

**MID DURHAM  
AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP**

**BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MID DURHAM AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP BOARD  
MEETING** Hamsteels Community Centre, Western Avenue, Esh Winning, DH7  
9LS on **10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 6.00pm**

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

**Partner Organisations**  
Juliet Carling, A/Sgt. Ian Nelson, Tina MacLellan, Lee  
Brown, Helen Lynch and Paul Moralee

**Elected Councillors**  
David Bell, Jean Chaplow, Anne Bonner, Jude Considine  
and Ossie Johnson

**Co-opted**  
Rachel Edmunds (Believe Housing), Sophie Marsden  
(Young Persons rep)

**OFFICER**  
**ATTENDANCE:**   Derek Snaith (AAP Co-ordinator) and Pam Sinclair (AAP  
CDPO)

**PUBLIC**  
**ATTENDANCE:**   Jim Merrington, Rhoda Makepeace, Davey Walker, John  
Congleton, David Gregory-Smith, Ken Barron, Anne Lawlor,  
Pauline Walden, Edwin Simpson, Liz Manning, Stephen  
Brady, Marian Morrison, Derek Wintrell, Su Madden, Lana  
Anderson, Mavis White, Sonia Pinkney, Judith Tomlinson,  
Ross Hamilton, Dorothy Hamilton, M Barnard, F Briscoe,  
Tony Tribe.

**VISITORS**           Steve Lambert, Paul Irwin and Leone Dale  
(Buckinghamshire County Council) Alan Turner (Wycombe  
District Council)

**GUEST**  
**SPEAKERS:**       Cllr Simon Henig (Leader of Durham County Council), Ian  
Thompson (Director of Regeneration and Local Services),  
Tom Gorman (Corporate Scrutiny and Strategy Manager)

**APOLOGIES:**       Board Partners – Peter Mackie, Sgt Jason Mole & Amanda

Healy  
Board Elected Members – Cllr John Turnbull, Cllr Bev Coult  
and Cllr Paul Taylor  
Board Public - None  
Forum Members – Peter Appleton, Duncan Robb, Joan  
Littlefair, Vivienne Lowes, Len Shield, Gavin Clarke, Karen  
Gibson and Alan Richardson

**1. Welcome to Board meeting**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and gave a special welcome to the visitors from Buckinghamshire Council who were in attendance to observe AAPs.

**2. Presentation: County Durham Vision 2035 – Stage 3 Consultation**

Cllr Simon Henig (Leader of Durham County Council) and Ian Thompson (Director of Regeneration and Local Services) gave a presentation on the County Durham Vision 2035 (available on request)

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

- Q** Presentation refers to Better Quality Housing – are there any supplementary Planning documents/procedures which would ensure houses are more energy efficient, eco friendly?
- A** Council is working with developers to ensure houses are energy efficient and to provide housing that's as sustainable as possible.
- Q** A lot of disabled people complain that there is nothing for them to do as they can't access public walkways and take part in a lot of activities usually available. What can the Council do for them?
- A** Valuable comment, ensure that this is noted in feedback and will be looked at as a challenge for the Council. Needs to be addressed with a growing population with more life challenges. Would be addressed as part of the proposed ambitions and objectives – Long and Independent Lives.
- Q** Presentation refers to "Helping people into Work" but what about the stage before work and raising aspirations in young people.
- A** Again, valuable feedback. Recognise that ages up to 16 is very important and key in raising aspirations.
- Q** Is there any indication that finance would limit or boost the vision?
- A** Vision is aspirational and moving forward there's a need to get the key priorities right. There is no reduction in expectations so it will be a real challenge moving forward. The Council is robust in its arrangements and careful financially but needs to know what the

public want in order to maximise finances at every level and do as much as possible with funds available.

The Chair thanked Cllr Henig and Ian Thompson for the presentation and urged those attending to complete their feedback sheet and to hand in before leaving.

### **3. Minutes of Previous meeting: 8 May 2019**

Before moving on to the rest of the meeting, the Chair asked if any member would like to disclose a declaration of interest for any items on the Agenda. None were received.

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

Matters Arising:

2.6.4 – The Co-ordinator had received further information from DCC's Commissioning Section regarding Just Simply Ask pilot project and had taken to the Children, Young People & Families task group meeting.

6.1.5 – A meeting had been arranged with Planning Officers from DCC to look to build Dementia into the County Durham Plan.

6.1.5 – Data regarding Wellbeing for Life had been broken down and the information was being looked at by Older People's task group.

### **4. Presentation: AAP in Pictures**

The Coordinator presented a collection of photographs taken around Mid Durham AAP area. He explained that the AAP had given Castleside Photography Club £400 and they offered to take photographs of the area and pull together an exhibition to be shown at a future Board meeting where attendees would be asked to vote on their top 6. The winning photographs would be framed and displayed in the AAP office which links to the DCC "Inspire" programme.

### **5 Area Budget Report**

#### Brandon Carrside Summer Play (Youth Fund)

The Coordinator outlined the report (available on request). He stated the application is asking for funding to provide 4 weeks of activities for young people throughout the summer holidays via a combination of community fun days, offsite activities and Youth Club sessions. The request is for £2,989.20 from the AAP Youth Fund (revenue) with an overall project cost of £5,860. There was a declaration of interest as the applicant is a task group member.

**Recommendation:** The Board agreed to approve the project to the full £2,989.20 requested.

#### Lanchester Loneliness Guide (OPSIF)

The Coordinator outlined the report (available on request). He stated the application is asking for funding to contribute towards the production of a "Welcome to Lanchester Guide" and map pads which would be distributed to new families coming into the area, schools, businesses, local services and Churches. It would also be available at key venues eg Medical Centres, Pharmacy, Library and Community Centre and would encourage residents to socialize more by exploring and discovering things in the village and surrounding area. The request is for £4,800 from the OPSIF (revenue) with an overall project cost of £6,800.

**Recommendation:** The Board agreed to approve the project to the full £4,800 requested.

## **6 Task Group Updates**

### 6.1 Children, Young People & Families Task group

The Coordinator stated that the Task Group met on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 10am at the Miners Institute, Langley Park.

- 6.1.1 The group considered the youth fund allocation for this year and subsequently the application from Brandon Carrside Youth and Community project for their summer programme. The group agreed to recommend the application for support by the Board. This Youth Fund bid will have been outlined in an earlier report.
- 6.1.2 Predominantly the discussion centred around the priorities and action planning for this year and the group highlighted number of sub themes on which to focus. Mental Health was a key topic both children and families in terms of identifying gaps and support for young people in particular who are suffering from poor mental health. Research into gaps in provision and discussion with mental health delivery organisations is underway. Other headline areas on which to focus included child poverty, risky behaviour and school holiday periods and the impact of these on young people and communities.

The next meeting is still to be scheduled.

### 6.2 Community Safety Task Group

The Coordinator stated that the task group did not meet at the scheduled meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> June as a proposed change of time was not compatible with the group.

- 6.2.1 A sub group focusing on the community safety roadshows did meet and looked at the planning of these events in early autumn. Two events are scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September (Castleside then Langley Moor). More details will be released later in the summer – see Coordinators report for further information.

The next meeting will be to look at ‘action planning’ and the way forward for this next period.

### 6.3 Older People’s Support Task Group

The Coordinator stated that the task group met on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 9.30am in the Miners Institute in Langley Park.

- 6.3.1 Initial discussion focused on the breakdown (figures) of GP practice referrals to the Wellbeing for Life service, which on face value shows really disappointing figures for the surgeries within our AAP area and the group were concerned at the rates of referrals. Further information in relation to referrals from other avenues was to be sought for the next meeting. Linked to this there was an offer to present information on ‘social prescribing’
- 6.3.2 The group welcomed a short presentation from ‘Join the Dots’ which is a support service for people suffering with cancer and their families. The group also welcomed an update from the Reach Out Across Durham (ROAD) project officer however concerns were raised about potential duplication with other partners work, particularly Wellbeing for Life.
- 6.3.3 The group considered an OPSIF bid from Lanchester Partnership for the Loneliness Guide work they are producing. The group were previously commended for this work and the group were happy to recommend this for support by the board. This OPSIF bid will have been outlined in an earlier report.

Updates were provided by those projects in attendance. The next task group meeting will be in September - date to be confirmed

### 6.4 Local Environment

The Coordinator stated that the Mid Durham Parish Council Committee met on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Lynwood house, Lanchester.

- 6.4.1 The group considered the remote camera project to tackle environmental crime in the area and are keen to receive further data on the use of the cameras at the next meeting.
- 6.4.2 The group discussed the environmental pot (£10,000 AB funding) for parish councils to utilise for environmental schemes within parishes.

There are a number of outstanding actions and questions on this programme and further information will be taken to the next meeting.

- 6.4.3 The AAP coordinator is to present on 'funding' that parishes may be able to access or obtain for their areas at the next meeting.

The date of the next Joint Parishes Committee is Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 10.00am in Burnhope Community Centre, Burnhope

#### 6.5 Small Grants/VCS Group Update

Mary Tribe informed the meeting that the small grants group have met three times since the last Board meeting in May and have discussed 15 applications:

- 6.5.1 To date they have allocated £11,133.42 of small grant to 28 groups attracting a further £16,047.58 in match funding with £8,914.58 left to spend. Mary stated that any member of the forum or Board are welcome to become a task group member. Cllr Johnson added that this small amount of money is vital to ensure that small voluntary groups can continue.

### 7 **Correspondence and Written Questions from Public**

The Coordinator informed the meeting that there were no correspondence or written questions but Jim Merrington from Brancepeth History Archives Group would like to say a few words about a forthcoming commemorative event in Brancepeth Village.

Jim gave details about 3 events they were holding at Brancepeth Castle in October/November to commemorate the Rising of the North, which was the first armed uprising against Queen Elizabeth 1. - 5/10/19 Lecture/Talk on the rebellion and exhibition; 19/10/19 Concert (Elizabethan) in the Castle; 13/10/19 Ringing of the Bells (bells were rung backwards to signal the alarm). There would be an opportunity for a question/answer session following each event.

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

- 9.1 The Coordinator referred to the report (available on request) which covered: Heads Up Newsletter; Summer Play Programme; Public Representative Vacancy; Public Health Monitoring; Community Safety Roadshow Events; Ushaw. He informed the meeting that further information relating to the Public Representative vacancy and the roadshows would be circulated once finalized.

**Recommendation:** Board to note the content of the report and welcome a presentation from Ushaw at the next Board meeting.

9.2 Work of the Mid Durham AAP Team – May - July 2019

- **St John's Meadowfield** – Supporting the committee towards their official opening on Saturday 20 July. (as a fully dementia friendly building).
- Attended **Brandon Partnership** meeting
- **Dementia Friendly Communities** project. All the areas/villages where a dementia steering group have been developed have now been formally recognised as dementia friendly communities Lanchester and Brandon (Langley Moor/Meadowfield), Esh Winning and Langley Park.
- Developing **Area Budget (AB) and Neighbourhood Budget (NB)** applications and allocations for 2019/20. No AB has yet to be applied for however our OPSIF and Youth Fund pots have been utilised.
- Working with Active Durham, Public Health and Culture and Sport colleagues to develop the **Active Valley Project**. The public survey has been completed and results have been analysed, focus groups are being planned for this month (July).
- Sit on the **Active 30** county wide steering group as part of the Active Durham partnership to increase participation on physical activity in schools
- Held **2 task group** meetings and considered (in 1 of them) the action plan which is being developed for this year for the children, young people and families task group.
- Held 1 **crime and community safety roadshow** planning session
- Held 1 **summer play programme** development session
- Met **Brandon Carrside Youth Project** for one Youth Fund application and also in providing project information on their work linked to a DCC cabinet report.
- Undertook an AAP **presentation to St Catherine's** lunch club (New Brancepeth)
- Attended the **County Durham Partnership Forum** meeting (in Stanley) with a focus on crime and community safety issues as well as the new County Durham Vision.
- Planned a **presentation on 'funding'** for the next joint parish council meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July.
- Held 3 **Small Grants** appraisal meeting and approved 15 applications
- Sending out **quarterly monitoring** to AB projects that are active within the last 2 years – Quarter 1.
- Produced our Summer '**Heads Up' Newsletter** (special 10-year anniversary edition) which is distributed to 16,500 households within our AAP area. There is a focus on summer activity. This is being distributed from 1<sup>st</sup> July.
- Produced the **June E-bulletin**

- Updated the **Mid Durham AAP web pages**
- Constantly utilising our **Facebook page** to promote local activity and opportunities. Notably changing our 'cover photo' each month with a new photo provided by Castleside & District photography club.
- Promoted a number of **consultations on council services** open to the public in our area, notably the new vision and history centre.
- Met with the Heritage lead from **Ushaw** to look at the early options and possibilities for the further development of their site – which the AAP helped fund the study for
- Undertaken **corporate training** on new HR appraisal system for staff
- Attend **AAP Coordinators meeting** on corporate and collective issues impacting on AAPs
- Met **Public Health** colleagues regarding the introduction of monitoring for better public health data/outcomes
- Attended **Dementia Action Week** session in St John's Hall, Meadowfield
- Hosted visitors from **Buckinghamshire Council** who were learning about AAPs in the County

### 9.3 Finance update

The Coordinator gave the report to the Board (available on request).

**Recommendation:** Board to note the report

## 10 **Partner Update**

### Police PACT Update

A/Sgt Ian Nelson informed the meeting that there had been a number of opportunist thefts from motor vehicles which were not secured but no increase in burglaries. Farming machinery had been targeted. There had been an increase in antisocial behavior influenced by alcohol/drugs and possibly due to school leavers and issues at The Wetlands, Langley Park with youths congregating. There had been reports of peddlers in the Lanchester area, probably from the Teesside area, selling tea towels etc and Ian asked if anyone was concerned, to report to the police. He urged anyone interested in becoming involved in Community Speed Watch to contact the Neighbourhood Police Team. The Young Hero Awards were taking place at the moment and he asked people to nominate any young person aged under 18 who should be recognized for their good work.

A/Sgt Nelson was asked if the Farmwatch Scheme was still running and he said that they were currently looking at possibly changing it due to reductions in police staff to accompany volunteers and will possibly target



areas using intelligence led operations. He said a lot of farmers don't want the community to know they are giving information to the Police.

Cllr Chaplow stated there was a lot of drug dealing taking place at Woodland Road, Esh Winning and Sgt Nelson requested this should be reported to the Police as they need information.

A question was asked as to what was being done about off-road bikes and he replied that there was a designated motorcycle unit but this had been whittled down over the years but the Police do have authority to take certain measures eg warnings, seizure of vehicles. Again, he asked that people report any incidents.

### **Health**

Juliet Carling informed the meeting that there is a consultation ongoing at the moment regarding new Clinical Commissioning Groups for Tees Valley and Durham CCGs and she encouraged everyone to go on the Healthwatch County Durham website – "Have Your Say" to give their views on the suggested changes.

### **Housing**

Paul Moralee, Karbon Homes, informed the meeting of a new residential development at Juniper Square, Langley Park Homes consisting of bungalows and houses.

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

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and stated the next Board meeting will be held on 11 September 2019 at 6.00pm in Satley Village Hall, DL13 4HU

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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: \_\_\_\_\_