

**East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership Minutes of the Board Meeting
Tuesday 16 March 2021
(Virtual Meeting - held via Microsoft Teams)**

Present: Malcolm Gray (Chair), Cllr Stuart Dunn, Angela Stobbart, Jen Straughan-Hawley, Chris Varty, Peter Maddison, Cllr Maura McKeon, Neighbourhood Insp Sarah Honeyman, Maureen Dixon-Berne (for Michelle Atkinson), Allan Blakemore, Cllr Lucy Hovvells, Christine Carter, Mel Carr, Cllr David Brown

Officer Attendance: Jane Bellis – AAP Co-ordinator
Lyndsey Hunter – Community Development Project Officer
Claire Craft – Community Development Project Officer
Marie Ainscough – AAP Support Officer

Forum Members: 1 forum member attended the meeting

Apologies: Clive Crosby, Cllr John Robinson, Cllr Peter Brookes, Pamela Duddin, Graham Easterlow

1 Introductions and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the last virtual Board Meeting of the East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership with the current board membership and apologies were noted for those who were unable to attend the meeting.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 January 2021 & Matters Arising

The Chair reviewed the previous minutes for matters arising, actions and accuracy. There were no matters arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3 Declarations of Interest/ Meeting Etiquette/ New Ways of Working

Everyone was reminded of the meeting etiquette.

The Funding Team has asked the AAP to raise ‘that we need to be quorate when emailing Board members for decision.’

The AAP team agreed to reword the email that they send to Board members.

4 Countywide Partner Issues CRMP – County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service

There was a sound problem with the video therefore it was agreed that it would be circulated via email.

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) are consulting on the Community Risk Management Plan 2021 - 24 (formerly the Integrated Risk Management Plan). Further information on the consultation can be found on the CDDFRS website

<https://www.ddfire.gov.uk/news/consultation-community-risk-management-plan-2021-24>

5 Priority Updates (from Task Group and Projects) Area Budget (including Welfare Reform, Youth Fund and OPSIF) COVID Recovery

AAPs will be managing additional funds this coming financial year. The projected financial position for 2021/22 is -

- £300,000 Town and Village funding (can be allocated over 3 years if desired)
- £100,000 Local anti-poverty and coronavirus response fund
- £144,902 Area Budget (this includes the combined, Older Peoples Social Isolation Fund (£25,000), Youth Fund (£9,902) and the Welfare Reform Fund (£10,000))
- £23,198 Holiday Activities with Healthy Food (HAWHF) (This includes funding for Easter 2021)

Discussion ensued around the need for a Towns and Villages Group. Dates for all 2021-22 meetings to be arranged. **Action: MA.** Once the AAP receive more information on the Towns and Village funding, it was suggested that a meeting be arranged with partners on the board to discuss how we work together for the benefit of the community.

The Holiday Activities with Healthy Food applications for the Easter period were discussed. 7 applications were received and 1 withdrew -

- ❖ Trimdon Grange Community Association, Easter Outdoor Fun - £666.00

[Chris Varty declared an interest in this application as she is a volunteer at Trimdon Grange Community Association]

Comments/concerns raised with the application were as follows –

- Will the applicant(s) be including all groups within the Trimdon(s)?
- Do we have any criteria around how they are going to evaluate the project?
- Are there any links between all of the HAWHF applicants and Netpark?

The Board was happy to support this project.

- ❖ DJ Evans Youth Club – Bowburn Youth Project, Easter Holiday Provision - £1,017.72

Councillor Stuart Dunn highlighted that there is the chance of additional funding and that the new councillors will have their neighbourhood budget spend. He was keen to front load all the HAWHF schemes for the young peoples' mental health and the positive impact this scheme will have on their families.

There were no comments/issues raised with this application and the Board was happy to support the project.

- ❖ Fishburn Youth and Community Centre, FYCC – Easter Project 2021 - £683.75

Comments/concerns raised with the application were as follows –

- No mention of Sedgefield in this application. **Action: LH to speak to Lynne Watson about this.**

The following comments were raised in the 'chat function' –

- Like the link with the allotment society
- Love the growing element
- Linking young children with adults on the allotment is great intergenerational work

The Board was happy to support this project.

- ❖ Groundwork NE and Cumbria, Easter Holiday Enrichment Programme – £7,836.00

The Enrichment Programme project was agreed in principle, however, board members felt that there was already lots of support for the Trimdon(s) and requested that the project is extended into other areas - Sedgefield, Cassop and Kelloe which have not been covered in any of the proposals received. It was also raised that Trimdon Community College Association (TCCA) have received other funding for sport packs from another source, therefore they would hope there would be scope to deliver in a wider area. Jane asked Angela Stobbart if she could send her an email with information on how many packs they had received and in which areas. **Action: AS**

Councillor Lucy Hovvels advised that when the Bluebell School (Trimdon Grange site) closed, all of the sports equipment went to TCCA. She queried if Trimdon Village Hall had submitted a HAWHF application for Easter 2021.

- ❖ Coxhoe Parish Council, Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill Youth Club - £804.29

[Councillor Stuart Dunn declared an interest in this application as he is Chair of the Parish Council]

No comments were raised in relation to this application and the Board was happy to support this project.

- ❖ ATOMS CIC, Bake and Be Healthy – £1,070.00

The 'Bake and Be Healthy' project was agreed in principle, however, board members felt that there was already lots of support for the Trimdon(s) and have requested that the project is extended into other areas - Sedgefield, Cassop and Kelloe.

Comments/concerns raised with the application were as follows –

- How do we know if the same families are receiving the packs?
- Can we make sure that the groups are not delivering activities/meals at the same time?
- It was suggested that we ask ATOMS CIC to support Sedgefield instead of the Trimdon(s). **Action: CC**
- Gap in younger age group in Sedgefield. Do we need to go back to all groups and ask if they're engaging with nursery schools/childcare/pre-school families? May be for another meeting/conversation. Claire Craft highlighted that schools and nurseries can apply to the HAWHF scheme. She had worked on an application in another AAP area and it had been signed off.
- The Out of Hours School Club in Sedgefield had not been approached. **Action: AB to look at something for them for HAWHF Summer 2021.**

The Board was happy to support this project.

Board members asked whether we could start asking applicants for postcodes so we could map provision across our area as some members were concerned that some villages may be missing out.

6 Local Neighbourhood Issues

Police Update

Neighbourhood Inspector Sarah Honeyman provided an update on local policing issues –

- Update from Durham area – ongoing issue with quad bikes.
- Update from Terry Hill, Peterlee Sgt – issues with quad bikes in Trimdon. They have issued a 183 which is a warning before bikes can be seized when they are not on roads at the time. Several quad bikes have been seized from the surrounding villages. Burglary in Windsor Gardens – all safeguarding measures are in place and the investigation is ongoing. A

few properties around Main/Lilac Crescent have been reported and the team are doing regular foot patrols and lots of engagement is taking place.

- Quad bikes – this is a big issue across the force. Sarah has taken the lead for the south of the area. We need to identify who has got them and where they are stored.
- Alex Clarke has worked with Crime Stoppers on quad bikes. They have agreed to advertise rewards for information leading to the seizure of the bikes. Literature to be shared with the AAP.
- Farming community – Sarah had spoken with the Secretary for the Farmers Union and no meetings have taken place; but they have been kept updated. A funding bid is to be submitted for dot markers.
- Work on the Trimdon survey is ongoing. There will be an update at the next meeting.
- Facebook posts around dog thefts have been blown out of proportion. There have been 24 force wide in the last 12 months.

Questions raised/comments made in relation to Sarah's update included -

- Sarah said she was unaware that there had been a stabbing in Windsor Gardens (last Thursday) and agreed to find out the background around this.
- A question was asked about the law on cold callers. Sarah agreed to speak to Chris Varty after the meeting following an incident involving an elderly resident.
- Durham County Council Scrutiny Committee have picked up on the countywide issue with quad bikes.

7 Neighbourhood Budget Approvals

There were no neighbourhood budget projects to share with the Board as the EDRC AAP were spent up. Jane thanked Lyndsey, Claire and the local councillors for their hard work.

8 Date and time of next board meeting

Dates of future board meetings are to be confirmed.

Everyone was thanked for their attendance.