**Minutes of Newington Big Local Partnership Meeting**

**7/12/15 at Newington Community Centre**

**Attending:**

Marie Thomas – Secretary/Resident

Richard Nicholson – Interim Chairperson

Steph Todd – Chairperson (currently on temporary leave)

Cara Thorpe – N.B.L Community Development Officer

Mike Harrison

Liam Clark – N.B.L Apprentice

Sandrra Sudds – Resident/Volunteer

Carl Adams – Local Trust

Lisa Evans – St.Christophers Church/Resident

Sandra Herring – Resident/Volunteer

Charlie Fox – L.T.O

Tammy Sains – Resident/Volunteer

Keven Gabriel – N.B.L Gardener/Resident

Paul – Kent Wildlife Trust

Claire – Kent Wildlife Trust

**Apologies:**

Sam Voak – Resident/Volunteer

Norma Kelly – Resident/Volunteer

Tess Luetchford

Caroline Pinchbeck

Simon Crouchman – Resident/Volunteer

Hannah Todd – Newington Little Local/N.B.L Ambassador

Shola – St Christophers Church

**Minutes of last Meeting** were read through and agreed.

**The following updates were given on the items discussed in the Minutes:**

~ Academy Fm: The Funding discussed at our last Meeting is currently on hold, due to the recent announcement that Academy Fm Thanet is to close. – The question was raised as to whether we had yet entered into any agreement or made any payment, the answer to which is we have not.

~ Marketing: The fridge magnet calendars will now be ready to be distributed by November next year and are to have all relevant N.B.L dates on them.

~ Newington Little Local: The idea they had put forward is to go ahead.

~ Richard, as Chairperson, once again extended a thank you to all who were involved in the organising and running of the Halloween Events.

**Chairperson Update:** Richard explained how he has been busy with various Meetings and has also been checking over the accounts and informed us that all is doing fine.

**Secret Garden:** Sandra and Tammy have had some discussion regarding plans for the area known as the Secret Garden, the need for sticking with the original plans were stressed, as they have been approved by the Council and it is hoped that work can start as soon as possible.

Keven is to be going there to start with strimming and cleaning up the area and it has been agreed that the secret Garden Project needs to be a priority for 2016.

Claire and Paul from the Kent Wildlife Trust are interested in finding our more about this, as well as other areas green around Newington.

**N.B.L Review:** This is still to be finished, as soon as it is complete, Cara is to get it approved and then sent out accordingly.

**Tess:** Tess gave apologies for this Meeting, so we were given an update by Carl, which was informing us of a proposal to embed a long term, on-going form of review/monitoring/evaluation.

- Tess is to be asked if she might bring this proposal to our January Meeting.

**Credit Union:** Steph has taken up managing this since our last Meeting and has been busy promoting it to a number of different agencies and service providers. Local Schools have shown an interest in finding out more and Local Authorities are to help with its promotion. Sam has stated that she is happy to continue volunteering with this, Tammy & Lisa are also trained to run our Credit Union and happy to continue to help and Sandra Herring expressed an interest in being trained up. If anyone else is interested in the training, this is possible.

**Newington Little Local:** are starting to promote themselves and make applications, etc. More members are needed, so we were asked that if we know of any other young people who may be interested in joining, please do pass the information about it on to them.

**Community Development Officer:** Cara explained how she has been working to support Liam – N.B.L Apprentice, she has also been attending various Meetings, as well as working hard on the review.

Liam is doing well through his apprenticeship and has passed the next part of his Coursework this week.

**Generator:** We were informed this is now at Stephs house ready to be brought to the container. – Thank you to Peter at Red Zebra for getting it for us. The generator lead is to be purchased today. It was asked how it will be transported generally – Simon is planning on making a cart for it. There will be a record book kept for signing the generator in and out accordingly.

**Embedded advice update:** Steph and Cara have met with Citizens Advice Thanet (C.A.T), there is specialised marketing currently being done for us, it is hoped this project will be started in January and there are to be drop-in sessions for anyone who may be interested in the training.

We were informed that the Community Energy Champions (C.E.C’s) will be working with them and there is also the opportunity for others to be trained as C.E.C’s.

Steph is planning on organising a big promotion about the Embedded Advice Service on Facebook.

**N.B.L Christmas Event:** This is at Newington Community Centre on 12/12/15, Santa will be in attendance, all equipment, etc, has now been purchased and is to be delivered to Stephs. It has been asked if we can all be at the Community Centre just after 12pm if possible, to help to set up for the event.

The idea that next year we maybe just organise one Christmas Event, using the Copse and possibly the Community Centre both at the same time, was discussed. – This idea was raised, as this would allow more time for people to spend with their families at Christmas, as event organising does take up a lot of time.

**Copse Christmas Event:** This is on 19/12/15, from 1pm.The Christmas Tree has been purchased and is due to be delivered today. – The place that had said they would donate a tree unfortunately had to withdraw the offer.

On the day, Santa will be making his way through Newington from 12.30pm and will arrive at The Copse for 1.15pm. We have been asked if any of us available can pop along to the Copse on the morning of the event to help with any last minute decorating and organising.

**N.B.L Shut down for Christmas:** N.B.L will be shut down for the Christmas period after the event at The Copse and will re-open on 4/1/16.

**Partnership Christmas Celebration:** This will be at Newington Community Centre on 18/12/15. We will be ordering in a fish & chip supper – anyone who hasn’t yet put their order in, please let Cara know a.s.a.p. The Secret Santa gifts will be given out on the evening.

Hot drinks will be provided, but should anyone wish to, they are welcome to bring alcohol.

**A.O.B:** There was no other business, so the Meeting was drawn to a close.

**Next Meeting 10.30am on Monday 18th January 2016**

**At Newington Community Centre**