

**GREAT AYCLIFFE & MIDDLEDGE PARTNERSHIP (GAMP)
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 29 JANUARY 2019, 6:00PM, OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX**

PRESENT:

Elected Members

Cllr Eddy Adam – DCC (**Chair**)
Cllr Jim Atkinson – DCC
Cllr John Clare – DCC
Cllr Scott Durham – DCC
Cllr Brian Hall – Great Aycliffe Town Council
Cllr Kate Hopper – DCC
Cllr Paul Howell – DCC

Public Representatives

Sean Barnett
Sue Cooke (Vice Chair)
Chris Cunnington-Shore
Alan Jordan
Carl Robinson
David Sutton-Lloyd

Partner Representatives

Kerina Clark – Business Representative
Richard Crane – DCC Head of Service
Carol Gaskarth – VCS Representative
T/Chief Insp Sarah Honeyman – Police (Vice Chair)
Michael Houghton – Health Rep (CCG)
Helen Johnson – livin Housing
Malcolm Woodward – Fire Service

OFFICER

ATTENDANCE:

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

PRESENTERS:

Ron Hogg (Police, Crime & Victims Commissioner)
Vicki Booth (PCVC Office)
Michelle Robinson (DCC Spatial Policy Team)
Beverley Bentham (DCC Spatial Policy Team)
Dominic Brown (Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service)

APOLOGIES:

Hannah Siddle

OBSERVERS:

R Adamson, S Day, M Wilson, J Johnson, H Brewster, N Cooke,

1. Introductions & Apologies

Cllr EA welcomed everyone to the meeting, advising observers they would be welcome to comment under Items 3, 4 and 5 on the agenda. A brief round of introductions was given. Cllr EA reminded Board members of the standard Declaration of Interest item on the agenda.

BR advised members of the public, in accordance with updated GDPR guidelines, they have the right to remain anonymous in the minutes should they wish.

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

Cllr EA welcomed new Board members:

- Kerina Clark (Business Representative), replacing Stephen Gosnay;
- Michael Houghton (temporary Health Rep), on behalf of the CCG;
- Richard Crane (DCC Head of Education), replacing Julien Kramer.

2. **Minutes of the Meeting Held on 27.11.18 – Matters Arising**

The draft minutes from the Board meeting held on 27.11.18 were circulated in advance with the meeting papers. BR confirmed there were no outstanding actions, there were no matters arising, and the minutes of the last meeting were **AGREED** by the Board as a true and accurate record.

[Richard Crane joined the meeting]

3. **Countywide Partner Issues**

3.1 **Police Precept Consultation** (Ron Hogg)

Mr Hogg updated Board members on his current proposal to increase the policing precept by 13.24% (the maximum permitted), in order to help sustain front line policing, invest in IT and other measures to make the force as efficient as possible in the future.

Since 2010 Government funding for policing in Durham and Darlington has been cut in real terms by 32%. About 75% of the money spent by the force comes from a Government grant, and the rest of it is paid by Council tax payers through the policing precept. Mr Hogg is determined to protect neighbourhood policing, so that there is an effective police presence in the area. However, the long-term reduction in Government funding, in real terms, means that front-line policing will be at risk unless the proposed increase in the policing precept is implemented.

Mr Hogg is committed to continue making efficiencies and challenging every element of the business, to make money go further, and will continue to lobby Government to provide a fairer level of Government grant.

All Board members were encouraged to complete the consultation feedback questionnaire. People can also get in touch with Mr Hogg via:

Letter: OPCVC, Police Headquarters, Aykley Heads, Durham, DH1 5TT

Phone: 0191 3752001

Email: General.Enquiries@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

Cllr EA thanked Mr Hogg for the presentation.

3.2 **County Durham Plan** (Michelle Robinson)

Board members received an update presentation in relation to the County Durham Plan. The Plan aims to determine how much development takes place in County Durham and directs where it should go, provides certainty to business, communities and developers, provides a consistent approach to development, and provides the tool to resist inappropriate development in inappropriate locations. Areas such as housing, transport and infrastructure are incorporated into the Plan, along with a number of other policies, including sustainable design, renewable

energy, student accommodation etc. The County Durham Plan also aims to sit alongside local Neighbourhood Plans where these are in place, and Michelle commended Great Aycliffe Town Council for their Neighbourhood Plan, which is very much seen as an example of best practice within the county.

Michelle highlighted that the consultation period is open from 25 January to 8 March 2019. The key difference this time is that following consultation the council can now only make minor changes to the Plan; any comments submitted during the consultation will be sent on to the Inspector to be considered at the Examination in Public.

All Board members were encouraged to take part:

- www.durham.gov.uk/future
- Write to : FREEPOST SPATIAL POLICY (no further details needed)
- Response forms from libraries or customer access points
- Email: cdpconsultation@durham.gov.uk
- Drop in event: 12 February, 4.00-7.00pm at NA Youth & Community Centre

Michelle also highlighted that DCC is consulting on its Housing Strategy, which aims to:

- consider housing issues across County Durham and to coordinate approaches to delivery and investment;
- provide clear messages on the priorities of the council and its partners;
- support partnership working on housing themes across the housing sector;
- and ensure the council and its partners are well positioned to access future opportunities for funding support.

Comments received under the Housing Strategy consultation will be fed back to DCC; methods of contact as above.

Cllr EA thanked Michelle for the presentation.

3.3 Fire Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan (Dominic Brown)

Board members received an update presentation in relation to the current Fire Service IRMP consultation. Dominic outlined the background to the proposals; there have been ongoing reductions to government funding over a number of years, with extensive work to help protect front line services, but changes are now proposed and hence the consultation.

Dominic outlined the current staffing format for the Newton Aycliffe area, including data around response standards and shift systems. Following a recent legal challenge, the existing 'Day Crewing Plus' system, which currently operates in Newton Aycliffe, is no longer a viable staffing option. The Fire Service have drawn up three potential alternative options in response, and are seeking views from members of the public through the current consultation.

All Board members were encouraged to take part (closing date 4 February):
www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/IRMP201819/

MW added that Board members are very welcome to attend the Fire Station for a visit if they would like further information; contact MW to arrange.

Cllr EA thanked Dominic for the presentation.

4. **Local Neighbourhood Issues**

4.1 Neighbourhood Policing Update (T/Chief Insp Sarah Honeyman)

T/Chief 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. Antisocial behaviour has increased across the town; with 624 incidents to the year-end December 2018, compared to 587 incidents to December 2017. The policing team have thus concentrated their efforts in the town centre recently where youths have been causing some issues.

T/Chief Insp SH highlighted upcoming PACT meeting dates, for information. The shop in the town centre which was opened for two weeks leading up to Christmas proved really successful, with a range of partner agencies involved including livin, DCC, the Fire Service etc. Significant visitor numbers were seen, the initiative was really well received by the local community and it is planned to hopefully repeat this again next year.

T/Chief Insp SH also highlighted the 'Aycliffe Community Excellence' scheme, which recognises 'good children doing good things'. The initiative is supported by a number of partners, and aims to reward youngsters who display acts of kindness and demonstrate great community spirit – worthy candidates are always welcome.

BR confirmed that no other local neighbourhood issues had been submitted in writing to the GAMP team.

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

- Public information sheet in relation to INEOS site, circulated by email 28.11.18;
- Link to the 'Durham Insight' website, circulated by email 20.12.18;
- GAMP ebulletin circulated 20.12.18;
- Invite to Litter Free Durham Big Spring Clean launch event (14.2.18), circulated by email 24.1.19.

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 this evening's NB proposals had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for information. There are no Cllr Declarations of Interest.

5.1 Acle Scouts Storage Unit (Cllrs Atkinson & Iveson)

The request from NB is £2,000; the total project cost is £3,090. There are no Cllr Declarations of Interest.

VG gave a brief outline of the project proposal, which will fund the purchase of a storage unit for the scout group.

No comments were raised and the proposal was **approved**.

5.2 School Aycliffe Community Association Furniture

(Cllrs Adam & Hopper)

The request from NB is £4,000; the total project cost is £4,324. There are no Cllr Declarations of Interest.

VG gave a brief outline of the project proposal, which will fund the purchase of new tables and chairs which are easily accessible and moveable.

No comments were raised and the proposal was **approved**.

5.3 Middridge Tree Maintenance

(Cllrs Clare, Durham & Howell)

The request from NB is £1,800; the total project cost is £1,812. There are no Cllr Declarations of Interest.

VG gave a brief outline of the project proposal, which will fund tree maintenance works in Middridge.

No comments were raised and the proposal was **approved**.

BR will forward the above NB applications x 3 to the Funding Team for technical appraisal (**Action 1: BR**).

6. **GAMP Coordinator's Update**

6.1 2019-21 Priority Voting & Funding Allocations

BR confirmed that a report had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for Board members to note. BR pointed out that GAMP had the second highest response rate across all AAPs for the priority voting, and the highest response rate per 1,000 residents – which is a fantastic response, and 250 more votes than last time the survey was conducted.

BR is seeking a number of Board decisions. These were discussed at length, and the following points **AGREED**:

- The top three priorities, as voted by Forum members, were agreed for 2019-21, as follows:
 - Children, Young People & Families
 - Older People
 - Community Safety
- The Area Budget for 2019-20 will be allocated by way of an open project callout.
- The £100k Area Budget will be weighted across the agreed priorities as follows:
 - £50k to Children, Young People & Families
 - £30k to Older People
 - £20k to Community Safety
- Where a priority is undersubscribed, any remaining AB will be reallocated to another priority (or priorities) which is oversubscribed.
- The ranking panel of Board members will have full delegation and authority over which projects are supported, or not. Even if a project is eligible, the ranking panel may determine, with valid reasons, that it is not supported.
- Project grant limits agreed between £5k-£20k.

- All projects applications must include a minimum of 5% match funding (either financial or in-kind); with appropriate revision of the guidance notes to make clear to applicants what would constitute relevant match funding, e.g. volunteer time etc.
- All project applications encouraged to include an element of capital funding; and ranked accordingly.

BR thanked Board members for their input.

BR will be convening a new 'Community Safety' Task Group in due course; any Board member who would like to join the group to contact BR.

6.2 DCC Vision Consultation – Next Steps

BR highlighted that the second stage of the DCC Vision Consultation was completed recently. BR hosted focus group sessions during the last round of Task Group meetings, as well as a really productive session with Options Social Club based at the PCP. All feedback gathered was forwarded to the consultation team. Further consultation will be taking place before a final report is submitted to the County Durham Partnership Board in May 2019. BR will keep Board members updated in due course.

6.3 2018-19 Funding Update

BR confirmed that a summary had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for information. This outlines details of 2018-19 Area Budget spend to date.

BR highlighted that 5 x project applications submitted under our Youth Fund allocation were circulated by email to Board members today, for review and ratification.

BR anticipates that applications under the Older Persons Social Isolation Fund should be ready to circulate shortly.

There is currently some discussion ongoing centrally in relation to the criteria for Welfare Reform funding, and BR is hopeful that this should progress in the near future. Board members will be kept updated.

6.4 Quarter 3 Project Update Reports

BR confirmed that copies of the Q3 project update reports (Oct-Dec 2018) for all ongoing projects funded through Area Budget were circulated in advance with the meeting papers, for information. BR asked Board members to note the content of the reports, and contact the GAMP team with any queries. BR feels that this round of updates has been more thorough.

BR also highlighted that an invitation was recently circulated to Public Reps and Elected Members to visit current ongoing projects; anyone interested should contact VG directly to arrange.

Items not on the Agenda

BR highlighted that the AAPs will be celebrating their 10-year anniversary in April; discussions are currently ongoing in relation to marking this milestone across the County, and BR will keep Board members updated accordingly.

7. Date & Time of Next Meeting:

Cllr EA confirmed the next Board meeting is arranged as follows:

Tuesday 26 March 2019, 6:00pm at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre

Cllr EA highlighted there are currently no planned agenda items for this meeting.

Cllr EA thanked all attendees, as well as Oakleaf Sports Complex for hosting the meeting, and the meeting was closed.