PRESENT:

**Partner Organisations**
Andrew Allison
Becky Haynes
Ian Porter
Gordon Elliott

**Public Representatives**
Ricky Clayton
Josh Conlon
Ron Grogan
Mary Hall
Peter Irving
Graham Tomaszko

**Elected Members**
Councillor Margaret Elgie (GWTC)
Councillor Patricia Jopling
Councillor Richard Manchester
Councillor Anne Reed
Councillor Fraser Tinsley

**OFFICER ATTENDANCE:**
Sandy Denney AAP Co-ordinator
Nicola Woodgate Community Development Project Officer
Claire Craft Support Officer

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:**
Harold Wilsher; Steve Reed; Eddie Tomlinson; Trevor Burn;
Brenda Smith

**PRESENTERS:**
Jill Cole – Northern Heartlands

**APOLOGIES:**
Isla Ballard; Inspector Kevin Tuck; Councillor Andrea Patterson;
Dorothy Winter; Councillor Olwyn Gunn
A1. Introductions and apologies
MS welcomed attendees and gave apologies as above.

A2. Agreement of minutes from previous meeting – 15 June 2017 – Matters Arising
MS gave the Board the opportunity to comment on the minutes from 15 June 2017 Board meeting. The Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

A3. Local Neighbourhood Issues

Items from the public / community submitted to the Coordinator prior to the meeting
RG informed the Board of the article written in the Northern Echo regarding a row between Crook Community Leisure (CCL) and Crook and District Athletics Club. RG asked what has happened to the £500K and if it is still there.
SD informed RG that the money has been spent on the build of CCL.
GE added that CCL is now operating and added that the official opening is tomorrow (8 September).
Cllr PJ said the issue has been taken up at County and said the lines are much exaggerated. Cllr PJ added that she is happy with the outcome of what has been happening.

Neighbourhood Budget Applications and Neighbourhood Budget Report
NW informed the Board that so far to date there are:
- 0 complete projects
- 1 project underway
- 1 project received and under technical appraisal
- 2 applications received and under development
- 4 applications received for 2017/18 to date in total

NW gave an overview of NB Small Grants and explained why we are now reporting on these.
NW informed the Board that the following 1 project had been circulated electronically since the last Board Meeting:

1. Crook Town AFC – Floodlight Refurb of lamps, cables and controls
   Cllr Andrea Patterson; Cllr Anne Reed; Cllr Patricia Jopling
   NB £6,000; Match £8,067; Total £14,067
   Comments:
   No comments were made.
NW informed the Board that the following project was for approval:

1. Captain George Burdon McKean Victoria Cross Centenary Project – Greater Willington Town Council
   Cllrs Olwyn Gunn and Fraser Tinsley
   NB £10,000; Match £17,054; Total £27,054
   Comments:
   The Board approved the project.

NW informed the Board that the following 2 projects were for information and comment only:

1. Sunnybrow Bus Shelters – Durham County Council
   Councillors Olwyn Gunn and Fraser Tinsley
   NB £2,000; Match £4,066.96; Total £6,066.96
   Comments:
   No comments were made.

2. Brancepeth Village Festival – St Brandon 1500- Brancepeth Archives & History Group
   Councillors Olwyn Gunn and Fraser Tinsley
   NB £2,000; Match £3,300; Total £5,300
   Comments:
   MS said it sounds like a brilliant project.

A4.

Countywide Partners
Jill Cole gave the Board a presentation on Northern Heartlands, which was awarded funding of £1,489,200 through The Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council England and Historic England.

JCole informed the Board that the areas of benefit included Teesdale, Weardale, 3 Towns and Bishop and Shildon (BASH). JCole said the aims of the project are for people to:
- Understand their past and how that has transformed the landscape
- Identify and explore new challenges
Understand what people value in their communities
- Influence their own future

JCole added that through the programme they would find out about communities, match artists and projects to communities, deliver projects and evaluate the results.

JCole said Northern Heartlands also has £275K funding available through a Community Initiatives Fund managed by County Durham Community Foundation
(CDCF) for projects of between £2-5K in value (but could potentially support projects of up to £10K) JCole added that the Community Initiatives Fund goes live on 1 October 2017 with a closing date of 31 December. Decisions will be made in March 2018. They are also looking for a community representative to sit on this funding panel.

Cllr PJ said she feels there may be an issue engaging with the public. JCole said there are always people who do not want to engage but they are trying to make sure that everyone knows about it as well as trying to engage with people from isolated areas and visiting as many groups as possible.

PI said he is pleased to see the project will include rural areas and asked how Northern Heartlands will reach these isolated areas. JCole said she knows first hand the problems but they accept this as part of the task and will speak to the likes of farmers etc. to get them involved.

Cllr FT said Northern Heartlands sounds very interesting with huge potential and said he would like to meet with JCole to discuss potential projects. JCole agreed to meet Cllr FT to discuss further.

HW asked if Parish Councils would be involved. JCole said yes they would definitely find a route to those Parish Councils who are very active.

JC asked if there is a specific group of young people they intend to engage with. JCole said it is dependent on who is out there, so they will look at existing groups and those not so active anymore such as those affected by cuts. JCole added that it is also a high priority for them to work young people with disabilities. JC said it is important for them to deal with different groups in different way such as youth groups and drama groups. JCole said they might run taster sessions and they know the importance of all things digital to young people.

GE asked how long the project is. JCole said the project would run for 3 years until May 2020.

GE asked if any money has been held back for small grants. JCole said yes, there is a pot for Arts and Events and added that it is important for them to go in at the bottom and work with their networks for this reason.

Action: J Cole to attend another Board meeting in 1 year to provide an update on the project.
A5.
Priorities and Action Plans
Quarterly Monitoring
NW provided the board with an overview of the Area Budget 2016/17 Quarterly Monitoring summary sheet including results achieved in quarter 1 (April – June 2017).

RG asked why Tow Law has not been approached regarding the Mini-Police project. SD said the project has to be done in stages and confirmed that the project would be rolled out into Tow Law in 2018.

GE said it is important for AAPs to keep track of what has been achieved.

Update Capital Grants
NW gave the Board an overview of the Capital Grants Fund to date. NW informed the Board that 23 application forms had been sent out and 1 application had been received to date. NW said requests had been from across the 3 Towns area from Willington, Tow Law, Crook, Sunniside, Hunwick, Howden-Le-Wear and Oakenshaw. NW said the deadline for applications is 18 September and added that the panel will meet during October half term on Wednesday 25 October. NW said the 3 Towns AAP are still looking for volunteers to sit on the panel from the Board. Cllr FT, GT, JC and ME expressed an interested in being on the panel.

Update Holiday Activity Grants
NW gave the Board an update on the Holiday Activity Grants and said 9 applications had been received overall and that 7 of these had been successful as follows:
- DCC Culture and Sport – Creative Summer
- Natural high – Natural High Summer project
- Jack Drum Arts – Auckland Castle Summer School
- Friends of Hunwick School – Day Trip
- St. Stephen’s Church – Holiday Fun
- Pre-school Alliance – Family Cooking for Summer Holidays
- St. Catherine’s Church – Bright Eyed

NW said the monitoring information for these projects would be brought to next Board meeting.

Cllr PJ said the flower festival was brilliant.
JC said the summer school was very well attended.

Priority Voting Proposal
SD directed the Board to the Priority Voting Proposal for 2018/19 in their packs. SD said 601 people (210 general public & 391 schools) responded to the priority vote for 3 Towns priorities in late 2016/17.
SD said the report asks the Board to consider not going out to a priority vote this year and therefore retaining the current priorities for another financial year.

**Agreed:** The Board discussed the proposal and made the decision to retain the current priorities for next financial year.

GE said the priority vote is there to advise the Board and that if something major cropped up it could be changed if necessary.

**Winter Forum**
SD asked the Board to consider whether they would like to have a winter forum event or continue attending community events.

PI said he would prefer community events, as more people will be involved.
GE asked if there are community events set up in these communities.
SD said the AAP Team would look at what is in existence first and see who we can link up with.

**Agreed:** The Board agreed that the 3 Towns AAP should attend community events instead of holding a winter forum.

**Action Plan Project Update**
SD gave the Board an overview on the progress made against the 3 Towns Partnership 2017/18 Action Plan.
SD informed the Board that £29,616 was already committed (£24,000 Capital Grants and £5,616 Cornerstone Supported Housing – Willington Youth Workshop)

**Task & Finish Groups – Project Proposals**
SD gave overviews of the following projects, which have been considered and supported by the Task Groups:

**Primar EAMH Phase 2 – If U Care Share Foundation**
£23,283 across all schools, which haven’t already received the workshops (£2,587 per school)
Based on the successful pilot of the PrimarEAMH Project with Three Towns AAP. The project aims to roll the programme out across the area to ensure more schools and young people can benefit. They would look to work with 9 schools and delivery would be facilitated by an experienced TEAMH department who have worked extensively with young people. Creating a culture that sees the next generation confident and comfortable in talking about their emotions could have a massive impact. This needs to be a whole school approach and this project would work with all students and a large proportion of staff.

The Board discussed the project and agreed that they would like to see the project rolled out to the remaining schools.
GE felt the daily rates were expensive and requested that this be explored further.

**Agreed: The Board agreed to request a full application.**

**Wheels to Work – County Durham Wheels to Work CIO**

**£10,250 AB and Match funding of £3,600**

The scheme commenced operation in October 2016 covering the AAP areas of Chester-Le-Street, Stanley and Mid-Durham in the first instance. The project seeks to offer the loan of a scooter for a fixed period of time (usually 6 months) so that individuals for whom transport is a barrier to employment, can take up an offer of paid work, apprenticeship or sustain employment where it may be otherwise at risk.

Cllr FT expressed concerns regarding people travelling in rural areas on scooters e.g. over the tops in December may not be appropriate.

**Action: AAP to seek further information regarding the success of the programme in other rural areas.**

PI said travel costs on public transport are very high and felt having access to a scooter would help.

**Agreed: The Board agreed to request a full application.**

**Prison Me No Way! – The No Way Trust Ltd**

**Costs to be confirmed**

The proposal is for Prison Me! No Way! (PMNW) to deliver a Crime & Safety Awareness Day (CASAD) at Parkside Academy in Willington & Wolsingham Academy delivered to Year 8 or 9 pupils. PMNW! is a national educational charity with a core aim of raising awareness among young people about the causes, consequences and penalties of crime. Set up as a project by prison officers in 1993, PMNW! has operated as the No Way Trust since 1995 and has reached more than 5 million young people.

The costs will be amended on receipt of costs for a day for year 6 Primary school Children across the 3 Towns.

MH expressed her concerns about the volunteer costs and figure for the vehicle.

SD said the volunteer costs were to include 20-30 volunteers.

**Action: AAP to request further clarification regarding the above costs.**

**Agreed: The Board agreed to request a full application.**

**Robotics in Today’s World – Go Ahead training CIC**

**£5,000 (to be confirmed)**

A pilot project to encourage and excite the young children in The Three Towns AAP area into the world of robotics in Industry today.

The project will be delivered through a series of Robotic Workshops, delivered in school to year 5 and year 6 Primary children in every primary school in the AAP.
area. This will be an addition to what is currently been delivered via school curriculum, and will enhance the work of the school.
SD informed the Board that the cost for delivery to all 12 primaries for years 5 and 6 is £2400 and the minimum AB is £5000. SD said the Task Group suggested delivering to year 7 students at Parkside Academy and extending potentially to year 4s or potential for after school clubs with remaining funds.

GE suggested it might be worth including ‘train the trainer’ to enable schools to keep it going after the workshops.
**Action:** AAP to make suggestion re training a trainer.
**Agreed:** The Board agreed to request a full application.

**Youth Fund Proposals**
SD informed the Board that 2 Youth Fund expressions of interest have been received for consideration as follows:

**Transitions – Jack Drum Arts**
£3,000 requested
The grant would enable Jack Drum to develop the ‘Transitions’ project, a programme of high quality support and pastoral care for young people who access their youth activities.

JC declared an interest.
**Agreed:** The Board agreed to request a full application.

**Tow Law Youth Club – Tow Law Community Association and Consett YMCA**
£3,000 requested
The grant would be used to provide weekly term time Youth activities for 11 to 16 year old from Tow Law and surrounding areas utilising external providers to deliver high energy outdoor activities.

RG declared an interest.
**Agreed:** The Board agreed to request a full application.

**A6. Countywide Partners**
SD asked whether any partners had anything to share with the Board.
There were no requests to share information from partners.

**A7. Date and time of next meeting:**
- 6pm on Thursday 9 November 2017 at Crook Civic Centre