

**Notes of the Weardale Area Action
Partnership Board Meeting**

**13th July 2017 at Durham Dales Centre,
Stanhope**



PRESENT

Board Members

Public Representatives: Chris Powell (CP)
Frances O'Riley (FO'R)
Joan Warriner (JW)
Phil Chatfield (PC)
Tom Natrass (TN)
Tony Griffin (TG)

Partner Representatives: Damian Pearson - Dale & Valley Homes (DP)
Inspector Kevin Tuck – Durham Constabulary (KT)
Peter Maddison – County Durham and Darlington Fire and
Rescue Service (PM)
Yvonne Probert – Durham Community Action (YP)

Elected Members: Cllr Anita Savory (AS)
Cllr Brian Thompson – Stanhope (BT)
Cllr Jane Henderson – Wolsingham (JH)
Cllr Olive Wilson - Witton-le-Wear (OW)

Officers: Angelina Maddison (AM)
Christine Davison (CD)
Fiona Barber (FB)

Apologies

Public Representatives: None received

Elected Members: Cllr Helen Barrass - Muggleswick

Partner Representatives: David Taylor-Gooby - Clinical Commissioning Group
Stuart Timmiss – Durham County Council

The meeting was also attended by 1 observer

1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

The Chair, DT-G, had given his apologies for this meeting. AM asked if either of the Vice Chairs wished to chair the meeting. The Board agreed that AM would chair the meeting in DT-G's absence.

The Chair extended a special welcome to Phil Chatfield who is attending his first Board meeting as a Public Representative on the WAP Board.

Introductions were made around the table and apologies given as recorded above.

The Chair requested that any Declarations of Interest be raised at the appropriate points in the meeting.

2. Agreement of Notes from Annual General Meeting held on 15th June 2017 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

- **PACT**

The Chair advised that no issues had been brought to the attention of the WAP team prior to this meeting. The Chair then handed the time over to Inspector Tuck.

KT advised that four issues had been raised with him before the meeting began: 2 concerning Edmundbyers and 2 concerning Witton-le-Wear. Advice has been given regarding all four issues.

Community Speedwatch

The Community Speedwatch scheme has been working well for the past 4-5 years and it is being developed into a community initiative. The Chief Constable has allocated funding to provide resources to community groups who wish to take this on.

TG asked what the outcome of a Community Speedwatch is. Community Speedwatch is an advisory method which involves the use of a device to measure speed. If anyone is found to be speeding a letter will be sent to the registered keeper advising them of road safety. Should a large number of vehicles be found to be speeding in a particular area, then the Speed Van is deployed which can then issue penalties.

PC asked where does Weardale fit into the bigger pictures with regard to the speeding figures. KT advised that a figure of 5.2% of vehicles being recorded as speeding would not ordinarily attract the kind of resources that are being used in Weardale currently. Weardale is benefitting from these extra resources due to the identification of this issue as a PACT priority.

Operation Bramble

Issues regarding motorbikes continue to be the main priority for Weardale. KT advised that there had been an accident involving a motorbike earlier in the evening. He informed the Board that there are a number of fatal accidents each year in Weardale and the Police are working extremely hard to try and prevent any further incidents. Operation Bramble is an innovative scheme

which draws upon the resources and expertise of multiple teams within the Police force. Many ways of engaging with bikers are being used.

PACT

KT reminded Board members that the next PACT meeting will take place on Wednesday 26th July, 7:00pm in Wolsingham Town Hall.

The Chair thanked Inspector Tuck for his contribution.

4. 2016/17 Update

Board Ambassador Reports

CD reminded the Board about the role of Board Ambassador. Any Board member who has an interest in any of the projects supported by the Weardale Action Partnership can put their name forward to be a Board Ambassador for that project. Board Ambassadors will usually visit the project with a member of the WAP team and then assist in the production of a short report to submit to Board Members. CD talked the Board through two Board Ambassador Reports from projects which have received funding through the Small Grants Fund.

- **Stanhope Barrington School – Play in a Day**

35 pupils from Stanhope Barrington Primary School took part in a series of workshops culminating in a 20 minute performance of a play depicting the life of Tutankhamun. CD and FB attended the performance and reported that it was brilliant. The workshops help to increase the confidence of the students and gave them all the opportunity to take part.

- **Stanhope Silver Band**

Stanhope Silver Band has received money from the Small Grants Fund to replace their doors and windows to help make it a more secure facility. They also received funding through Cllr Shuttleworth's Neighbourhood Budget to replace the flooring.

CD asked if any Board Member would like to be the Board Ambassador for the second part of 'Play in a Day' due to take place in October. CP indicated she would be interested.

5. Priorities 2017/18 Financial Year

The Chair advised the Board that there has been a lot of work taking place over the last couple of weeks with four Task Groups being held.

Feedback from Task Groups

1. Support to Groups in Weardale

CD led the Board through a presentation giving an overview of the Small Grants Fund since its introduction 6 years ago.

- 177 applications supported
- £147,598 allocated from Area Budget
- £246,584 match funding brought in
- 45 groups funded more than once
- £2,388 remaining in the fund from 2016/17

CD also advised that of these projects, £26,273 had been spent on Capital projects with £18,958 having been allocated to community buildings.

AS and BT chaired the Task Group and both were supportive of the Small Grants Fund running for a further year. BT advised that he advocated revisiting the criteria for the funding ensuring that the money went to small groups.

The Support to Groups in Weardale Task Group recommended that the following projects be put to Board Members for their consideration:

- **Small Grants Fund - £25,000**
- **Community Buildings Capital Fund - £20,000**

AM advised that in the past the WAP have had a project similar to the Community Buildings Fund. This was managed by Durham Community Action (DCA) and the proposal would be for DCA to assume this role once more. YP confirmed that there would be a small administration fee for doing this.

2. Health and Wellbeing

AM advised that two years ago DDES CCG gave £33,000 to employ a Wellness Coordinator in Weardale. The project has been a success so far and has resulted in a number of people being diagnosed with health concerns earlier than would otherwise have happened. The Wellness Coordinator also coordinates with other services and ensures that people get the support they need.

WAP does not have sufficient funding to fund the post for a further year. However, the Durham Dales Health Federation have indicated that they may be able to provide match funding.

There is also a suggestion for a project from the Alzheimer's Society to provide a project to supply light activity sessions for sufferers of Dementia and their carers. The Alzheimer's Society have identified transport as being a potential barrier to accessing this service. They will work with Weardale Community Transport to help find ways to address this.

The Health and Wellbeing Task Group recommended that the following projects be put to Board Members for their consideration:

- **Wellness Coordinator - £10-15,000**
- **Games for the Brain - £5,000**

3. Children, Young People and Families

CP talked the Board through a number of projects that the Children, Young People and Families Task Group had considered at their meeting.

She advised that the group had taken on board the success of the apprenticeship schemes that have run in the past three years and that they had tried to find ways to build upon this success. The group had looked at an apprenticeship scheme with a cultural element to it but recognised that Weardale doesn't currently have adequate infrastructure to support it.

CP advised that a number of projects had been submitted to the Task Group and detailed the decisions made by the group. (For further information about each of these projects please see the notes from the Task Group.)

The Children, Young People and Families Task Group recommended that the following projects be put to Board Members for their consideration:

Area Budget

- **Young Firefighters - £10,000**
- **The Weardale Tub - £10,000**

AAP Youth Fund

- **Changing Relations – Make Do and Mend - £3,000**
- **Ps - £3,000**

4. Culture, Tourism and Heritage

TG gave an overview of the Task Group meeting and advised that the group considered a number of applications. The group has requested further information from the majority of these applications. Projects under consideration include ideas from Altogether Archaeology; Drama in the Dale; Weardale Visitor Network and Westgate Chapel.

The group also received a proposal for a project based at the Durham Dales Centre to host the Battle of Stanhope Festival 2018. A weeklong medieval event hoping to attract visitors from inside and outside Weardale.

The Culture, Tourism and Heritage Task Group recommended that the following project be put to Board Members for their consideration:

- **Battle of Stanhope Festival 2018 - £5,000**

Decision Making – Allocation / Ring-fencing of Area Budget

AM reminded Board Members that each Task Group has discussed each of these projects before making their recommendations. The Task Groups have asked the Board Members if they would authorise these projects to submit a full application.

AM confirmed that the details of each project are still to be confirmed; Board Members are being asked to give their agreement in principle to these projects.

Board Members then considered each project that had been recommended to them and gave their decision:

Support to Groups in Weardale

- **Small Grants Fund - £25,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.
- **Community Buildings Capital Fund - £20,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.

Health and Wellbeing

- **Wellness Coordinator - £10 - 15,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.
- **Games for the Brain - £5,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.

Children, Young People and Families

- **Young Firefighters - £10,000** – **Declarations of Interest received from AS, PM and TN.** The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.

- **The Weardale Tub - £10,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.

Culture, Tourism and Heritage

- **Battle of Stanhope Festival 2018 - £5,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration. Funding of project to be dependent on a successful Heritage Lottery Fund bid.

Decision Making – Other Funding Streams

In addition to the Area Budget, the WAP administers two other funding streams – Welfare Reform and AAP Youth Fund. Each of these funding streams have specific criteria.

AAP Youth Fund

- **Changing Relations – Make Do and Mend - £3,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.
- **Ps - £3,000** – The Board **AGREED** to move this project forward to full application to allow a more detailed consideration.

Welfare Reform

AM advised that we are waiting for a progress report to see how successful the Rural Advice Worker project is before looking at potentially funding this project for a further year.

In order to ensure that these projects are considered for funding as soon as possible it is necessary that an Extraordinary Board Meeting be called to look only at funding applications. The date for this meeting will be Thursday 17th August at 2:00pm. A quick show of hands indicated that sufficient members should be able to attend to ensure that the Board meeting is quorate. The WAP team will write to Board Members to confirm this – **Action: WAP Team.**

6. Countywide Partner Issues

- TG advised that the Winking Sheep Sportive Cycling Event will take place on the August Bank Holiday weekend (Sunday 27th August). In St John's Chapel. This is a very popular event with money raised going to the Mountain Rescue Service.
- JW advised that volunteers are always welcome at the Weardale Agricultural Show in St John's Chapel.
- DP informed Board Members of the Group Grant with funding of up to £500 available. This funding stream may complement WAP projects. More information on this grant can be found at <https://www.countydurhamhousinggroup.co.uk/in-your-neighbourhood/group-grant/>

7. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Extraordinary Board Meeting – Thursday 17th August, 2:00pm

Board Meeting – Thursday 14th September, 6:00pm

Both meetings to take place in the Durham Dales Centre, Stanhope, DL13 2FJ