

# Notes of the Weardale Area Action Partnership AGM & Board Meeting

24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Durham Dales Centre,  
Stanhope



## PRESENT

### Board Members

**Public Representatives:** Joan Warriner (JW)  
Phil Chatfield (PC)  
Tom Natrass (TN)  
Tony Griffin (TG)  
Chris Powell (CP)  
Josephine Hayes (JH)  
Dawn Gregory (DG)

**Partner Representatives:** Peter Maddison – County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (PM)  
Damian Pearson - County Durham Housing Group (DP)  
Paul Smissen – Business Sector (PS)  
Gordon Elliott – Durham County Council (GE)

**Elected Members:** Cllr Anita Savory (AS)  
Cllr Brian Thompson – Stanhope (BT)  
Cllr David Sugden – Wolsingham (DS)  
Cllr Helen Barrass – Muggleswick Parish Council (HB)  
Cllr Olive Wilson - Witton-le-Wear (OW)

**Officers:** Angelina Maddison (AM)  
Tracy Edwards (TE)  
Fiona Barber (FB)

## Apologies

**Partner Representatives:** Inspector Kevin Tuck – Durham Constabulary  
Inspector Ed Turner – Durham Constabulary  
Catherine Findlay - Clinical Commissioning Group  
Julian Haynes – Voluntary Sector

**Elected Representatives:** Trish Chapman (Hunstanworth)

## **Presentation – Active Durham (Steve Howells)**

AM asked the Board's indulgence to allow Steve Howells to give his presentation before the meeting began. The aim of Active Durham is to help increase physical activity across County Durham. A copy of his presentation can be obtained from any member of the WAP team by emailing [weardaleaap@durham.gov.uk](mailto:weardaleaap@durham.gov.uk)

AM thanked Steve for his presentation.

## **Annual General Meeting**

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

AM advised that as last year's Chair, David Taylor-Gooby, was no longer a Board member she would conduct the business of the AGM and Chair until a new Chair is elected later in the meeting.

Introductions were made around the table and apologies were given as received. Forum members who were also in attendance introduced themselves as well.

AM explained that there has been a number of changes to Board members:

- David Taylor-Gooby's term of office on DDES CCG has come to an end therefore our new Health representative will be Catherine Findlay of North Durham CCG.
- Frances O'Riley has resigned from the Board; Dawn Gregory has joined the Board to fill the vacant position.
- Yvonne Probert of Durham Community Action has resigned from the Board. As there is no single voluntary organisation relevant to Weardale the WAP team have taken the decision to approach Julian Haynes to fill the vacancy. Julian has a wealth of experience in multiple voluntary organisations / settings which is felt will benefit the Weardale Action Partnership.
- Insp Kevin Tuck is in the process of handing over to his successor Insp Ed Turner. Insp Tuck will officially retire in July and Insp Turner will be the Police representative from then on.

AM also passed around a card of thanks from Christine Davison following her retirement in March.

AM welcomed Tracy Edwards to the WAP Team. Tracy is the new Community Development Project Officer and we look forward to working with her.

### **2. 2017/18 Area Budget Update**

**Area Budget** - AM talked Board Members through a presentation on the current situation with regard to Area Budget funding. For details of actual funding see Appendix 1

**Wellness Coordinator** – AM advised that this project continues to have a profound impact on the lives of residents in Weardale. The project reported having identified four people at real risk of having a stroke and being able to offer treatment early thereby saving the NHS a substantial sum of money.

**Rural Advice Worker** – Latest reported figures show that over £90K\* of income gains have been identified for residents and around £62K\* of debt being managed. (\*figures checked and corrected post-meeting). AM explained what management

of debt involved and advised that a full report would be presented at the next Board meeting.

**Weardale Tub** – An initial application for match funding was unsuccessful. Currently the project is looking at other avenues for external funding.

**AAP Youth Fund – Make Do and Mend** – Cllr Savory advised that this project had carried out some tremendous work with the students at Wolsingham School. It provided students with a safe opportunity to open up about various experiences in their own life and support has now been provided to them where appropriate.

### 3. 2017/18 Neighbourhood Budget Update

AM talked the Board through a presentation on the current situation with Neighbourhood Budget (NB) for Cllr Savory and Cllr Shuttleworth. For details please see Appendix 2.

Cllr Savory clarified that the funding for Stanhope Sports & Social Club was for roof repairs to continue to allow the building to be used by various community groups.

AM confirmed that any unallocated Neighbourhood Budget can be rolled over into the next financial year until an election year where all NB must be allocated or lost.

GE clarified that the majority of a Councillor's NB (£14,000) is to be spent on capital projects i.e. buildings, equipment etc. The remaining £5,400 is for revenue projects. He also advised that a Councillor can spend their revenue element of the NB on a capital project but are not able to spend any of the capital allocation on a revenue project.

AM reminded Board members that it is the role of the Board to add value to NB projects and not to approve them – except in the case of any conflict of interest.

### 4. Annual Report

As Board members had received a copy of the Draft Annual Report at the previous meeting and no comments or amendments have been proposed AM submitted the Annual Report for Board Approval.

The Board **APPROVED** the Annual Report and the Finance Reports.

### 5. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs

AM suggested that the Board meet in their sectors to discuss nominations for Chair and Vice Chairs.

During this discussion, members of the Elected Sector of the WAP Board queried Cllr Shuttleworth's lack of participation as a Board member with GE. GE offered to raise this with Cllr Shuttleworth to address this concern.

After deliberation the following were elected:

- Chair – Tom Nattrass (Public)
- Vice Chair – Cllr Anita Savory (Elected)
- Vice Chair – Stuart Timmiss (Partner)

TN took the Chair. He thanked outgoing chair, David Taylor-Gooby, for his professionalism and enthusiasm and expressed that he hoped to be able to emulate these qualities in his time as chair.

Cllr AS expressed her sincere thanks to the WAP team for the work that they do.

## Board Meeting

### 1. Declaration of Interest

The Chair asked Board members to raise any Declarations of Interest as they arise during the meeting.

### 2. Agreement of Notes from Board Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 and Matters Arising.

The notes of this meeting, as printed and circulated, were **AGREED** and confirmed as a true record by those present.

### 3. Local Neighbourhood Issues and PACT

AM advised that as the WAP team had been carrying out the roadshows across Weardale a number of Neighbourhood Issues had been picked up. Some of these issues will be addressed within the Delivery Plan and others have been dealt with by the Council's customer relationship team.

AM advised that there were no PACT issues at this moment in time. The Police are looking at whether a new approach is needed for PACT meetings as attendance is poor.

### 4. Presentations

GE advised that he had not realised that ST was due to give a presentation when he offered to stand in for him tonight. County Hall offices are planning to move to a site in the Freeman's Quay area subject to gaining planning permission – which will be sought in the next few months. The plan is to be moved in by late 2020 / early 2021. GE suggested that he will ask ST to prepare a written explanation regarding the clarification on jobs figures to be forwarded to Board Members.

### 5. Weardale Action Partnership Reports

#### i. Small Grants Fund

AM reminded Board members that in previous years the Board has agreed to 'top-slice- the Area Budget to enable a Small Grants Fund to run. AM explained to new Board members what 'top-slicing' meant. Board members voiced their support of the Small Grants Fund and the benefits it can bring to local groups.

The Board **APPROVED** the Small Grants Fund and **AGREED** to allocate £20,000 Area Budget.

#### ii. Altogether Archaeology – HLF funding (2017/18)

AM reminded Board members that they had agreed to ring-fence £15,000 of Area Budget in 2017/18 to enable Altogether Archaeology to submit a proposal for HLF funding. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful in obtaining this funding. AM asked Board members to consider the update from Altogether Archaeology and decide on a way forward from the 3 possibilities at the end of the report.

PC suggested adopting Option 3 due to the fact that the future of The Weardale Museum is currently uncertain. PS & Cllr DS seconded PC's proposal.

The Board **AGREED** Option 3

The Chair, TN, left the meeting and AM assumed the Chair.

iii. **Wolsingham Skate Park**

**Cllr AS and Cllr DS declared an interest.**

AM advised that Wolsingham Parish Council are continuing to develop a project to provide a Skate Park in Wolsingham. They have successfully secured £40,000 of funding from Sport England and are looking for other funding sources for the remaining money – the project is estimated at £80,000. Cllr DS reported on a successful consultation exercise which has seen upwards of 500 responses from local residents. These results and other information can be accessed on the Parish Council's website at: <http://www.wolsinghamparishcouncil.uk/community/wolsingham-parish-council-7857/skate-park-proposal-docs/>

AM asked whether the Board also wished to 'top-slice' the funding for this project or whether it should go through the task group. The Board requested that the project be taken through the Task Group process.

The Board **AGREED IN PRINCIPLE** to consider the project

AM requested that Board members provide her with any queries regarding this project as soon as possible so that they can be addressed early in the process. AM will write to Board members to ask for their questions.

iv. **Weardale Action Partnership Roadshows**

The WAP team have been visiting as many settlements as possible within Weardale in an effort to give some context to the priority areas. Leaflet drops have also been made in a few settlements and into the school bags of every primary school child. AM encouraged Board members to participate in the process if they have not already done so.

**6. Draft Delivery Plan**

Results of the consultation work carried out in the Roadshows is contained in the Draft Delivery Plan which was submitted to Board members for their information and comment.

**7. Nomination of Task Group Leads**

Board members nominated themselves for Task Group membership

***Support for Local Groups – BT, HB, DP, OW, CP, PM, PS, JW, JH, DG, TG, AS***

***Children, Young People and Families – HB, DS, CP, JH, DG (PS as lead)***

***Culture, Tourism and Heritage – PC, DS (PC as lead)***

AM advised that the lead for each group will set the first date for the Task Group meetings and subsequent meeting dates will be decided by the group.

**8. Countywide Partner Issues**

Wolsingham School

AM circulated a letter of thanks from the Chair of Governors at Wolsingham School for the support of the partnership in various projects at the school.

European Funding

PS advised that in his work he deals with European Funding at work and he would be able to advise of available funding opportunities.

### Weardale Foodbank

JH informed Board Members that on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018 a Weardale Foodbank would be launched to address a real issue of food poverty in the Dale. JH said that she would welcome any donations of non-perishable foods.

Potential crossover with the Rural Advice Worker was identified – flyers detailing her service will be placed in bags for those using the Foodbank service.

DP advised that his organisation has a Small Grants Fund that may be able to help.

Cllr AS observed that there is still a stigma attached to using a foodbank and some will stay away from somewhere where they think they may be seen. She queried if it was only going to be the one venue?

JH confirmed that this project is in the initial stage and is very small so only one venue. However, there is the capacity to take supplies out to people in their homes if required.

DP commented that he believed it was a good idea to put the foodbank alongside a busy toddler group as this can help to disguise people's use of the foodbank.

JH confirmed that donations can be left at St Thomas' Church, Stanhope any day 10:00am – 4:00pm.

DS suggested contacting the Trussell trust as he understood they sometimes have an over-supply of stock.

### Amendments to Board Meetings

HB advised that in the winter months when the Board meetings are held at 2:00pm she is unable to attend. She asked Board members if they would consider moving the Board meeting to a different day on these occasions.

The Board **AGREED** to look at changing the days of Board meetings in the winter months.

### Weardale Show Volunteers

JW advised that volunteers are needed for the Weardale Show – please contact her if you would like to offer your services.

### Fire Service

PM advised that it had been a quiet time in Weardale for the Fire service. He advised that their Fire Safety and Wellbeing visits now link in with the work of the Wellness Coordinator and the Rural Advice Worker

### Grants information

GE advised that there is a new search tool available for voluntary groups to search for grants. This can be accessed at:

<http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/durhamcc?bcr=MTIzNA>

## **9. Dates and Times of Next Meeting**

Board Training – AM requested that any Board member who felt that they needed any specific training needs should contact her to arrange.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 6:00pm in the Durham Dales Centre, Stanhope.

**Note:** If you would like any further information or supporting documentation please contact a member of the WAP team.

## Appendix 1

<b>Area Budget Allocation 2017 / 18</b>			
	<b>Area Budget</b>	<b>Match Funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Support to Groups in Weardale</b>			
Small Grants Fund	£25,000	£26,000	£51,000
Eastgate Village Hall (Community Buildings Capital Fund)	£5,827	£1,456	£7,283
Edmundbyers Village Hall (Community Buildings Capital Fund)	£6,339	£1,434	£7,773
Hunstanworth Village Hall (Community Buildings Capital Fund)	£7,834	£16,946	£24,780
<i>Support to Groups in Weardale Total</i>	<b>£45,000</b>	<b>£45,836</b>	<b>£90,836</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>			
Wellness Coordinator	£15,000	£8,499	£23,499
Rural Advice Worker (Welfare Reform)	£10,000	£6,676	£16,676
<i>Health and Wellbeing Total</i>	<b>£25,000</b>	<b>£15,175</b>	<b>£40,175</b>
<b>Culture, Tourism and Heritage</b>			
Altogether Archaeology (Ring-fenced)	£15,000	TBC	£15,000
2 for 1 vouchers – Killhope	£5,000	£703	£5,703
<i>Culture, Tourism and Heritage Total</i>	<b>£20,000</b>	<b>£703</b>	<b>£20,703</b>
<b>Children, Young People and Families</b>			
Young Firefighters	£10,000	£3,800	£13,800
Weardale Tub	£10,000	£9,391	£19,391
AAP Youth Fund – Make Do and Mend	£3,000	£12,350	£15,350
AAP Youth Fund – Transition for schools in Weardale	£3,000	£5,000	£8,000
AAP Youth Fund – Holiday Activities and Nutrition	£3,902	£5,098	£9,000
<i>Children, Young People and Families Total</i>	<b>£29,902</b>	<b>£35,639</b>	<b>£65,541</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£119,902</b>	<b>£97,353</b>	<b>£217,255</b>

## Appendix 2

### **Cllr Anita Savory**

Allocations made from Small Grants element of Neighbourhood Budget:

- Wolsingham Primary School Armed Forces Day - **£200**
- Wolsingham Christmas Market - **£500**
- Stanhope Sports & Social Club - **£200**
- Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch - **£200**
- Weardale Flower & Garden Club - **£150**
- Chrysanthemum Society - **£150**
- Barrington Bites - **£200**
- Weardale Community Transport - **£200**

Total allocation £1,800 – leaving £17,600 to allocate



### **Cllr John Shuttleworth**

Allocations made from Small Grants element of Neighbourhood Budget:

- North Pennines Expo - **£100**
- Barrington Bites - **£150**
- Light Up Weardale - **£100**

Total allocation £350 – leaving £19,050 to allocate

