

**WHITEHAVEN COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW PANEL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2014 at 2:00pm**  
**IN THE BAINBRIDGE ROOM, THE COPELAND CENTRE.**

**Present:** Councillors Peter Kane (Chair); George Clements; Geoff Garrity; Stephen Haraldsen; John Kane; David Moore; Gillian Troughton and Peter Tyson.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Alistair Norwood

**Officers:** Tim Capper, Democratic Services Manager; Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer and Charlotte Brown, Community Regeneration Officer.

**WCG 01/14** **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2014 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**WCG 02/14** **Community Governance Review Petition**

Members were advised that on 29 May 2014 a petition containing 2614 signatures was received, calling on the Council to form a Whitehaven Town Council.

Members were further advised that, unlike the Elected Mayor petition, there was no requirement to verify the signatures contained within the petition.

During the discussion that followed, the Panel welcomed the petition, as it gave weight to the Community Review that has been underway since December 2013 at the request of the Whitehaven Locality Group.

Members also stated they would like to encourage those who signed the petition to get involved with the Stage 2 consultation and with the Town/Parish Council(s) when they are formed.

**RESOLVED** – that the receipt of a petition calling for the Council to form a Whitehaven Town Council be noted, and welcomed as an indication of support for parishing in Whitehaven.

**WCG 03/14 Phase Two Consultation**

The Democratic Services Manager provided various options on possible Town/Parish Council models that could be used in the next phase of consultation, for Members to consider.

During discussions, the Panel considered the advantages and disadvantages of each.

It was suggested that for the next phase of consultation, two models be put forward, these being One Town Council and Two Parish Councils.

Government guidelines state that electors in a review area must be consulted but does not specify the method of consultation. Members then considered the method for Phase two consultation and who should be involved.

A number of suggestions were made for possible public consultation events as it was generally felt that the approach used in Phase One had not been a great success.

These suggestions included: a gazebo at the Saturday Market, a gazebo at the Whitehaven Carnival and other public events.

The Panel then considered what should be available at any drop-in type event and it was suggested that a short leaflet be produced outlining the benefits of having a Town/Parish Council, using the achievements of other Parish Councils as an example the leaflet to include a questionnaire to enable the public to comment and return.

Who should be involved was then considered. Members were keen to engage with as many of the electorate in the non-parished area as possible including businesses, Chamber of Trade and Locality Groups.

**RESOLVED** – that

- a) Two models be taken forward, One Town Council and Two Parish Councils.
- b) The Democratic Services Manager be asked to produce a leaflet/questionnaire for use in the Phase 2 consultation.
- c) The Whitehaven Carnival be the first venue for public consultation and Councillor George Clements be asked to arrange for a stand in Castle Park.
- d) The Community Regeneration Officer be asked to liaise with the Locality Groups to encourage their involvement.
- e) CALC be contacted to enlist any help they can provide.

**WCG 04/14 Date of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – that the next meeting of the Whitehaven Community Governance Review Panel be held on Thursday 26 June at 1:00pm the venue to be arranged and Members advised accordingly.

The meeting closed at 3:30pm

Chairman.....

Date.....