

East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership

Board Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Approved Minutes

Date:	Monday 7 September 2020	
Present:	Board Members	AAP Team
	Councillor Lucy Hovvels Neighbourhood Inspector Sarah Honeyman Councillor Stuart Dunn Angela Stobbart Councillor Maura McKeon Mel Carr Christine Carter	Jane Bellis (AAP Co-ordinator) Claire Craft (Community Development Project Officer) Marie Ainscough (AAP Support Officer)
Forum Members:	There were no forum members present at the meeting	
Apologies:	Jen Straughan-Hawley, Michelle Atkinson, Eileen Dickinson, Malcolm Gray, Councillor David Brown, Parish Councillor Bernie Oliver, Councillor John Robinson, Councillor Peter Brookes (Alternate), Tony Cutmore, Clair White, Allan Blakemore, Clive Crosby, Chris Varty, Chloe Watson (Co-optee), Councillor Jude Grant, Parish Councillor Kathleen Dowson (Alternate), Chris Williams, John Trowell	

Item No	Item	Action
1	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>In the absence of Malcolm Gray, Jane Bellis (AAP Co-ordinator) chaired the meeting. Everyone was welcomed to the first virtual Board Meeting of the East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership.</p> <p>Apologies were noted for those Board members who were unable to attend the meeting.</p> <p>There were no introductions.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 January 2020 & Matters Arising</p> <p>Councillor Lucy Hovvels was present at this meeting and was happy to approve the minutes.</p>	
3	<p>Declarations of Interest/ Meeting Etiquette/ New Ways of Working</p>	

	<p>There were no declarations of interest.</p> <p>Jane reminded everyone present of the etiquette for Microsoft Teams meetings. Board members had received this information, prior to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Keep microphone on mute in case there is any background noise ➤ Raise your hand if you'd like to ask a question ➤ Chat bar on the right hand should anyone wish to add anything <p>With regards to the new ways of working, the AAP team continue to work from home for the foreseeable future.</p>	
4	<p>Background and Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and Vice Chairs/Annual Report <p>Given the current circumstances, Board members decided via email that the current Chair and Vice Chairs should remain the same for this year. This means that Malcolm Gray from Livin remains as the Chair, Jen Straughan-Hawley remains as the Vice Chair of the public representatives, and Councillor John Robinson remains as the Vice Chair of the Councillors.</p> <p>Next year, the process of nominating a Chair and Vice Chairs will rotate as in previous years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Budget COVID Response Funding/Holiday Activities with Healthy Food <p>All Area Budget Covid-19 Response Funding is now spent. Board members have been receiving regular updates however, Jane was happy to provide them with a final report if they felt this was beneficial.</p> <p>There have been three rounds of the Holiday Activities with Healthy Food Fund (HAWHF) – Easter 2020, May half term and Summer 2020. The projects were well received.</p> <p>The AAP have had some good press coverage as well as radio interviews.</p> <p>Board members have received the 2018/19 Annual Report. The 2019/20 Annual Report is almost complete and Board members should expect to receive this shortly via email.</p> <p>Councillor Stuart Dunn highlighted that some of the 2019/20 neighbourhood budget projects had slipped into the 2018/19</p>	

	<p>Annual Report. The duplication of information will be looked at and the report amended accordingly. He said he was happy to see the report and found it easier to read as it was a lot shorter than in previous years and in a format that people will read.</p> <p>Angela Stobbart commented via Teams that it was a very good visual report.</p> <p>The Holiday Activities with Healthy Food Fund for October half term was launched on 8 September 2020 and the deadline for the return of completed applications is 12 noon on 21 September 2020. Six applications have been sent out to applicants so far. A sub-group is currently being set up, the aim of which is to make decisions on the applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Continuity Plan <p>Board members had received information on the business continuity plan for the AAPs for this year. The document included the priorities and how as an AAP we propose to move forward with Teams meetings and task and finish group meetings.</p>	
5	<p>Priority Updates (from Task Group and Projects)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Budget (including Welfare Reform, Youth Fund and OPSIF) COVID Recovery • COVID 19 Recovery Task Group • Area Budget Timeline <p>Each AAP will have one Area Budget fund for 2020/21 including Welfare Reform, Youth Fund and Older Peoples Social Isolation Fund (OPSIF).</p> <p>Under normal circumstances each AAP has its own distinct priorities, however, it has been agreed for 2020/21 each AAP's Area Budget allocation will be aligned to one overarching priority of Covid-19 Recovery and will have a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employability initiatives • Advice and Guidance • Physical Activity, Mental Health & Wellbeing • Organisational sustainability • Food provision and support • Social Isolation • Support for the Voluntary and Community Sector, or • Support to small businesses (through a third party, not-for-profit organisation to complement existing DCC and external opportunities). <p>It was noted that two members of staff from Clever Cloggs, a private nursery located in Bowburn have tested positive for</p>	

	<p>Covid-19 resulting in a bubble of children having to isolate for two weeks.</p> <p>A document has been prepared based on a project call out document the AAP team have used in the past. Jane shared the timeline with the meeting and explained that the team hoped to launch the Covid-19 Recovery project call out on 8 September, subject to Board members approval.</p> <p>Those present were happy for the Covid-19 Recovery project call out to be launched however; as the meeting was not quorate, Jane will send an email to all Board members asking for their agreement on the above.</p> <p>A task group is being arranged for 6 October 2020 from 10.00 am – 11.30 am. Councillors Stuart Dunn and Maura McKeon and Mel Carr confirmed their attendance. An invite will be sent out in due course.</p> <p>Councillor Lucy Hovvels suggested that all the Board papers be merged and saved into one document which would save a lot of time having to open each separate paper and will make it easier to follow.</p> <p>Councillor Stuart Dunn gave a brief update on the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Durham Bus Station – the planning application has been approved ➤ History Centre – the planning application has been launched ➤ The new headquarters – is proceeding rapidly <p>It has been agreed that Eileen Dickinson, a public representative on the board who does not have Wifi or email, will receive the board papers by post and Jane will give her a call after today’s board meeting to go through the papers with her and to give Eileen the opportunity to feed into the meeting.</p> <p>It was highlighted that an app can be downloaded on a mobile phone enabling the user to access Teams. Jane will mention this to Eileen and contact IT for further information if she is happy with this arrangement.</p>	
6	<p>Local Neighbourhood Issues (LNI) 6.1 Locality Policing Issues</p> <p>Neighbourhood Inspector Sarah Honeyman gave a verbal generic update on local policing information –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During this unprecedented time, a lot of their working practices have changed and what they thought would happen in March, 	

was by June at least 60% of the workforce would be off ill, but she was pleased to say it hadn't got anywhere near this figure. During the first two-three weeks of lockdown, they reached 12% of sickness which was very high due to people panicking and self-isolating and not actually contracting the virus. Since then their sickness records have been better than they have ever been. As a force, there have been a few outbreaks in the north where 20 people were ill in a week. It had been a challenge in making all of the estates safe and Covid compliant and making sure that all of the police officers had PPE equipment.

- Everyday work has been different. There have been less meetings to attend which has helped them focus on what they need to be doing.
- In January, there were a number of burglaries in the area, Cops both in the Peterlee area and Sedgefield. Someone was arrested and remanded. The ringleader was recalled to prison and then let out, recalled and has been given another sentence which resulted in the burglaries stopping overnight.
- There had been a lull in anti-social behaviour. There have been some issues in Fishburn, not to the extent it was in Sedgefield a couple of years ago. Sarah has spoken to the Councillors about this and they are keeping an eye on it.
- For all the Trimdons, confidence in the police is a major factor amongst residents. Sarah has met with Paul Howell and they are in the process of putting together a questionnaire which is going to be MP led. It will ask some police questions. The police will not be leading on it but will be helping Paul with it. The aim is to get a real insight from the residents about what the issues are. Analysts will be working on it at the end to find out whether it is a perception problem which is affecting confidence or whether there really are significant unreported issues. It is hoped to get the survey out in October and Sarah will hopefully have an update for the next board meeting.

Councillor Lucy Hovvels commented on the complaints she had been receiving about the gatherings and the number of vehicles with no tax or test. Sarah explained to Lucy that they will be recording the vehicles on their ANPR hot list and would share it with the Traffic department, although this was not on their priority list. Lucy said that the same problem was happening in Thornley and the vehicles were being seized and questioned why this wasn't happening in our area when investment had been put in. The vehicles were parked up in the Trimdon Grange shopping area and were causing concern/frustration to parents picking their children up.

Sarah assured Lucy that although this wasn't her area, Emma was on board with this and the piece of work which Sarah is taking the lead on with Paul Howell is very much across all the areas and regular

	<p>meetings are taking place.</p> <p>Jane asked if there was anything the AAP could do to help. Lucy asked if the situation could be monitored and if possible, could more cameras be installed in the area.</p> <p>Jane agreed to speak to Malcolm Gray from livin for support.</p> <p>Lucy highlighted the fly tipping issue in the area from Trimdon Grange towards Kelloe (the back road). Jane agreed to raise this with DCC, Environmental colleagues about this ongoing issue. Sarah agreed to let her team and Emma know about this also.</p> <p>Councillor Stuart Dunn highlighted the issue of gatherings in Coxhoe Woods. The Police have been going out and this has been affecting Coxhoe Park. The CCTV in the park does not allow the identity of who is causing the problems so is no help to the Police. He asked the AAP for help with this. Sarah explained that because of Covid, the Police are carrying out their duties as normal, however, their partners aren't. Sarah to speak to Durham City Police Team about this.</p> <p>Jane suggested that she contact Sarah to discuss what can be done to help the Police and would also contact the partners within our AAP area about partnership working.</p> <p>Angela Stobbart recommended involving Investing in Children, with a view to looking into why this kind of behaviour was happening in Coxhoe.</p>	
7	<p>Countywide Partners</p> <p>There were no updates.</p>	
8	<p>Neighbourhood Budgets</p> <p>None. They had made emailed to Board members prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Marie has been arranging meetings between Jane, Claire, Lyndsey and the local councillors regarding their neighbourhood budget spend.</p> <p>A meeting with Councillor Maura McKeon will take place on Monday 14 September 2020 at 2.00 pm. Marie to set up a Teams meeting.</p> <p>This offer of support has been put out because should next year be an election year, local councillors will be unable to carry over their neighbourhood budget spend.</p>	
9	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p>	

	<p>The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday 22 October 2020 at 9.30 am via Microsoft Teams.</p>	
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Everyone was thanked for their attendance.