**PACT meeting – Thursday 19th November 2020**

7.30pm via Zoom

**Present: Directors:** John Bodger (Chair), Christine Sutherland (Secretary),

Frances Bell, Geoff Rockliffe-King, Lucy Teather,

 Malcolm Carruthers, Peter Simpson, Richard Waller

 **Members:** Ali Ross, Jaki Bell, Liz Jablonski, Lynn Barnes, Nigel Jenkins,

Ron Kenyon

1. **Apologies**

Philip Sturgess (Treasurer), Chris Cant, Julie Stebbings, Joan Robinson, Virginia Taylor

1. **Declarations of interest**

None declared

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

Agreed: Proposed by John, seconded by Ali.

1. **Finance update**

Very little action since the last meeting, except for a £1,000 donation into the Gardening Fund. Joan reports that the money in the gardening fund will now fund the next 3 years and underwrite the wild daffodil bulb planting that they hope to do at the Castle next year.

1. **Tree planting**

Ali, Christine, Frances, John, Peter and Ron met on Thursday 5th November.

A6/A66: Ron has contacted Nigel Butcher - Eden Highways. He did not offer any suggestions but asks for our proposal to be submitted by Penrith Town Council with a location plan. Ron will discuss with PTC.

Thacka Beck area in Pategill is now in the hands of PTC but no planting before the New Year.

Frenchfield Sports Ground: Ron has discussed with Dougie and Jane of EDC. They don’t want any planting to encroach on the playing area but there are possible options by the river (fruit/nut trees? hawthorns?) and in two triangles between the playing field and Hunter Hall (larger trees suggested). Worried about leaves falling on the track.John and Peter would like to visit the site. Possible meeting with someone from the Woodland Trust. Need to check what is under the grass re flood prevention work.

Fairhill playing field: Ali raised this with the Fairhill Community Group. Overwhelmingly negative reaction!

Scaws Field: Christine contacted Kay Fenton of the local action group. Currently consulting residents via Patricia Bell’s newsletter re whether to rewild part of the field. Results may be too late for this project but I suggested we might be able to provide trees for them at a later date.

Eamont river banks: John will ask Jenkinsons who we think own this land. Will also ask Jenkinsons whether they could donate stakes and netting?

General: Any planting on river banks – need to check with angling groups.

We need to make arrangements for the aftercare and maintenance of any trees planted.

1. **Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership**

Meeting with Hazel: Jaki had a very useful meeting with Hazel and went through all the mentions of PACT in the grant submission document.

Covid: It’s OK to propose alternative projects to replace the ones we can’t do, as long as they stay within the thrust of the bid.

Linked projects: eg the groups in Barrow and Carlisle and Vista Veg. Hazel explained that it is good practice to show linkages in a bid. Light touch – not a lot of extra deliverables.

Outcomes: Other parts of the partnership are responsible for measuring how the project meets its stated outcomes. Though it would be sensible for us to also review progress too.

Our part-time worker: Our delivery period is 1st April 2021 until 31st Dec 2025. The paid worker can’t start earlier as there will be a lot for them to do to tidy up at the end of the project. Suggest advertising in January. CAfS have templates which we may b able to use. New project manager just started may be able to help.

Other groups: Jaki has talked to Henry of Sustainable Carlisle. Suggests an informal get-together of the community organisations involved, to share ideas and find ways to collaborate. We should particularly work closely with Carlisle as our projects are very similar. Could we aim to support the creation of more similar groups during the project?

ZCC subgroup: Meeting Monday 30th Nov at 3.30pm. The next ZCC Partnership meeting is the week beginning 6th Dec.

**7. Reports and updates**

**Penrith Town Council Climate Action Group** John and Jaki continue to attend

**Town Futures Group** John continues to attend. Next meeting is 26th November.

**Transition: Bounce Forward (Richard, John, Jaki)**

(ie not bouncing back to where we were before but forward to a better way of doing things.)

Launch event of the project with Rob Hopkins et al of the Transition Towns movement. It is a visioning exercise in three stages – What is? What if? What next? Suggest we do this with our own group then with the wider community. Leading towards a national What Next summit in February 2021. They also have got a grant from the Lottery Heritage community Fund to provide seed funding for many small projects.

Transitions: Bounce forward website <https://transition-bounceforward.org/>

Visioning exercise:

<https://transitionnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/What-If-Visioning-Exercise.pdf>

Seed funding: <https://transition-bounceforward.org/seed-funding/>

Taking this forward: Maybe run the visioning exercise with PACT in mid-January then with the town Council? Be careful not to overlap with PTC’s current consultation (as seen in Eden Local). Richard will send the document to Viv Tunnadine for information.

**Penrith Community Gardeners**

Congratulations to Joan and all the Penrith Community Gardeners for all the Certificates of Recognition that they have received recently from Britain in Bloom. They do a great job in enhancing Penrith and the well-being of its residents.

**The Environment in the National Curriculum (Ron)**

Neil Hudson has replied to Ron referring to the Countryside Code and linking the environment to farming. Carbon Literacy Training - maybe a version of the toolkit might become available for schools. Part of ZCC involves rolling out some CLT to schools – not sure whether this is for teachers or students.

**Appleby Heritage Centre (Lucy)**

Lucy now has the key to the Heritage Centre so she can look into starting to repair the damage due to the place being closed down. She doesn’t know who is taking responsibility. She hopes to run a repair café there when this becomes possible.

**Climate and Ecological Emergency Conference (Jaki)**

Brilliant event. Lots of different sessions, will send link if/when available.

**8. AOB**

**Climate Outreach (Jaki)**

This is a toolkit to help groups like ours communicate more effectively with the public. Many people have been interviewed about their world views and the responses have been grouped into 7 personas, with suggestions about how to reach each type and how to tailor the message. This will be really useful.

**COP26 (Jaki)**

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) will be held in Glasgow on 1st to 12th November 2021. What could we do to raise expectations? Something each month, eg a film, talk, activity? Agenda item for our next meeting.

**Active Travel (Ali)**

Promoting active travel ie walking and cycling. Agenda item for our next meeting.

**9. Dates of future meetings**

ZCC Subgroup: Monday 30th November, 3.30pm on Zoom.

Monthly Meeting: Wednesday 16th December, 7.30pm on Zoom.

Tree Group: to be arranged.