Retirement Complex Gets Green Light at the Former Thornhill College Site

Outline planning permission (including a Section 76 Legal Agreement) has recently been granted for the development of a Retirement Complex at the site of the former Thornhill College on the Culmore Road.

The prominent Thornhill site is one with significant memories for much of our City’s residents and diaspora, and has lain in a dilapidated state since the school’s relocation in 2003.

The ‘West Shore’ will see the creation of a purpose built luxury retirement village located in this highly scenic and tranquil setting on the banks of the Foyle. The development will offer residents a selection of house and apartment types set within communal gardens and enjoying attractive communal facilities. (continued on Page 3)
Planning permission was granted this month (15th Jan) for the siting of the Springtown Camp Art Installation - a permanent piece dedicated to celebrating and keeping the remarkable story of Springtown Camp alive.

The commemorative piece is to be located within the next few months on green space adjacent to the NWRC Training Centre on Springtown Road – taking the form of a 1/3 scale replica of a Model Nissen hut which would have housed the Springtown residents, and 2 plaques / totems. The project has been shaped and driven by local men Willie Deery & Hugo McConnell, both of whom grew up in Springtown Camp.

Home to School Transport Review

The Dept of Education has announced a review of the current home to school transport policy. The aim of the review is to ensure that home to school transport is fit for purpose and is sustainable over the long term.

Around 84,000 pupils are currently eligible for transport assistance which is around 26% of the school population. The cost of home to school transport provision is approximately £81m per year.

The review will not consider home to school transport for children with a statement of special educational needs which specifies a special transport need. The Department has started a process of engaging with parents, children, school staff and the wider public on how the future home to school transport policy should be shaped.

As part of this process, an online questionnaire has been launched on the Dept’s website: -

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/X5KRQYT

Walking for Health Initiative

The Walking for Health initiative is co-ordinated by the Western Trust and funded by the Public Health Agency.

The initiative provides free Walk Leader training & ongoing support for anyone who would like to lead health walks as part of their work role or in a volunteer capacity.

A small grant (£100) is available for Walking for Health Groups with a closing date of Wednesday 6th Feb. The purpose of the grant is to support new or existing walking groups through the provision of transport, access to facilities, promotional materials which will enhance /promote walking groups - although only Walk Leaders trained through the Walking for Health scheme are eligible to submit a grant application.

For more information on becoming a Walk Leader or information about walking groups in your area, contact Lesley Finlay, Walking for Health Co-ordinator, WHSCT on (028) 7186 5127 or Email: Lesley.Finlay@westerntrust.hscni.net
FREE Child Protection Training

Gain a clear understanding of how to recognise, report and record concerns about a child’s welfare. This course is open to all parents / grandparents / carers / childminders.

Wednesday 27th February & Wednesday 6th March 2019
(must attend both evenings)

6.30 - 9.30pm at Greater Shantallow Area Partnership Offices, Northside.

For more information contact Natalie Logue on 7135 8787 or E: natalie@shantallow.net

The developers have been working collaboratively with Council, relevant statutory agencies, local C&V organisations and consultees to bring the proposed development to this stage.

A key element of the proposals is to protect the character of many of the original buildings and indeed to restore them to their former glory. The plans include the retention of three existing buildings at the Culmore Rd frontage to provide a Community Hub Building, Community Services Building & Warden’s Office. The remaining buildings will be demolished / redeveloped to provide a 65 bed care home and 68 semi-independent living units.

In addition, the plan is to remodel the former tennis courts on the site to provide a multi-use games area and allotments and remodel other parts of the site to incorporate formal landscape gardens & associated access, parking, drainage and landscape enhancement works.

ONNP is confident that provision will also be made on site to link into any future riverside greenway that may be negotiated along the Foyle connecting Culmore Point to the Boom Hall site.

Although Council’s Planning Committee approved OPP in July 2018, due to special circumstances at the brownfield site, the full application could not be agreed without a Section 76 Legal Agreement that restricts the occupancy of the dwellings to a retirement age of 55 yrs+, ensuring that it doesn’t become a housing development in the countryside.

For further information check out: - www.thornhillretirement.com
The final designs for the Community & Recreation element of Ballynagard Field have been prepared (by landscape architects MWA Partnership) and presented to local residents.

Planning permission was granted in December 2017 for the development of housing (50 units) and community / recreational amenities at Ballynagard Field. In January 2018 a working group, comprising Ballynagard Residents Association, GSAP, ONNP, Culmore Community Partnership and Council undertook a household survey in the area to consult with residents on their views as to what should be included within the proposed community / recreational element of the development.

The proposals include play provision, community allotments and open green space - and are now subject to a planning application addendum.

For further information contact Cathal Crumley, Culmore Community Partnership at E: culmorepartnership@gmail.com

Ballynagard Field

Education Authority Consultation

Proposed Funding Scheme for Regional & Local Voluntary Youth Organisations

www.eani.org.uk/publications/consultations/public-consultation-on-the-education-authority-proposed-funding-scheme

Closing date: 5th February 2019

Outer North Neighbourhood Partnership
The Walled City – 400 Years

March 2019 will mark the 400th anniversary of the completion of the Walls of Derry.

To maximise this opportunity, Derry City & Strabane District Council and its partner The Honourable, The Irish Society (the builders and owners of the Walls) and The Department for Communities’ Historic Environment Division, have identified Walled City 400 Years as a key theme for events programming from September 2018 to March 2020.

A vibrant programme for this significant heritage led anniversary has been developed featuring an eclectic range of musical ensembles, dance audio plays, historical and contemporary exhibitions, symposiums, films, living archaeology demonstrations and workshops, visual arts exhibitions and much more!

This celebration of the 400th anniversary of the completion of the Walls programme will provide a great opportunity for both visitors and locals alike to experience the Walled City at its very best.

Culmore Greenway

After consultation, this is the ‘preferred route’ that’s been submitted for planning approval. By 2021 or early 2022, you’ll be able to dander or cycle from Bay Road Park, under the Foyle Bridge, up through Boomhall Estate and onto the main Culmore Road, down the Culmore Point Road and out the Coney Road, past Culmore Country Park towards the border and Muff.
NI Housing Executive has formally launched their new Community Involvement Strategy setting out how community representatives across NI can become more closely involved in shaping Housing Executive services.

The Community Involvement Strategy provides a framework for Housing Executive and residents to work together towards mutually agreed outcomes. It sets out how residents, along with their local community associations, can get involved in developing local services to improve their quality of life.

More involved communities are better informed, can contribute to better decision-making, help improve services / standards locally, develop their own skills /opportunities.

The strategy is available at:

Also check out promotional video
www.youtube.com/watch?v=0TaSwjBT_yU&feature=youtu.be

Interested ? Check out www.derrystrabane.com/10kchallenge
Lenamore Youth Centre are looking for volunteers for their Youth Centre programme.

Would you like an opportunity to work with Young People?

Interested in making a difference in your community?

Gain recognised qualifications? Meet new people?

If you are interested call into our Youth Centre, telephone 7135 2309 or email: martin.gallagher@eani.org.uk
Leafair 3G Pitch
Available Block Bookings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Half Pitch</th>
<th>Full Pitch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>5-6pm</td>
<td>8-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9-10pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5-6pm</td>
<td>8-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9-10pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7-8pm</td>
<td>8-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1-2pm</td>
<td>2-3pm (available until 23rd Feb 19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
<td>12-1pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We also have availability weekdays from 10am-5pm

Notice For Block Bookings
* All cancellations require a 24 hour notice period failure to do so will result in full payment of the session.
* Block bookings which are missed more than three times without cancellations will be forfeited.
* A one session fee will be taken in lieu on all block bookings (New members only)

Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland (formerly Lloyds Bank Foundation) has contributed approximately £35m to the Voluntary and Community sector over the past 31 years. Currently open for applications to the Community Grants Programme. This programme supports charitable organisations within NI to enable people, who are disadvantaged or with special needs, to participate actively in their communities.

The programme is open to registered charities with an income of less than £1 million operating in N.I. The Foundation has two main target areas: 1. Social and Community Needs 2. Education and Training

The average grant awarded within the Community Grant Programme is in the region of £3,000 - £5,000 and grants are awarded for one year. The following list is a guide to the key areas the Foundation supports: • Core costs • Materials and equipment • Salary costs • Volunteer expenses • Project costs • Refurbishment • Activities • Training • Disabled access • Transport Costs

All applications for funding must now be submitted using this online grant application system - www.halifaxni.eformz.info/index.php

The Foundation operates a rolling grant programme.

For further information about Neighbourhood Renewal activities in the Outer North area :-
Contact Darren Kirby (Manager), Outer North Neighbourhood Partnership, Northside Village Centre, Glengallagh Rd, Derry, BT48 8NN    T. (028) 7135 8787  E. darren@shantallow.net