

COUNCIL 14 JUNE 2017**1 Newbiggin by-the-Sea Parkrun**

- 1.1 This item was deferred at the last meeting so more information could be provided. Volunteers are attempting to create a regular Parkrun in Newbiggin by-the-Sea with the likely route utilising our superb facilities in the bay promenade and Milburn Park which is supported by County Neighbourhood Services. They are looking at a 2 lap out and back course along the promenade; very similar to the run leg that was used for the Newbiggin Sprint Triathlon.
- 1.2 The Parkruns are free, weekly, timed 5k events, organised by volunteers in the local community. Many thousands of such runs take place at various locations across the UK and worldwide every Saturday morning at 9am. They are fun, friendly and socially orientated & open to all regardless of ability. There are currently no parkruns in the south east Northumberland area. The closest are Druridge Bay parkrun to the north and Whitley Bay parkrun to the south.
- 1.3 I understand there is already a lot of community support for such an event in Newbiggin from local people, running clubs (Ashington Hirst Running Club, the Get Newbiggin Running Group and Active Northumberland) and the local businesses and cafe's in the area. A number of people have come forward and expressed an interest in volunteering their help to set up and run a potential Newbiggin Promenade Parkrun. Progress has been made with volunteers for 3 Race Directors and a core team of 10-12 event volunteers.
- 1.4 Any potential parkrun requires a suitable 5k course and the potential route will be subject to a full risk assessment carried out by the parkrun organisation itself, which is affiliated with UK Athletics and thus covered by their public liability insurance. Registration costs are £5-6,000 and require a local contribution of £3,000 to cover the provision of laptop and software; barcode scanner; timing device; cones markers and signs.
- 1.5 Representatives of the initial volunteer organizers will be in attendance to make a brief presentation.

It is RECOMMENDED that Members consider the presentation and request for financial support to establish a Newbiggin by-the-Sea Parkrun.