

YT AGM Sept 2020 – Aug 2021

Chair report

SUMMARY – It's been another year where activities have been restricted due to Covid. There have been lots of conflicting rules to figure out, learning new phrases such as Hands Face Space, Track and Trace and social distancing to get our heads around, as well as developing new skills such as zooming and What's App to learn in order to keep Yetton Together functioning.

It has been heartening to see the community coming together and helping others throughout these difficult times and there has been a real feel of strengthening of community spirit.

September 2020 was the beginning of Yetton Together 10th Year as a Group and the 5th Year as a Charity. Unfortunately any celebrations intended for these milestones have not been able to take place due to Covid restrictions.

Mike Firth finally stepped down from his role as a trustee in March. As previously stated Yetton Together appreciated his involvement.

YT WORKING GROUPS

Community Centre – When restrictions were lifted in September a small number of groups started their activities again. These were Knit & Natter, Craft, Chair Exercise, Tai Chi and Yoga classes. Unfortunately these had to close again due to the lockdown. However we were able to start again in the spring following the rule of 6. Some groups could not return straight away due to Covid restrictions this included the coffee shop.

Kirkheaton Library started a 'Ring and Read' service on November 13th. Then from April on a Friday afternoon the library began to offer a browsing service. A number of people took advantage of these services.

A Self Confidence Course was held, facilitated by Lorna which brought new people to our Centre and who are now regularly participating in multiple groups.

Building Work on Centre – In October the cobbled ramp to yard was re built to ambient user standards with the handrail yet to be put up. Thanks to Lorna for organising this.

Development of the outside space at the centre was to be the new project for the year and a working party was formed in conjunction with the Parish Church, to explore options. Progress has been spasmodic due to restrictions. Thoughts are to provide a flexible and adaptable space for a range of activities by developing access to the rear yard, providing

extra parking for a few cars, sensory garden, raised beds, potting shed. Our ideas have been put to Kirklees landscape architects to get a visual impression of what the area could look like. These initial ideas have been sketched out by them. Quotes for access to yard have been received. The group will be meeting to take this further.

January brought roof leaking problems in the community room. After some time it was agreed with the PCC that the roof needed replacing. Contributions to the cost were given by Yetton Together and donations came from Radcliffe's and One 17 Charity. We think you will agree the roof looks amazing. During this time the leaking roof caused damage to the wall in the front room with paint bubbling and salts coming through. PCC reps repainted and made good the appearance. Thank you to Drew and Rob for this.

Between lockdowns a Defibrillator was installed at the centre. With Defibrillator Training, in partnership with the Holme Valley First Responders, held in October. Thanks to Diane Hardcastle for organising and implementing.

Centre Management - It had become apparent that the work load of the team had become rather extensive and it was decided to employ a part time administrator. Interviews were held in Aug and we welcome Carol Wright to the post which started at the beginning of September. Work has been done to the small room at the bottom of the stairs to make it more user friendly office space. Thanks go to Hills for their help planning and in choosing furniture and volunteers who helped to make the room welcoming.

The Hallmaster booking system is now in place and will be one of Carol's responsibilities. Thanks to Sue and Jean for setting this up and Alison from Inspiration Computers, who has customised it for our particular needs.

Coffee Shop - Because of the pandemic and Government restrictions we have not been able to reopen the coffee shop until the 1st Sept

Marilyn has stood down as coordinator but wishes to continue to help and support in any way she can. We thank her for all the hard work she has put in. Lesley Ingleby has taken over this role and with support from a core group we are sure the coffee shop will continue to flourish.

During the lengthy close the group had discussions and it was decided that re-opening after months of closure will be the perfect opportunity to introduce a change of image and a fresh new look.

Dementia Friendly group Planning continued over the year to start up a place to meet and get support. Home from Home coffee mornings will start in September.

Magazine and Website— continues to keep residents up to date with what's happening in the area including acts of kindness, various articles including history and environment,

reports on events and activities that have taken place. Thank you to all businesses who continue to support through advertising and individuals who send in articles and Sue who manages both these activities.

Environment group – September saw another successful bat walk go ahead, organised by Clare and it was enjoyed by a reduced numbers, the lead was very knowledgeable. It is hoped that others will take place in the future. Thank you Clare.

In the Orchard Wild flower seeds have been planted and there is a program of activities being planned to take place. A number of people have been involved in tidying and making the community area a valuable amenity

Winter planting went ahead with social distancing in place. There have been favourable comments with the appearance of the planted areas. The current contractor has gone commercial therefore plants have increase in price - this was covered by Yetton Together reserves. Thanks to Michael and all the volunteers who take part planting up when the call goes out for help.

The hanging baskets this year organised by Sue were particularly special as they uplifted spirits in these trying times.

A new group has formed Friends of Houses Hill with the aim to improve the appearance of the hamlet. They have organised a litter pick and planted more bulbs around the settlement. YT has financed an additional planter for them to plant up and maintain.

Social Group unfortunately were unable to hold social activities due to the pandemic but are looking forward to organising events, activities and talks when able to do so

Grants and Funding has come from various sources these include :- Kirklees Covid grant, Ward grant, Government Covid Grant, KBPC Library grant , Thornton Trust, Awards for All. Thank you Lorna for identifying and applying for all these funding options they have helped to keep our bank balance healthy throughout the pandemic.

Transport – John keeps us updated and changing bus services in the village of which there have been many these are reported on our website and in the magazine

FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS We are very fortunate to be supported by the community with donations whether by individuals, other community groups or enterprising efforts such as jam making, sale of homemade masks etc. Thank you all

The 200 club continues to raise money for the hanging baskets around the village

Collection boxes are dotted around the village businesses and when all this is added together it is quite a substantial sum.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

KBPC continue to support us and the library and other projects they also sponsored trials with E-bikes during the summer based at the Centre.

Yetton Together continue to support Kirkheaton Future and the Neighborhood Plan

We help sponsor Kirkheaton Youth Football with a logo for the football kit

Yetton Together and the environment group are supporting a new initiative by KET a 20% for wildlife group linked with a countrywide initiative. They started by encouraging local participation through creating an area in gardens for wildlife.

Thanks go to all businesses that support Yetton Together whether it's through advertising in the magazine or for projects and activities we undertake. Special mention to Radcliffes, Cost Cutters and Kirkheaton Engineering for manufacturing and fitting a handrail down the slope into the yard at the Community Centre for free.

YT supported Greenfields Family Centre in partnership with Dalton Together – and their Christmas Hamper Appeal. Groups using the Centre and individuals contributed to this worthwhile initiative. With a number of residents being recipients.

There is a collection of food stuff in our community Centre to stock the outdoor food cupboard at the Family Centre

PCC rent discussions have been lengthy but has now been agreed

CONTRIBUTIONS BY VOLUNTEERS

It has been so pleasing knowing that our volunteers can't wait to come back and start getting things rolling again.

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

CHAIR CLOSING REMARKS

Since the 1st of September we have welcomed Carol Wright our new administrator to our increasingly busy Centre

The Coffee shop has now opened under the new name 'The Old School Tearooms'

Home from Home a friendship group for people living with dementia has started on a Friday run by Jean Broscombe, Lorna Idle, Irene Heatherill, Judith Morris and Maureen McGlyn

Monthly Bingo has been organized by the Chair Exercise group

There is a New Chair Yoga group funded by TSL

A new Line Dancing group run by Diane Hotchin

Yetton Together Environment group worked with 20% for Wildlife group with a fun craft day in the Community Orchard building bird boxes and bug hotel. This was a huge success.

A Victorian Christmas Family Fun Day has been organized by the Craft group based at the Centre for the benefit of Yetton Together on the 27th November

Plans for this year include

Development of outside space

Celebration of 140years of the building

Both of these projects could do with extra help if you are interested please see myself or one of the trustees

On the tables there are some ideas how you may offer your services "Slivers of Time" A few hours could make all the difference to both yourself and YT