

**MID DURHAM  
AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP**

**BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MID DURHAM AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP BOARD  
MEETING** in Hamsteels Community Centre, Esh Winning, DH7 9LS on **14<sup>th</sup>  
November 2018 at 6.00pm**

**PRESENT:**

**Public Representatives**

Janet Box, Peter Aitken OBE, Mary Tribe and Lesley Baxter

**Partner Organisations**

John Jameson, Juliet Carling, Tina MacLellan, Peter Mackie,  
Paul Moralee and Amanda Healey

**Elected Councillors**

David Bell, John Turnbull, Mike McGaun and Jude Considine

**Co-opted**

Sophie Marston (Young Person) and Rachel Edmunds  
(CDHG)

**OFFICER**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Andy Coulthard (AAP Coordinator), Pam Sinclair and Lynn  
Cummings (AAP team), Gordon Elliott (Head of Partnership  
& Community Engagement) Durham County Council.

**PUBLIC**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Tony Tribe, Danny Bone, Davy Walker, Rhoda Makepeace,  
Muriel Molloy, Fred Bonner, Alan Gibson, Enid Winter, Sonia  
Pinkney, J Middleton, J Brogan, M Maddison, T Minnis,  
Andrew Megginson, A Hedley and Tony Tribe

**GUEST**

**SPEAKERS:**

None

**APOLOGIES:**

Board Partners – Sgt Mark Mallatratt, Sgt Jason Mole and  
Helen Lynch  
Board Elected Members – Paul Taylor, Jean Chaplow &  
Anne Bonner  
Board Public – Ellen Wilson, Freda Dawson & Martin Walker  
Forum Members – Peter Appleton, Peter Henderson,  
Michael Wilkes, Derek Wintrell and Hannah Walters,

## 1. **Welcome to Board meeting and New Members**

Cllr David Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting and then introduced the new Board members that were present – Peter Mackie, NE First Credit Union (Business Partner) and Paul Moralee, Karbon (Housing Partner). He also highlighted that this would be John Jameson's last meeting due to retirement, he thanked John for all the work he has done as a Board Member and Community Safety Task Group lead and wished him well on his retirement, on behalf of the Board and Forum.

## 2. **Minutes of previous meeting 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

5.2.2. – Children & Families – Andy stated he had approached Cllr Maura McKeon to Chair the Task Group and she had agreed and chaired the recent meeting.

6b AB Reports – Mid Durham Intergenerational Programme – Andy stated he would contact Sgt Jason Mole for information on the 'Peer Mentor' scheme.

## 3. **Presentation: Active Valley & Paths Projects**

Andy gave a presentation on the Active Valley & Paths Project (available on request). Andy also informed the Board that Cllr Jude Considine had been talking for some time about the possibility of extending the project into the Lanchester Valley, so Cllr Considine and a colleague, Mike Stoddart, will be hoping to work with DCC Public Rights of Way in the future.

Following the presentation the Chair opened the meeting up for questions and comments from the Board and Forum. Amanda Healey complimented the project on the connectivity of Active Valley with Shildon and Active Durham and how this works with the Public Health agenda.

## 4. a **Priorities**

### 4.1 Support for Older People

Janet Box gave an update on the current work of the task group. The task group has met once since the last Board meeting.

4.1.2 The task group received feedback from Durham County Council's Spatial Policy staff on how they are integrating dementia into their policies,

especially in the County Durham Plan. The staff were very vague in their report and found it difficult to reference dementia and how it would be addressed. The task group were not pleased with this and felt that the work that they, the Alzheimer's Society, and the report which went to the Health and Wellbeing Board welcoming this inclusion, had been wasted. The task group requested that the Spatial Planning staff consider several recommendations and asked them to come back to the next task group meeting to discuss progress. Amanda Healey stated she was very disappointed that dementia had not been mentioned in the Plan. She stated she was aware that dementia had been taken to the recent Health and Wellbeing meeting for discussion and inclusion in the Plan. She felt that this would be picked up by the Health Impact Assessment but this should be highlighted more within the documents.

**Action:** Amanda would report back with more information to the Board.

- 4.1.3 An overview was circulated around the group which highlighted the Government's new Loneliness Strategy and some of the key areas they are planning to develop alongside extra funding to enable them to deliver. Areas included GP referrals into community provision (social prescribing); working with employers; increasing community spaces; building this into all ministers' portfolios and department policies; embedding into education as young as primary school age and examining volunteering options.
- 4.1.4 Action plans and updates were provided on the Dementia Friendly Communities project which is currently working in Brandon, Esh Winning and Lanchester, with Langley Park being the next village. The task group were very satisfied with progress. A press release has been developed and will go out this week.
- 4.1.5 The Emergency Heating project will be launched this month which enables older and vulnerable residents to contact the Fire and Rescue Services (in the north of the county only) 24/7 if their boiler breaks down suddenly and they are in the middle of very cold weather spell. The service will come out and provide equipment to keep people warm until they or partners can solve the problem.
- 4.1.6 The Volunteer Driver Scheme continues to progress 'slowly but surely' with an average of 50 journeys per month. There is still nearly £3,000 left in the budget. The majority of journeys include trips to church, social gatherings and hairdressers.
- 4.1.7 The Lanchester Loneliness project had slowed down over the last few months due to the lead volunteer's health, but they are planning a meeting in late November to pick it back up and 'push on'.

The next task group meeting will be Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am in the Miners Institute in Langley Park.

#### 4.2 Children & Families

Andy gave an update on the current work of the task group. He stated the task group have met once since the last Board meeting.

- 4.2.1 The task group met on Tuesday 6 November to discuss two applications from Cornforth Partnership which had been put together after a meeting with One Point colleagues who helped us to identify 3 key areas of support needed in Mid Durham regarding mental resilience. The first was the support needed for young people between the time of diagnosis of a mental health issue and the specialist intervention (a minimum of 12 weeks), the second concerned the number of young people being affected by domestic abuse and the third was around primary school education of mental health. The two applications from Cornforth Partnership had been designed to address the first two issues.
- 4.2.2 The group also discussed the success of the summer holiday provision which saw over 500 individuals attend over 750 times during the 5 weeks. All 4 villages were either equal to or above last year's figures.
- 4.2.3 The group looked at the request for capital funding from the Addison Park refurbishment in Meadowfield. Phase one was supported through Section 106 funding which saw improvements to play equipment and landscaping. The second phase, which is the application to the AAP, will see the provision of a Ninja fitness trail, fencing, gates and a community planting area. This too will have a contribution from Section 106 funding.
- 4.2.4 Finally, the AAP are working with Brandon Junior Neighbourhood Watch (NW) which currently has over 70 members and the Durham Policing Division for Brandon. Between the beat officer, the NW group, County Durham Housing Group, Tesco's and Greggs they are going to work with a particular group of younger residents (8 to 13yrs) who are causing numerous vandalism problems within the Brandon area. Their intention is to use a communal hall in Silver Courts to hold 2 sessions a month for the young people alongside regular community payback schemes to try and get the young people involved in regular activity and in turn guide them into the youth club, boxing or junior NW. We will seek to use some of the Youth Fund to support this delivery. A project development meeting will take place later this month.

A date for the next meeting has not been set.

#### 4.3 Community Safety

John Jameson gave an update on the current work of the task group, stating the task group have not met since the last Board meeting as they have been delivering the 4 community safety events across the area.

- 4.3.1 The debrief meeting for this will take place on Thursday 15 November in the Institute in Langley Park at 1pm.

The following are the attendances figures for each event:

Brandon Primary	300
Langley Park Primary	160
Esh Winning Primary	160
Ushaw Moor Primary	130

The service partners at each event included – Durham Housing Group, Karbon, Age UK County Durham, the Office of the Durham Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner, Durham County Council's Neighbourhood Protection and Road Safety Teams, local Police Beat and Community Cohesion teams alongside officers from the Fire and Rescue Service. Numerous referrals were made to several of the services for further visits and checks and feedback from all was very positive. Only 50% of the budget has been allocated so we are proposing that this is carried over into next year and another 4 events are held. The events were held from 3pm to 7pm and all partners agreed that this could be shortened to a 5.30pm or 6pm finish. Several press releases were put out concerning this and featured in the Northern Echo and various Facebook pages.

#### 4.4 Health & Wellbeing Task Group

Andy has covered this in the Board presentation (Physical Activity). There is no further meeting of this task group planned

#### 4.5 Local Environmental Task Group

Cllr John Turnbull gave an update on the current work of the task group. The Mid Durham Joint Parish Council Committee has met once since the last Board meeting.

- 4.5.1 The special meeting was called to discuss the progress with the fly tipping cameras. Belinda Snow attended on behalf of the Civic Pride team and a good discussion was had about how to improve the referral and reporting systems. Belinda will provide feedback at the next Parish Committee meeting planned for evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> November at Burnhope Community Centre.

- 4.5.2 The Parishes Committee's original idea to use the Area Budget Environment Pot to address path encroachment schemes has now been picked up by DCC as part of their ongoing work, the Parishes are now

looking at developing wildflower planting. An update on this will be provided at the next meeting and this will also be discussed at the next Parishes Committee

#### 4.6 Small Grant Appraisal Task Group

Mary gave an update on the current work of the task group and stated the small grants group have met once and sent out two batches of virtual applications since the last Board meeting in July and have discussed 8 applications:

- 4.6.1 To date they have allocated £13,182.96 of small grant to 34 groups attracting a further £35,134.30 in matched funding leaving £7,106.04 left to spend

#### 4. b **Area Budget Reports**

##### Mid Durham Small Grants Fund

Andy updated the Board on the project (available on request). He stated that this would be the tenth successive year of the Fund if the Board supported the proposal and that the process for small grants distribution would be the same as previous years. The request is for £20,000 from the AAP Area Budget (revenue), with an overall project budget of circa £65,000.

**Recommendation:** The Board agreed to support the project to the full £20,000 requested

##### Addison Park

Andy updated the Board on the project (available on request). He stated it is proposed to fund phase 2 of the Addison Park (Meadowfield) redevelopment and install a 'Ninja Trail'. The overall cost of the project is £65,000 with a request for £5,000 (capital) from the AAP Area Budget with £45,000 from the Section 106 funding

**Recommendation:** The Board agreed to support the project to the full £5,000 requested.

##### Hearts & Minds

Andy updated the Board on the project (available on request). He stated it is proposed to fund a programme of domestic abuse support and prevention courses, workshops and family activities delivered by Cornforth partnership alongside Onepoint. The overall cost of the project is £6,629

with a request for £5,121 of Area Budget (revenue) from the AAP and a matched of £1,508 from Cornforth Partnership

**Recommendation:** The Board agreed to support the project to the full £5,121 requested.

#### Brancepeth Village Improvements

Andy stated due to the project being time sensitive he would forward the project around the Board virtually and request a decision on the agreement for next week. The Board agreed to this.

### **5. Correspondence and Written Questions from the Public**

Andy stated there was no correspondence but opened it up to the Board and Forum for any questions.

Danny Bone stated the footpaths between New Brancepeth, Allum Waters and Langley Moor needed urgent improvement and litter was an issue. Cllr David Bell and Cllr John Turnbull both stated this has been looked at numerous times and DCC Highways had been asked to put in a path and cut back the overgrown foliage but costs had always been a major factor.

### **6. Report from AAP Coordinator**

#### **6.1 Priority Survey 2018**

Andy explained the Priority Survey consultation was due to close at the end of November and currently we had received 340 data entries into the survey monkey software. There had been a very low take up from the schools and Andy asked that the Board and Forum promoted this further with any of their school contacts.

#### **6.2 Area Budget Monitoring Q1 & Q2**

Andy explained the report (available on request). He stated there are currently 10 active projects and 7 supported but not yet started. The 10 projects had been asked to feed back their current data. There were no issues with those projects currently underway.

**Recommendation:** Board to note the report.

#### **6.3 Work of the Mid Durham AAP Team – September to November 2018**

- **Langley Park Miners Memorial Group** – Currently £600 short of budget – funding applications submitted. Order now placed with artist – working towards a March 2019 installation.

- **St John's Meadowfield** – Lease finalised. Work started on site on the 13 August and are working towards a mid-March 2019 completion.
- Work ongoing with Cllrs and partners to look at commissioning Ray Lonsdale to develop the **Brandon Commemorative Sculpture** at the bus terminus on Brandon Lane. Project has been put back till August 2022 due to the artist's availability; however, work to improve the area where the sculpture will go will start next year.
- Attended **Brandon Partnership** meeting
- **Dementia Friendly Communities** project. Lanchester and Brandon having steering groups in place to take forward. Esh Winning, via their Residents Association have also started.
- Working closely with **Dementia Action Alliance** to deliver their action plan for 2018/19.
- Developing with partners **Area Budget and Neighbourhood Budget** applications and allocations for 2018/19. Whilst further developing some of the NB plans from 2017/18 committed funding.
- Continuing to work with an Active Durham working group to look at increasing the time pupils take part in physical activity within schools – **'Active 30' project**
- Working with **Active Durham, Public Health and Culture and Sport** colleagues to develop the **Active Valley Project**. Steering group in place and moving forward.
- **Deerness Paths project** is currently in the hands of the Public Rights of Way team who are looking at the suggested improvements and costing them up. A meeting of the steering group will take place later this afternoon.
- Attended the Mid Durham **Parish Council Committee** in September. Re focused the Environment Fund on wild flower meadow planting.
- Supporting the **Lanchester Loneliness** working group alongside our relevant County Cllrs – meeting to take place later this month
- Supporting the police and partners in **Time Limited Projects for Langley Park and Brandon**
- Held 5 **task group** meetings and continue to develop 5 task group action plans
- Deliberated on several **LEADER** applications
- Delivered one virtual and 1 actual **Small Grants** appraisal panel
- Supported the delivery of the **County Durham Partnership Big Discussion Event** in October centered on mental health.
- Delivered 4 **Community Safety events** in Brandon, Esh Winning, Langley Park and Ushaw Moor.



- Written and proof read the November edition of the **Heads Up**.
- Looked at **road safety** with the police, parish, schools and residents association in **Esh**
- Supporting Esh Parish Council with regard to the **play site in Esh** and the recent vandalism and arson attack.
- AAP link to the **Health Improvement Assessment** process for the County Durham Plan
- Attended and supported the **Friends of Addison Park** meetings
- Secured Cllr Maura McKeon as our **Children, Young People and Families task group Chairperson**
- Explored the need for **youth provision in Lanchester** with Consett Detached, Lanchester Parish Council, the Police and Croft View.
- Sent out **quarterly monitoring** to AB projects that are active within the last 2 years.
- Supporting **Langley Park Primary** and their volunteers alongside DCC Culture and Sport to extend and develop their **community fitness suite**.
- Working with **Silver Trees Primary in Ushaw Moor** to look at various arts projects
- Stood in for the Coordinator at **Chester le Street AAP** to support their October Board meeting
- Updated the **Mid Durham AAP web pages**
- Supported **Lanchester Parish Council** to rededicate their **war memorial** using County Cllrs funding
- Met with and advised **Abundant Earth in Broompark** regarding equipment and possible future venue development
- Supported **Burnhope Community Centre** with their opening day
- Supporting **Brandon Junior Neighbourhood Watch and the local beat team** to look at a support programme for a particular group of young people causing problems in Brandon.
- Supported colleagues from DCC to carry out a **digital focus group** on how to improve DCC use of digital technology
- Supported colleagues in DCC to deliver 2 focus groups on **DCC's Visioning exercise**.
- Attended the **Lanchester Poppies** event opening

#### 6.4 Finance update 2018/19

Andy gave the report to the Board (available on request).

**Recommendation:** Board to note the report

**9 Partner Update**

Police PACT Update

Andy stated both Sgts Mark Mallatratt and Jason Mole were unable to attend the Board meeting and give a report due to work commitments. An update will follow in due course

**10. A.O.B**

Cllr David Bell informed the meeting that Andy would be leaving the Board and would be taking up a new position with Livin. He presented Andy with a card and present from the Board Members and thanked Andy for all his great work in Mid Durham along with his dedication to the Board, Partners, Forum Members and his staff. He stated he would be sorely missed and had been a great ambassador for not only the Mid Durham area but the County Council too.

Gordon Elliott, Head of Partnerships & Community Engagement, and Andy's Head of Service, also reiterated the often excellent and innovative work that Andy has done which has been instrumental in making Mid Durham AAP the great place it is today.

Cllr John Turnbull thanked Andy for all his work on behalf of himself and colleagues and stated he would be greatly missed by all and the rest of the Board agreed with him.

Andy thanked everyone for their support and stated he was sorry to go but felt he was leaving the Mid Durham AAP area in good hands with a strong and very committed Board in place. He wished them well for the future and felt that the County Council should be proud of the AAPs and the partnership Service as it's at the forefront of delivery for the local authority.

**11 Date & Time of Next meetings**

The next Board meeting will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6.00pm in St Andrews Methodist Church, Carr Ave, Brandon, DH7 8QG

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For Further details on these minutes please contact the Mid Durham AAP team on 07818 510 370.

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Board Approval of Minutes dated:

Chairpersons Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_