

**GREAT AYCLIFFE & MIDDRIDGE PARTNERSHIP (GAMP)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2017, 6:00PM, NEWTON AYCLIFFE
YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE**



PRESENT:

Elected Members

Cllr Eddy Adam – DCC
Cllr Jim Atkinson – DCC
Cllr John Clare – DCC
Cllr Scott Durham – DCC
Cllr Brian Hall – Great Aycliffe Town Council
Cllr Kate Hopper – DCC

Public Representatives

Sue Cooke
Alan Jordan
Barry Knevitt
Hannah Siddle
Graham Tarn

Partner Representatives

Phil Hodgson – DCC
Insp Sarah Honeyman – Police (**Chair**)
Helen Johnson – livin Housing
Graeme Metcalf – Fire Service
Rob Miller – DDES CCG (representing Kim Lawther)

PRESENTERS:

Anna Caygill – Environment Agency

OFFICER

ATTENDANCE:

Brian Riley – GAMP Coordinator
Victoria Grieves – GAMP Community Development Project Officer
Paula Stockport – GAMP Support Officer

APOLOGIES:

Chris Cunnington-Shore, Alan Cooper, Cllr Paul Howell, Carol Gaskarth

OBSERVERS:

Cllr Brian Stephens (DCC Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods & Local Partnerships), R Adamson, A Chandran, C Robinson, N Cooke, K Robson, D Bowman, J Merritt, S Day, V Crosby, D Sutton-Lloyd

1. Introductions & Apologies

Insp SH welcomed everyone to the meeting, reminding observers they would be welcome to comment under Items 3, 4 and 5 on the agenda. Insp SH reminded Board members of the standard Declaration of Item on the agenda.

Insp SH welcomed Cllr Brian Stephens (DCC Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods & Local Partnerships) to the meeting.

BR confirmed that apologies for absence had been received, as noted above.

Insp SH introduced Victoria Grieves who has now taken up the post of GAMP Community Development Project Officer, replacing Adam White.

Insp SH highlighted that this would be Barry Knevitt's last meeting as a Public Representative; Barry has been a very proactive Board and Task Group member during his four-year term, and Insp SH thanked him for his commitment to GAMP on behalf of the Board and the GAMP team.

2. **Minutes of the Meeting Held on 26.9.17 – Matters Arising**

The draft minutes from the Board meeting held on 26.9.17 had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers. BR reviewed the minutes page by page for matters arising, actions and accuracy.

BR confirmed there were no outstanding actions or other matters arising, and the minutes of the last meeting were **AGREED** by the Board as a true and accurate record.

3. **Countywide Partner Issues**

3.1 DCC Budget Consultation (Phil Hodgson)

Board members received a presentation from Phil Hodgson (DCC) on the Council's current consultation exercise in relation to their budget and savings proposals for 2018-19 and beyond.

The presentation outlined the financial challenges facing DCC; to balance the budget for 2018-19 the Council has to make savings of £15.3million. There are several proposals linked to increasing efficiencies and new ways of working, and views are sought in relation to four key areas:

- Is the council's proposed approach reasonable?
- Are there any specific proposals people would like to comment on?
- Is there anything about DCC services people would change?
- What would most improve the quality of life in your local community?

A brief Q&A followed, and the following points were noted:

- scope for potential consortium arrangements around procurement etc
- sharing of specialist services
- use of volunteers, including relevant skillsets, training requirements etc
- business rate retention issues

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 1 December, and all Board members and meeting observers were encouraged to participate if they had not done so already. Further information is available via:

Website: www.durham.gov.uk/budget

Insp SH thanked Phil for his presentation.

3.2 Flood Resilience (Anna Caygill)

Board members received a presentation from Anna Caygill (Environment Agency). Anna is working on a project which aims to create more resilient communities; there are three main elements to the project, which will look at community engagement, business continuity and work with school/youth groups. Creating community plans can help lessen the reliance on emergency services in the event of a flood.

Specifically in relation to Newton Aycliffe, Anna highlighted two areas around the West Park potentially at risk of flooding.

Anna encouraged people to sign up to the Flood Warning Service, and asked Board members to help promote the project locally.

GM commented that he has been involved in similar work in the Chester-le-Street area, and fully supported the project. GM is happy to get involved for the GAMP area.

HJ commented that livin Housing are currently working on the West Ward Community Regeneration project, and so discussions would be useful between Anna and livin representatives at an early stage.

Insp SH thanked Anna for her presentation, and she left the meeting.

Any Other Partner Issues

GM highlighted that the Fire Service are currently consulting in relation to their 3 year plan; further information is available via:

- https://www.ddfire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/attachments/IRMP_3yr_plan2018_web.pdf
- <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/consultation2017/>

The consultation closes on 12 January 2018 and Board members were encouraged to put their views forward; BR will circulate the relevant links electronically to all Board members (**Action 1: BR**).

4. Local Neighbourhood Issues

4.1 Neighbourhood Policing Update (Insp Sarah Honeyman)

Insp SH updated Board members in relation to local crime figures, current policing activity across the GAMP locality, as well as local PACT priorities, and current and emerging issues. Insp SH also highlighted upcoming PACT meeting dates for information, all of which are available via the website (www.durham.police.uk).

Mr D Sutton-Lloyd commented that it would be useful to have information around the number of crimes, rather than details of percentages, as it can be difficult to quantify what the figures mean. Insp SH agreed that she would include this information in the next update (**Action 2: Insp SH**).

Any Other Local Neighbourhood Issues

BR highlighted, for the minutes, that a resident had recently contacted the GAMP team about difficulties being experienced crossing the road from St Clare's to the Roundhouse public house, with speeding vehicles coming from Stephenson Way direction. BR has passed the query onto the relevant section within DCC; the issue has been logged to the council's recording system, and a response has been sent directly to the resident by DCC's Traffic Asset Team.

BR confirmed, for the minutes, that Board members have received the following correspondence from the GAMP team since the last meeting:

- a briefing note for AAPs in relation to the Universal Credit rollout, circulated by email on 18.10.17;

- a link to the DCC Budget consultation was circulated by email on 31.10.17, with a further reminder on 14.11.17;
- an update in relation to Operation Spruce Up was circulated by email on 2.11.17;
- the GAMP ebulletin was circulated on 6.11.17.

If any Board member would like information on events, activities, projects etc circulated to the GAMP database via our ebulletin or Facebook page, please contact the GAMP team.

5. Neighbourhood Budget Applications

BR confirmed that a summary sheet for all 3 x NB proposals had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers for Board members to note. BR asked VG to give a brief outline of each proposal.

5.1 St Clare's Church Community Hall Refurbishment (Cllrs Atkinson & Iveson)

The request from NB is £5,040; the total project cost is £10,650. There are no Declarations of Interest.

VG gave a brief outline of the project proposal. No comments were raised.

5.2 Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club Grounds Mower (Cllrs Adam, Atkinson, Clare, Durham, Hopper, Howell & Iveson)

The request from NB is £7,950; the total project cost is £7,950. There is a Declaration of Interest from Cllrs Atkinson & Iveson.

VG gave a brief outline of the project proposal. No comments were raised.

5.3 School Breakfast Clubs (Cllrs Adam, Clare, Durham, Hopper & Howell)

The request from NB is £4,500; the total project cost is £9,000. There is a Declaration of Interest from Cllr Hopper.

VG gave a brief outline of the project proposal. No comments were raised.

BR will forward the 3 x NB applications to the Funding Team for technical appraisal (**Action 3: BR**).

6. 2017-18 Area Budget Project Callout Review

BR confirmed that a report had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for Board members to note.

The report gives an outline of the background to the AB Project Callout process, as well as an overview of some key statistics from this year, including areas that worked well, and some lessons learned.

BR asked Board members to consider the following decisions:

- (i) Do Board members wish to follow a callout process for AB allocation for 2018-19? **AGREED**
- (ii) Do Board members agree that the GAMP team set up a subgroup of interested Board members, 2 from each sector, to review some of the finer details of the process for next year, e.g. possible use of an initial expression

of interest form, review of the sift process, the role of the Task & Finish Groups etc? **AGREED**

BR to circulate an email request for interested subgroup volunteers (**Action 4: BR**).

BR highlighted that Board members will need to consider how best to accommodate the required capital/revenue split for AB spend, as well as potential additional funding allocations which may be administered via the AAPs, e.g. Welfare Reform, Youth Fund and Social Isolation funding, and how best these would link, perhaps to the wider callout. This will be an agenda item for discussion at the January 2018 meeting.

7. Coordinator's Update

7.1 2017-18 Area Budget Spend Update

BR confirmed that a summary sheet had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for Board members to note. This shows the AB allocations for 2017-18 and the current project status.

Cllr EA asked how long applicants have to accept an offer of AB funding; BR clarified that recipients have 21 days to return their signed Terms & Conditions following the grant offer from the Funding Team.

7.2 Welfare Reform/Youth Fund Grant Update

BR confirmed that the closing date for Expressions of Interest for both funding streams was 6 November, and the subgroup panel met on 15 November to review the EOIs.

There were four proposals submitted under the Youth Fund:

- Kicks (Foundation of Light)
- Planability for Teenagers (Sensory Processing Disorder Parent Support Group)
- Adventurous Training (Air Cadets)
- Wild Western Kids (Investing in Children CIC)

There was one EOI submitted for Welfare Reform funding:

- Durham Savers (DCC)

The Durham Savers proposal has already been circulated to the Board by email for formal ratification, and will then be passed to the Funding Team for technical appraisal next week.

All of the above EOIs have also been forwarded to the relevant officers within DCC for review and comment.

In relation to the Youth Fund, all 4 x applicants have been asked to transfer their project proposals to a full AB application form, which will be emailed to Board members in due course for formal ratification. Following this, they will be passed to the Funding Team for technical appraisal.

7.3 Operation Spruce Up

BR confirmed that the Spruce Up programme officially launched in Newton Aycliffe on 21 November; VG attended the launch on behalf of the GAMP team,

along with Cllrs Clare, Hopper and Howell. Work will predominantly centre around clearing of various underpasses, and the Bluebell Wood area. Hopefully Board members may have seen some of the local promotion, or taken part. BR highlighted that this is a great initiative, with lots of additional community engagement work taking place as part of the programme, including work in schools etc.

7.4 Quarter 2 Project Monitoring Updates

BR confirmed that a copy of the Quarter 2 Project Monitoring Updates had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for information. The report gives the latest position for all ongoing AB-funded projects. BR highlighted that if any Board member has any queries in relation to any of the projects, or the information provided, please contact the GAMP team in the first instance.

7.5 2018 Board Meeting Dates

BR confirmed that a list of 2018 Board meeting dates had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, and asked all Board members to diary the dates accordingly. As always, venues have been rotated across the GAMP area.

8. **Date & Time of Next Meeting:**

Insp SH confirmed the next Board meeting is arranged as follows:

Tuesday 30 January 2018, 6:00pm at Oakleaf Sports Complex

BR highlighted that the following agenda items are confirmed for the next meeting:

- Police Precept Consultation (Ron Hogg)
- Safe Durham Partnership Plan

Insp SH thanked all attendees, as well as Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre for hosting the meeting, and the meeting was closed.