**MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM NVCA MEETING THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2018**

**APOLOGIES:** Sam & Rachael Gildert, Stephen Cudworth, Geoff & Sue Heaton, Iain & Jo Blair, Rev Penny King

**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (11.01.2018)**

1. **POST-CHRISTMAS DO!** Thanks to Shelley C for organising this. A change of venue saw a select group going to The Nila in Rawtenstall. A very enjoyable night was had by all and the customer service was second to none – although we’re not sure if that is because Paddy was with us…..
2. **DARK LANE –** both NVCA and Newchurch St Nicholas school have contacted the council expressing concerns over the way the area is deteriorating and starting to be used for fly-tipping. Communication was received back to say that the landowner is going to make efforts to improve the site. Councillor Alyson Barnes and Patrick Marriott are monitoring the situation.

PCSO Pickles has been contacted using the Police website but nothing heard.

1. **TOP BARN LANE –** the privet on the right hand side going down Top Barn Lane has now been cut following our request to the council.
2. **KIRK FAIR –** Newchurch Methodist has been booked as ‘ wet weather back up’.
3. **GRANTS –** we are awaiting the next round of grants to be able to apply for benches fpr the community garden.
4. **STAGHILLS PLAY AREA –** Simone C has emailed Keith Jenkins to obtain the relevant signed paperwork to take this forward.
5. **ST NICHOLAS CHURCH –** the initial meeting regarding the Graveyard went ahead with representatives from both church and community. A progress update will hopefully be given at the next meeting.

**MEETING NOTES**

1. Congratulations to Natalie Ashworth on the birth of her baby boy, Ethan. Those of us at the meeting were lucky enough to catch a glimpse of Ethan and a card and small present were handed over from the Community Association.
2. Simone C attended the **Rossendale Community Support Network** meeting before Christmas and advised that she would be also attending the follow-up one. It was agreed between the NVCA members present that it would be difficult to set up a localised Foodbank but that we would do all we could to support and advertise any initiatives in the local area. Simone agreed to pass this back to the next RCSN meeting.
3. Some members have not yet paid over their **membership subscriptions** for this year. As the Treasurer was not able to attend this meeting this will be followed up at the March meeting to ensure that all those on the mailing list are current members.
4. Shirley S has attended a **Dementia Friendly** training session. It was felt that this would be of interest to a number of people in the area and Shirley is going to look into this further.
5. **Civic Pride** are having a weekend push on clearing the valley of litter and Staghills has been selected as one of the areas to target. They are meeting on **Friday 2nd March at 10.00am** at the Community Garden entrance on Church Street. Anyone who is free to join them for a couple of hours that morning will be welcomed with open litter pickers!!
6. A new **Singing Group** has started in Newchurch which costs £4. It’s aimed at anyone who would like to have some fun learning songs ranging from gospel through to pop and anything else in between! No requirement to be able to read music – or be able to declare yourself alto or soprano! Thursdays in Newchurch Methodist Church starting at 10.00 am for a very welcome brew with the actual singing running from 10.30 until 11.30.

**NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY 8th MARCH 7.30pm – BOARS HEAD**