

**MID DURHAM  
AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP**

**BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MID DURHAM AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP BOARD  
MEETING** St Andrews Methodist Church, Carr Avenue, Brandon, DH7 8QG on  
**9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6.00pm**

**PRESENT:**                   **Public Representatives**  
Janet Box, Peter Aitken OBE, Mary Tribe and Lesley Baxter

**Partner Organisations**  
Juliet Carling, Sgt. Mark Mallatratt, Tina MacLellan, Lee  
Brown, Paul Moralee, Amanda Healey and Lee Brown

**Elected Councillors**  
David Bell, John Turnbull, Mike McGaun, Paul Taylor, Anne  
Bonner and Jude Considine

**Co-opted**  
Rachel Edmunds (CDHG)

**OFFICER  
ATTENDANCE:**       Derek Snaith (AAP Co-ordinator), Andrew Megginson (AAP  
Principal Co-ordinator), Pam Sinclair and Lynn Cummings  
(AAP team)

**PUBLIC  
ATTENDANCE:**       Tony Tribe, Danny Bone, Muriel Molloy, Frank Bonner, Ben  
Hopson, L Shield, Paul Gilroy and Edwin Simpson

**GUEST  
SPEAKERS:**           Ron Hogg (Durham Police, Crime & Victims' Commissioner),  
Stuart Errington (Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue  
Service)

**APOLOGIES:**           Board Partners – Peter Mackie  
Board Elected Members – None  
Board Public – Ellen Wilson, Freda Dawson, Martin Walker &  
Sophie Marston  
Forum Members – Peter Appleton, and Derek Wintrell

**1. Welcome to Board meeting and New Co-ordinator**

Cllr David Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting and then introduced

Derek Snaith to the Board and Forum as the new Mid Durham AAP Co-ordinator following Andy Coulthards' resignation. He also stated Andrew Megginson (Principal AAP Co-ordinator) would be attending this meeting in his capacity as Principal AAP Co-ordinator

## **2. Minutes of previous meeting 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

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

Matters Arising:

4.3 – Community Safety – Andrew stated the numbers attending the recent community safety events had been very good across all 4 villages/events.

## **3. Presentation: Police Precept Presentation**

Ron Hogg (Durham Police, Crime & Victims Commissioner) gave a presentation on the Police Precept (available on request).

Following the presentation the Chair opened the meeting up for questions and comments from the Board and Forum. Cllr David Bell requested more copies of the surveys and these were given out following the meeting.

A question was raised around higher band properties could contain pensioner and increasing the precept could have an impact on their pension increase for that year. It was stated that was a consideration hence the consultations.

A question was raised around some Band A residents may not be able to afford the increase. It was stated some Band A residents would be on benefits and they would be eligible for a reduction. They also would not be hit as badly as higher band residents would be in real terms.

It was stated a reduction in Police numbers invariably means more crimes committed so the increase was needed. It was stated the public needed to feel safe and although this is a difficult decision it needed to be done.

It was stated the Police do a good job but should not be reliant on funding in this way.

It was stated students are exempt as are Durham University although some University cities do pay into the precept it was thought Durham University should also pay. It was stated Durham University do pay and in line with other areas across the Country.

A question was raised about whether finances are raised on the licensing

side and it was stated late night licensing laws/costs can be raised but needed to be consistent across the whole County. It was stated a few years ago 2 retailers in Durham City (DH7 & Café Rock) had paid for a police presence at weekends.

**Action: Ron Hogg stated this would be looked into as a possible option.**

**4. Presentation: Fire & Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan Consultation 2019/20**

Stuart Errington (CFO) gave a presentation on the Fire & Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan Consultation 2019/20 (available on request).

Following the presentation the Chair opened the meeting up for questions and comments from the Board and Forum.

A question was raised as Bishop Auckland already has its own station why give Spennymoor an extra appliance. It was stated there is only currently one at Bishop Auckland and this extra one would help enhance our areas provision.

**5. Presentation: Durham 2030- Refreshing the Vision**

Amanda Healy (DCC Director of Public Health) gave a presentation on the Durham 2030- Refreshing the Vision (available on request).

Following the presentation the Chair opened the meeting up for questions and comments from the Board and Forum.

Cllr Anne Bonner stated there was not enough information on the handout to make an informed decision at this time.

Peter Aitken stated the new build in Durham City around Milburngate would be a potential eye sore for the city, perhaps going against other aspects of the vision.

It was stated traffic would be a problem once DCC moved the HQ to the Waterside in Durham City. It was explained these issues would be addressed as the new HQ would be considerably smaller than the current building.

It was stated the new proposed car park to be built on the old 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre land in the city needed to be built prior to the new HQ and staff were expected to use the Park & Ride services.

It was stated a lot of the issues were linked with the County Plan and planning issues concerning the new HQ.

A question was raised how are the visions ranked in relation to the ambitions and what would take priority. It was stated this could be looked at as part of the visioning exercise.

Derek stated more information is available on line and additional papers have already been sent to Board and Forum prior to this meeting.

## **6. AAP Priority Survey Results Report**

Andrew Megginson & Derek Snaith explained the AAP Priority Survey Results report (available on request). It was stated a further report would be going to the March Board meeting for a decision as to what the AAP wishes to adopt as priorities based on the survey results.

**Recommendation: Agreed**

## **7. a Priorities**

### **7.1 Support for Older People**

Andrew Megginson stated the task group have not met since the last Board meeting and the next task group meeting will be Thursday 10th January at 9.30am in the Miners Institute in Langley Park

### **7.2 Children & Families**

Andrew Megginson gave an update on the current work of the task group. He stated a date for the next meeting has not been set.

- 7.2.1 The Task Group will need to consider the allocation of the remaining £6,902 Youth Fund. There are two projects identified for this funding. The first is a project in Brandon which would see partnership work with the Police, Durham Agency Against Crime, the Brandon Junior Neighborhood Watch scheme, County Durham Housing Group and a group of targeted 8 to 13yr olds. This is still in development and will go ahead on a trial basis initially, to gauge any emerging issues with local residents. The second is a project with Cornforth Partnership which would see the promotion of a texting and web based support service for young people which will provide advice on mental wellbeing. Part of this service is currently under review and again we will know how this will proceed by the end of January.

### **7.3 Community Safety**

Andrew Megginson gave an update on the current work of the task group and stated the task group met the day after the November AAP Board meeting to debrief the community safety events.

- 7.3.1 The group discussed the successes and the areas for change. They have an underspend in the budget of circa £3,000 (50% of the budget) and would like to seek the Board's permission to carry this over into 2019/20 as the Partners would like to deliver another 3 of these events with local Primary Schools at some point in 2019. Decision required.

#### 7.4 Health & Wellbeing Task Group

Andrew Megginson stated there are no more task group meetings scheduled for this group as the two key priority areas have either their own steering group (physical Activity – Active Valley) or been handed over to a different task group (mental health for young people and families – Children, Young People and Families task group).

- 7.4.1 Active Valley Update – A Steering Group (residents, community deliverers of services) and an Advisory Group (larger partner services) have been set up to support and advice Culture and Sport colleagues to develop this project. A survey is being produced and will be available to all groups and residents in the Deerness Valley area as soon as possible. This will be used to gain residents' views on physical activity, whether they are already active or not and gather information on why they are active or why they choose not to be. This will provide the project with a baseline starting point. Details of the survey will be fed back to the Board in March and will form the basis of the steering group's action plan going forward.

#### 7.5 Local Environmental Task Group

Andrew Megginson stated the Mid Durham Parish Council Committee have met once since the last Board meeting.

- 7.5.1 The Committee were due to have an officer at the meeting to update on the fly tipping cameras, but unfortunately they did not attend. An update will be put onto the next agenda of the Committee later this month.
- 7.5.2 The Committee are still awaiting all Parish Councils requests for the £10K Environmental Improvements Fund. Once these are in then DCC Clean and Green can cost up and work with the parishes and AAP to deliver.

The date of the next Parishes Committee is 19th January 2019 at 10.00am in Lynwood House, Lanchester.

#### 7.6 Small Grant Appraisal Task Group

Mary gave an update on the current work of the task group. The small grants group have met once and sent out one batch of virtual applications since the last Board meeting in November and have discussed 2 applications:

- 7.6.1 To date we have allocated £16,782.96 of small grant to 42 groups attracting a further £43,516.13 in matched funding leaving £3,506.04 left to spend.

## **7. b Area Budget Reports**

### **7.1 Castleside Village Hall Refurbishment**

Andrew updated the Board on the project (available on request). He stated the application is asking for matched funding to provide a new kitchen to the hall. The request is for £5,000 from the AAP Area Budget (capital) with an overall project budget of £10,800.

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

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

None

## **9. Report from AAP Coordinator**

### **9.1 Work of the Mid Durham AAP Team – November 2018 – January 2019**

- **Langley Park Miners Memorial Group** – Currently £600 short of budget and funding applications submitted. Order now placed with artist and working towards a March 2019 installation.
- **St John's Meadowfield** – 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 this year.
- Attended **Brandon Partnership** meeting – struggling for numbers at the moment and contemplating merging with Residents Association.
- **Dementia Friendly Community's** project - Lanchester and Brandon have steering groups in place to take forward. Esh Winning, via their Residents Association, has also started and the Dementia Friendly Community Co-ordinator is looking to start in Langley Park in January.

- Developing **Area Budget and Neighbourhood Budget** applications and allocations for 2018/19.
- Working with **Active Durham, Public Health and Culture and Sport** colleagues to develop the **Active Valley Project**. With steering and advisory groups in place and a baseline survey will be pushed out in January and February.
- **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. They are also awaiting a mobility and access report from a volunteer and Countryside Ranger. A meeting of the group will be organised for later in the month.
- Attended the Mid Durham **Parish Council Committee** in November.
- Supporting the **Lanchester Loneliness** working group alongside our relevant County Cllrs.
- Supporting the Police and Partners in **Brandon** to look at provision for a particularly troublesome younger age range group.
- Held 1 **task group** meeting and continue to develop 5 task group action plans
- Deliberated on several virtual **LEADER** applications
- Asked for feedback virtually on several **Small Grants** applications and held 1 appraisal meeting.
- Attended and supported the **Friends of Addison Park** meetings
- Sent out **quarterly monitoring** to AB projects that are active within the last 2 years – Quarter 3.
- Produced the **December E-bulletin**
- Supporting **Langley Park** Primary and their volunteers alongside DCC Culture and Sport to extend and develop their **community fitness suite**.
- Updated the **Mid Durham AAP web pages**

## 9.2 Finance update

Andrew Megginson gave the report to the Board (available on request).

**Recommendation:** Board to note the report

## 10 **Partner Update**

### Police PACT Update

Sgt Mark Mallatratt from Durham Police gave a flavour of the current issues they have been dealing with across the Durham Division since the last Board meeting (available on request)

He also stated a project is currently being worked on for the Brandon area around youth engagement. Working with other Partner agencies i.e. DAAC, Housing Groups and local Councilors along with the local Neighborhood Watch they are looking to be based in Silver Courts Community Centre and intend to deliver sessions on Wednesday evenings and alternate Saturday evenings culminating in an intergenerational coffee morning on a Sunday. More information will follow once things are finalised.

A question was raised as there are Syrian refugees in the area are the police in contact with them. It was stated yes and there have been no problems and they have integrated well into the community.

Cllr Paul Taylor thanked Mark on behalf of himself and Cllr John Turnbull for all the work being done in his areas.

**11. Date & Time of Next meetings**

Cllr David Bell thanked everyone for coming and stated the next Board meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 6.00pm in New Brancepeth Village Hall, Rock Tce, New Brancepeth, DH7 7EP

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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: \_\_\_\_\_