Budget & Expenditure

Cllrs received the 2016/17 events spending against the budget and the administrator outlined that even though £1,500 had been moved in from the Contingency Budget heading, Events had still over-spent as a result of the NCC Road Traffic Management for the SCA Miners Race. This money remains committed along with banners (£300) agreed in 2015/16 and the school incentive (£250). At the February Ordinary Meeting it was agreed that the clerk should question the invoice for traffic management for the SCA Miners Race.

The administrator advised that although over-spend was not significant, the group had only asked for £8,000 for 2017/18.

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Event	Budget	Income	Expenditure	Outstanding
	£9,100.00			
Highfield Fest		£405.00	£3,269.03	
Kite Festival		£225.00	£1,621.50	
Miners Race		£1,000.00	£2,197.47	£2,471.41
Lights Switch-On		£0.00	£2,783.96	
Total	£9,100.00	£1,630.00	£9,871.96	£2,471.41

BUDGET COST 2016/17 £10,713.37 OVER-SPENT £1,613.37

All Expenditure		£1,500 moved in from Contingency
NBK Leisure - Highfield Fest	£1,350.00	
Cycle Route Ltd. (Team Override) Highfield Fest	£350.00	
1st Prudhoe Guides - Craft supplied for stall at Highfield Fest	£50.00	
John Robson - Mr Disco/PA and Generator for Highfield Fest	£175.00	
John Robson - Band Appearance - JADE at Highfield Fest	£150.00	
Keith Parks - PA and Sound Assistance at Highfield Fest	£50.00	
L Caudle - Band Appearance Cherry Leather	£100.00	
M Graham - Band Appearance Painted Skies	£100.00	
J Dale - Band Appearance Vulpes Vulpes & the Copper Dragon	£100.00	
Reimbursement Ken Stow for Fuel for Generator	£8.33	
First Aid - St John Ambulance	£120.00	
Team Valley printers - Highfield Fest Flyers	£215.00	
Painted Face by Julie Charlton - Highfield Fest	£240.00	
Hexham Courant - Highfield Fest	£110.70	
Nixon Hire - WC for Highfield Fest	£150.00	
Flyers Fee - John Dobson	£250.00	
Flyers Fee - Malcolm Goodman	£100.00	
Flyers Fee - Herrington Kite Club	£150.00	
Flyers Fee - John Whymark	£75.00	
Flyers Fee - John Savage	£75.00	
Flyers Fee - Vanessa Potts	£150.00	
Flyers Fee - Arthur Pallas	£50.00	
Flyers Fee - Alan Poxon	£50.00	
Nixon Hire - WC for Kite Festival	£150.00	
Accent Distribution - Kite Fest leaflet (50% share Miners Race)	£309.00	
Team Valley printers - Kite Flyers printed (50% share Miners Race)	£112.50	
John Robson - Kite Festival 2016, PA, etc	£150.00	
Accent Distribution - Miners Race leaflet (50%)	£309.00	
Team Valley printers - Miners Race Flyers printed (50%)	£112.50	
Miners Race t-shirts	£881.10	
Miners Race medals	£566.00	
Coach Hire for Miners Race	£80.00	
John Robson PA Miners Race	£125.00	
Reimbursement for water for Miners Race	£123.87	
NCC Traffic Management for Miners Race	£1,921.41	
School Incentive for Miners Race	£250.00	
Miners Race Banners c/f from 2015/16	£300.00	
Team Valley Printers - Christmas Lights Switch-On Flyers & Posters	£200.00	
Christmas Lights Switch-On - John Robson	£150.00	
Reimbursement to EB - Christmas Lights Switch-On - Mulled Wine	£33.75	
Tiny Treasures Children's Services -	£410.00	
St. John Ambulance First Aid Christmas Lights Switch-On	£59.70	

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Hi Lights - Staging and Lighting	£1,115.50
Collingwood Marquees - x2 12m x 3m	£500.00
Nixon Hire - x25 Safety Barriers	£192.50
Thermal cups for Christmas Lights Switch-On event mulled wine	£13.16
Party bag prizes for Christmas Lights Switch-On event	£27.53
Refreshments for Fire Crew and volunteers erecting stage and gazebos	£27.65
Treats school choirs involved in Lights Switch-On event	£54.17
	£12,343.37

It was **AGREED** that spending plans for the SCA Miners Race needed more scrutiny.

Event	Budget	Income	Expenditure
	£8,000.00		
Highfield Fest		£405.00	£3,269.03
Miners Race		£1,000.00	£3,947.38
Lights Switch-On		£0.00	£2,783.96
Total	£8,000.00	£1,405.00	£10,000.37

BUDGET COST 2017/18 £8,595.37

All Expenditure	
NBK Leisure - Highfield Fest	£1,350.00
Cycle Route Ltd. (Team Override) Highfield Fest	£350.00
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Reimbursement Ken Stow for Fuel for Generator	£8.33
First Aid - St John Ambulance	£120.00
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Treats school choirs involved in Lights Switch-On event	£54.17
	£10,000.37

The administrator advised that based on doing the same as last year, without the Kite Festival, the budget was not sufficient at £8,000.

Cllr Mrs J McGee offered that it would be necessary to include the bunting in the events budget as agreed for the Bob Stokoe Memorial Shield. The administrator confirmed this had cost £1,000 in previous years. Additionally it was expected that an alternative event to the Kite Festival would be funded. **It was AGREED** to come back to the budget at the end of the meeting.

Highfield Fest 2017

The administrator confirmed the following:

- ✓ Prudhoe Army Cadets confirmed.
- ✓ Prudhoe Youth Football Club confirmed.
- ✓ St John Ambulance Booked.
- ✓ SAG Completed.
- ✓ NBK Leisure Booked to attend with 6 attractions, 2 of which are new. Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop has agreed to pay £250 sponsorship on behalf of Prudhoe Golf Club juniors who will have a presence at the crazy golf. Thompson's of Prudhoe have again confirmed they will sponsor the demolition zone. The 2 new attractions are 'Total Wipe-out' and 'Hungry Hippos'.
- ✓ John Craggs is confirmed and his graffiti workshop will be funded by Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop.
- ✓ Prudhoe Air Cadets requested.
- ✓ Prudhoe Scouts archery requested.
- ✓ Prudhoe Guides requested.
- ✓ Sure Start requested.

The administrator reminded the group that they had asked for feedback from the groups attending and that the overall impression was very positive with some concerns over the heaviness of the rock bands and minimal attractions for toddlers.

With regards to the toddlers, the administrator advised that she had looked into 'sand and water', a pre-school favourite, as she visited a man-made beach at a Sure Start event at Hexham some years ago. In terms of cost, play sand to cover an area 10m² could be bought for approximately £85 and could be simply spread onto tarpaulin or the like, depending on the type of covering bought, it was £100-£200. Afterwards the sand could be spread out around the field and is good for drainage. With regards to the water feature, the administrator had contacted a joiner she knew to ask about the possibility of making something featuring pipes and drains, etc. like those seen in pre-schools.

Cllr Mrs N McGee agreed that sand and water were a favourite among the children and in response to comments about the weather, offered that rain/wind would ruin all attractions, not just sand and water.

Cllr Mrs Burt admitted to not being an expert on what the youngest visitors would like and although not against sand and water, would prefer something simpler that could be managed by the leisure providers NBK.

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Cllr Mrs J McGee agreed that it would be preferable to ask if NBK Leisure could bring a further attraction that would be more suitable for toddlers as she would be concerned that children not properly supervised would throw sand and there could be greater safety concerns.

It was AGREED to contact NBK Leisure to look into a toddler specific attraction.

With regard to bands attending, Cllrs agreed that this was a good opportunity for young local bands to receive exposure. The administrator advised that John Robson was very supportive of the idea and of the young bands but it did often feel like those attending the event were not 100% involved in the band element. The administrator also commented that music festivals and band appearances usually go hand in hand with alcohol consumption and this was an area the council may not wish to enter into.

It was AGREED to put a call out to local bands to ask if they would be interested in playing at Highfield Fest. The administrator asked Cllrs what action they would take if no-one came forward. **It was AGREED** that if no-one was forthcoming the council should not push the bands element and should return to music by Mr DiscoMan.

The administrator reminded Cllrs that last year Over-Ride were booked to take control of the scooter, skate and BMX element of Highfield Fest and also that a former young person from The East had also attended with his branded goods. The value of Over-Ride attending was not known but the administrator stated that it was very important to have a scooter, skate and BMX element to the day or the young people who religiously go to the skate park would be very disappointed.

It was AGREED to invite Over-Ride to discuss what they could deliver.

New Event in place of Kite Festival

Cllrs received feedback from the U3A regarding the types of alternative event discussed at the last events meeting; a Music Festival and a Tea Dance. As the feedback attached at Appendix A shows, preference was definitely in favour of a Music Festival.

Cllrs discussed that this idea had come from Cllr Reid, to make use of the amphitheatre at Prudhoe Riverside. The administrator said she had attended Corbridge Festival which was very good but a lot of organisation would be involved, even to create something smaller. Cllr Burt said that a stage and lighting would have to be included, as well as catering, etc.

Cllr Mrs J McGee spoke of a night of bands and dancing which would meet both needs; Strictly Come Dancing with a free buffet. The administrator advised that there were already Rock and Roll evenings at St. Matthew's Social Club and The Legion but she was not aware of other dance styles.

Cllr Mrs Burt suggested that an Antiques Roadshow type event, which she had some experience of, could be popular.

It was AGREED to write back to the U3A to thank them for their comments and to advise that the council would seek feedback on ideas from the Aged People's Treat to take something forward later in the year.

2017/18 Budget

It was AGREED to request the Events Budget be increased by £4,000 to allow the bunting displays to be paid for by the Events Budget rather than Town Council Development, to offer a further toddler-specific attraction at Highfield Fest, as well as prizes and possibly additional bunting for the Bob Stokoe Memorial Shield.

END OF MEETING

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APPENDIX A

Re: A couple of U3A matters

Moira Wooldridge

Wed 15/02/2017 16:32

To:

Prudhoe Town Council (prudhoetc@hotmail.com)

You replied on 15/02/2017 16:59.

A few thoughts regarding the Kite Festival and its successor - please feel free to pass these on when the matter is next discussed. This is simply the result of informal discussions with U3A members - a number of members saw the report in the Hexham Courant, which referred to possible consultation with the Over 50s' Forum and U3A.

We were sad to learn of the demise of the Kite Festival. It was an event that appealed to and attracted all ages, with participatory activity accessible to all ages. (That can be demonstrated by the photographs that I have supplied year by year to the Town Council).

The event was also greatly enjoyed by our U3A Digital Photography group. A number of members have expressed their disappointment at the decision.

The Town Council's investment in Delta kites was much appreciated – we hope that they will be retained in case the event is resurrected at some point in the future.

So far as a replacement is concerned – we hope that schools and youth groups will be consulted as well as older people. We need to ensure that young people are involved in community activities.

The reported suggestions by Councillors were a tea dance, or a rock festival at the Riverside. At our January meeting we had an attendance of 55. I asked for a show of hands for the two ideas. Four people put their hands up for the tea dance, two of whom seemed less than 100% committed to the idea. The remainder supported the rock festival, with very few abstentions. We have not received any alternative suggestions.

I must say personally that the tea dance idea makes me shudder. It's not how pensioners I know actually want to be pigeon-holed. A while ago, new U3A members offered to organise such an event for us – just one member out of a total membership of 140 expressed an interest.

We do have at least two members who play in rock bands, one has already expressed an interest in getting involved.

Sample comments from members:

'Just tell them it has to be the Rock Festival down by the River, it opens up such a lot of possibilities for side events, stalls etc. There are plenty of things going on already for us older folk.'

'It's important to remember that tea dances appealed to older people twenty, thirty years ago because it was the music of their youth. For over-60s now, the music of their youth is skiffle, rock & roll, r & b, heavy metal, even punk.'

'The huge majority of us don't feel old enough for tea dances yet!'