

Lorton Parish Council and Yew Tree Hall Management Committee
Yew Tree Hall Development Group
Draft Minutes of a Meeting on 28th November 2024
Held at the Yew Tree Hall

1 Present

- 1.1 Adam Baker (AB); Peter Deeks (PD); Derek Poate (DP); Cathy Lee (CL); Steve Irlam (SI); Alison Mohr (AM); Andrew Chamberlain (AC).

2 Apologies

- 2.1 Rachael Edmunds (RE)

3 Previous minutes

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting of 5^h November 2024 were approved.
- 3.2 Actions are reviewed under the relevant Agenda headings. Outstanding Actions were:
- 3.2.1 5.1.2 to make a formal request for financial support from the Parish Council held over to the next PC meeting on 8th January 2025 **Action CL and PD**
- 3.2.2 5.3 No decision about changing the Yew Tree Hall governance structure to a CIO. **Action AB to monitor advice.**

4 Funding

- 4.1 CL reported communication with the United Utilities Investment Section. There is the possibility of funding for community projects linked to the planned Crummock Weir removal project. **Action CL to keep in touch with UU**
- 4.2 CL reported that the National Lottery Communities Fund might be suitable for project development but not for the feasibility phase.
- 4.3 AM reported her awareness of a Rural Funding Digest, a monthly bulletin highlighting a selection of current funding opportunities (<https://www.rsonline.org.uk/search/rural%20funding%20digest>) produced by the Rural Services Network (<https://www.rsonline.org.uk>) **Action, AB to register with the Network**
- 4.4 A discussion followed about the relative merits of the Hall Management Committee exploring funding through both a crowdfunding mechanism, such as 'Just Giving', and setting up a covenant such as has been undertaken by the Parochial Church Council for St Cuthberts Church in Lorton. Both schemes have attractive features and might be complementary, but it was agreed the development group needs more detailed information. **Actions:**
- 4.4.1 **CL and RE** to explore crowdfunding including but not necessarily limited to Just Giving.
- 4.4.2 **AB and DP** to explore the experience of St Cuthberts PCC, how to set up a covenanting scheme and establishing a 'Friends of Yew Tree Hall'.

5 Community Involvement

- 5.1 A brief description of possible schemes has been drafted by CL for the December/January issue of The Link and the December edition of the Lorton Parish

Council newsletter due in December. The same material will be uploaded to the YTH page on the Melbreak Communities website.

- 5.2 CL circulated a final draft flyer for the YTH coffee morning on 14th December. A few edits were suggested. **Action CL**
- 5.3 CL presented an informative set of illustrative sketch plans showing possible development options. These will be distributed on tables at the coffee morning in A4 format and displayed in A3 format. The sketches will have brief descriptive headings about the features of each design. **Action CL**
- 5.4 All members of the Development Group who can attend the coffee morning are asked to make themselves available to explain the sketches to anyone who asks. **Action All.**

6 Next meeting

- 6.1 13th December, 5pm, a brief informal meeting in the Hall for any last-minute issues prior to setting out the Hall for the Saturday Coffee Morning.