

**STANLEY AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP  
BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE STANLEY AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING**

Held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 1.00pm via Teams

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors**

Cllr Olga Milburn  
Cllr Jeanette Stephenson  
Cllr Lyn Boyd  
Cllr Joan Nicholson  
Cllr Carole Hampson  
Cllr Joyce Charlton

**Partner Organisations**

Alan Tubman (Stanley Town Council)  
Suzanne Jobson (Karbon Homes)  
Insp. Dave Stewart (Durham Constabulary)  
Martyn Stenson (Durham County Council)  
Karen Brown (Business Representative)  
Michael Pearson (Fire & Rescue Service)

**Public Representatives**

Nerise Oldfield-Thompson (Chair)  
Linda Tyman  
Helen McCaughey  
Kevin Howe  
Vicky Walton  
Gordon Binney

**OFFICER**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Daniel O'Brien (AAP Coordinator)  
Andrea Boyd (Community Development Support Officer)  
Lesley Lines (Support Officer)

**APOLOGIES:**

Katie Platten and Cllr Bala Nair

**PUBLIC**

**ATTENDANCE**

Two members of the public observed the meeting.

**1. Introductions and Apologies:**

Nerise Oldfield-Thompson (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made. Apologies are noted above.

**2. Declaration of Interest:**

AAP Board Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interest in relation to the agenda items; Nerise, Linda, Vicky and Joyce declared an interest in Item 8.

**3. Agreement of the minutes – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and Matters Arising:**

Nerise went through the previous Board Meeting minutes page by page. The minutes were agreed as a true record.

Signed (Chair of meeting) .....

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**3.1 Matters Arising:**

**Advice Services** - Daniel advised Sam Scotchbrook, Advice in County Durham's Network Development Officer was working on a pilot project brief to expand the advice and guidance services across the Stanley area, working with The Venue and other community buildings. Kevin highlighted the importance of incorporating in the new advice services software into any future pilot. Daniel advised this was a key consideration.

**Fuel Poverty** - Daniel advised he had spoken to the Warmer Homes Team DCC who were looking into the use of energy vouchers. He advised more work was needed. More information to follow.

**Newsletter** – Due to the Pre-Election Publicity Period this cannot be looked at until after the May Elections. Working with Stanley Town Council this will be hopefully produced in the Summer.

**Christmas Tree Lights** – Daniel advised this piece of work would need a long lead-in as there was significant work to be done. He highlighted the need for a sub-group to be brought together to work on this. Anyone interested in joining to contact Daniel.

**Darren McMahon MBE** - Daniel advised he had sent a letter to Darren on behalf of the Stanley AAP Board and Staff Team to congratulate him on receiving his MBE and his work in the local community.

**4. Community Risk Management Plan**

Michael Pearson, Fire & Rescue Service briefly spoke on the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) Consultation 2021-2024 for the Fire Service and showed a brief video detailing the consultation.

The Service want to hear your views to help make decisions on how they use their resources to prevent and respond to emergencies in the future. Information can be found on their website, twitter and Facebook page.

Visit our website and fill in our online survey; <https://www.ddfire.gov.uk/news/consultation-community-risk-management-plan-2021-24>

**5. Neighbourhood Issues and Locality Policing Issues**

**Police** – Dave thanked the AAP for the funding the Police had received to buy the two EBikes. He advised these would be used for the first time this weekend to tackle ASB in Craghead and Quaking Houses.

**Road Policing Unit – Operation Meris** – The Police have been active in the Stanley and Consett area using NPR cameras to tackle uninsured drivers and drink/drug drivers.

**Lockdown** – Increase in ASB – Staffing and tactics are in place to tackle these incidents.

**6. AAP Coordinator Update:**

**6.1 Town & Villages Funding Report** – Daniel advised £300,000 of extra funding would be aligned to Stanley AAP. This money can be spent over the next 3 years up to 2024. He added a Task Group with a Town & Villages strand would be set up to take this work forward. He envisaged an action plan/schedule would be drawn up by the Task Group giving key aspirations, taking into account the comments received from the 'Better for Everyone

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Events' which took place in November last year.

Lyn advised there had been some great improvements in Stanley however, a timeline for what this funding would be used for would be useful.

Daniel advised extra staff would be aligned to this funding to work alongside AAP staff, although details of the staff were unknown at this time.

Jeanette advised she would like to see Officers out and about engaging with the community/community groups as we start to come out of lock-down.

Joyce asked if the wages for the extra staff would be coming out of the funding. Daniel advised that the wages would be paid from another pot. The £300,000 was for Stanley AAP to allocate.

Olga asked that the work of the Masterplan Group be incorporated within this work.

Daniel advised that no meetings would be allowed until after the elections in May.

The Chair highlighted the mammoth task ahead for the Stanley AAP Board and Staff Team.

## 6.2 **Stanley AAP Funding Report - Financial position (funding)**

To date under the COVID-19 Recovery Fund (Area Budget and combined small pots) we have supported £94.6k for local projects from our original resource. The remaining £50k will be 'carried forward' to be available alongside other funding we are receiving for the next financial year. This is inclusive of the emergency funding we set aside.

Therefore, the funding picture for 2021/22 is below with those in "**BOLD**" subject to change:

- £300,000 Towns and Villages funding (available over 3x years)
- £100,000 Local anti-poverty and coronavirus response fund
- £100,000 Area Budget funding
- £50,308.37 'Carried Forward' Area Budget funding (from 2020/21)
- £43,641 Holiday Activity with Healthy Food (HAWHF)\*
- **£25,000 Older Peoples Social Isolation Fund**
- **£9,902 Youth Fund**
- **£10,000 Welfare Reform Fund**

Giving a grand total of £638,851.37

If those highlighted in **BOLD** are to be removed, then the figure equates to £593,949.37.

\*The £43,641 HAWHF fund is our part of a £2m+ grant from the Department for Education to the authority to continue to support children on free school meals primarily. This is an increase for our AAP area of over £20k on last year's funding and has been calculated by the numbers of children within AAPs areas on free school meals and the % of children aged 5-15 living in

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the top 30% most deprived areas. As this is the formula being applied to conform to the conditions of the grant it means that all the AAPs have differing amounts depending on the above levels.

The HAWHF fund for Easter 2021 was launched on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 with a new fund level of over £500 per application (no upper limit).

### **Opportunities and impacts**

The Board will be able to see the positive potential of this extra funding as a whole and the difference it will be able to make within our communities.

The additional funding will not change how AAPs are framed or governed and we will continue to retain our structure of Board, Task Groups and Forums where appropriate. The funding may impact on how 'Task Groups' are configured to give focus on particular strands or themes such as anti-poverty for example.

Increased local partnership working is something which would be welcomed given the level of opportunity and funding, alongside local engagement with communities.

The extra funding further strengthens the role of AAPs, our work in the local community and reinforces our positive response to the pandemic. Further details/guidance on the extra £100k for anti-poverty/COVID-19 response is still to follow.

Daniel highlighted the real opportunity to get funding where it is needed. A project call-out will be launched in May after the Election.

### **6.3 Board Meeting Schedule 2021-22**

Daniel advised Board Meetings would continue via Teams for the foreseeable future. He proposed that the next meeting after the Pre-Election Publicity Period would be Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June and that would also be our AGM. He advised that monthly meetings, held every second Wednesday of the month would be beneficial as we have a lot to work on during 2021/22. He asked for Board Members preferences regarding meeting times.

It was highlighted that the timings of the meeting might be better confirmed after the Elections.

It was suggested that future meetings be recorded. Daniel highlighted the problems with this, and a discussion took place. It was agreed that the Board Meetings would not be recorded.

Kevin added the public (Members of the Forum) could be invited where local people need to have an input i.e. future Task Group meetings on a particular topic/delivery strand.

The Chair agreed online sessions could be looked into for Task Group meetings.

## **7. Partner Work Update / Stanley specific items of interest:**

7.1 **Stanley Town Council** – Alan advised the Town Council would be happy to work with Daniel on the Newsletter. He advised the Town Council were also having Elections in May. Alan also highlighted that Stanley in Bloom would be continuing this year. Joyce highlighted the use of the Town Centre Banners to advertise and promote.

7.2 **Karbon Homes** – Suzanne advised The Skills Hub was now open with The Credit Union also back on the Front Street.

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7.3 **SHAID** – Kevin gave an update from an organizational point of view. He highlighted Domestic Violence was on the increase and was pleased to advise that due to Crime & Commissioner Funding five people; staff and volunteers had completed Domestic Violence Practitioner training with distinctions and were ready to work within the community.

7.4 **Business** – Daniel gave an update on Love Beamish & Stanley (LB&S) behalf of Karen – appointed Sue Smith (now on Committee) working within Purple Dragon – as a Business Support Coordinator to help member engagement, driving social media, and improving website engagement. We have 67 members and around 30 who have stopped engaging – possibly closing down.

LB&S involved in Stanley Masterplan – had two separate meetings – particularly to maximise business from Tanfield Railway and Beamish Museum.

Health & Well-being Video campaign. New map and possibly postcard of Stanley Town Centre.

7.5 **Fire Service** – Michael advised the service was confined to barracks for the foreseeable future - only allowed to respond to emergencies.

## 8. Neighbourhood Budget Summaries

### **PACT House – PactLights**

The project is to support the community through the lockdown. The aim is to use this funding to pay our qualified Counsellor to provide one to one telephone support regarding specific mental health issues to these vulnerable residents on a weekly basis.

**Project Cost: £16,621.60**

**Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £3,950**

### **DCC Neighbourhoods – Century Terrace Verge Hardening**

The project is to create a hard-standing area in the Village that will elevate access difficulties and will also prevent further damage to the grass verge area, all round promoting a safer environment for both vehicles and pedestrians using the area.

**Project Cost: £14,292.09**

**Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £14,292.09**

### **Just for Women – Feel Good Hampers**

The Feel Good Hampers are for the older residents of Stanley; just to let them know they are not alone, and that people are thinking about them, this can give them a morale boost. As part of the hampers they will receive a variety of goods which could include; flowers, chocolates, fudge, and hand creams etc. We try and personalise these to meet the needs of the residents.

**Project Cost: £4,800.00**

**Councillor Mark Davinson Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Lyn Boyd Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Olga Milburn Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £600**

**Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £600**

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**Catchgate Primary School – Safer COVID Cleaning**

The project is to support the school to be able to take additional measures to support the staff who carry out routine and specialist cleaning tasks. We will procure a bio blaster cleaning gun, 3 portable cleansers for entrances / heavy traffic areas and cleaning solution for the equipment. It will enable us to continue to deliver education and childcare provision to children of keyworkers, the vulnerable and from those year groups who have chosen to return to school in a safe environment.

**Project Cost: £833.05**

**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £833.05**

**Annfield Plain Junior School – Protecting Our Future**

The project is to support the school to be able to take additional measures to support the staff who carry out routine and specialist cleaning tasks. We will procure a bio blaster cleaning gun, fogging machine, and protective office screens as well as additional cleaning solution for the equipment. It will enable us to continue to deliver education and childcare provision to children of keyworkers, the vulnerable and from those year groups who have chosen to return to school in a safe environment.

**Project Cost: £2,321.15**

**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £2,321.15**

**Annfield Plain Infant School – COVID Cleaning Preparation**

The project is to support the school to be able to take additional measures to support the staff who carry out routine and specialist cleaning tasks. We will procure a fogging machine and protective equipment as well as additional cleaning solution for the equipment. It will enable us to continue to deliver education and childcare provision to children of keyworkers, the vulnerable and from those year groups who have chosen to return to school in a safe environment.

**Project Cost: £979.99**

**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £979.99**

**Tanfield Lea Primary School – COVID Cleaning**

The project is to support the school to be able to take additional measures to enhance routine and specialist cleaning tasks. The purchase of a Bio Blaster Sanitising gun and specialist sanitising solution, will sanitise the building and its contents using a fine mist that dries quickly enabling swift sanitisation of a whole classroom in minutes on a weekly basis. It will enable us to continue to deliver education and childcare provision to children of keyworkers, the vulnerable and from those year groups whom have chosen to return to school in a safe environment.

**Project Cost: £1,745.76**

**Councillor Olga Milburn Contribution: £1,745.76**

**Catchgate and Annfield Plain Action Partnership – Summer Activities**

The project is to support the Partnership to provide a packed lunch 3 days a week for children, and a weekly activity pack, for them to use when they go out for walks or outings with their parents or guardians. We are also doing 3 weekly activities where we can run sessions of up to 10 children as per COVID regulations, with qualified volunteers in well ventilated safe buildings. This will range from cookery classes to art classes, Baby Bloom a gardening competition for the kids along with a Sunflower competition.

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**Project Cost: £4,500.00**  
**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £1,000.00**  
**Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £1,000.00**

**DCC Regeneration – South Moor Heritage Trail**

The project aim is to restore the antique and original cobble 'Fan' paving at the site of Ivy Terrace, South Moor and the former Coal Depot which forms part of the recently installed South Moor Heritage Trail. We want to continue to encourage people to use the Trail and this improvement work at Ivy Terrace is key to that ongoing engagement and the Trail's future use.

**Project Cost: £15,000.00**  
**Councillor Mark Davinson Contribution: £6,000.00**  
**Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £6,000.00**

**DCC Neighbourhoods – Dropped Kerbs Tanfield**

The project aim is to improve accessibility around the Epworth area of Tanfield. Highways identified a suitable location where 3 dropped kerbs could be installed. This specific location will link in with existing dropped kerb locations providing maximum access around the area which will be beneficial to everyone coming in and out of the area especially those with mobility issues and those with accompanying pushchairs.

**Project Cost: £3,600.00**  
**Councillor Olga Milburn Contribution: £3,600.00**

**DCC Neighbourhoods – Annfield Plain Gateways**

The project aim is to carry out works to improve the village gateways. This will include the installation of white gateway fencing, changes to the 30mph signs to replace them with enhanced yellow backed signs to make the signs more visible to approaching traffic, moving the village nameplates to enhance their visibility in line with the gateway features. New slow road markings with enhanced red surface, rumble strips, dragon's teeth and hazard marker posts located in the verge side.

**Project Cost: £17,377.00**  
**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £17,377.00**

**DCC Neighbourhoods – Stop Unauthorised Parking**

The project aim is to enhance an area of land within Annfield Plain that is currently being used for unauthorised Parking. This is churning the area up and causing mess, as well as over parking in the area. It is proposed to erect a small fence around the area and plant within the space, so that it protects the open space and prevents unauthorised parking along with making the area more aesthetically pleasing for the local residents.

**Project Cost: £2,000.00**  
**Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £2,000.00**

**Stanley Young Peoples Club – Roof Replacement**

The project will support the Club to replace the roof on main hall, as it is currently raining in with the bad weather. Also, there is a need to replace the internal suspended ceiling tiles in the main hall. The area is used for youth club activities and is a well-used space. Once the roof is fully repaired, we will be able to safely increase our numbers and provide much needed activities and services to young people in these unprecedented times.

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**Project Cost: £12,000.00**  
**Councillor Mark Davinson Contribution: £4,500.00**  
**Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £4,500.00**

**White le Heads Bowling Club – Storage Container**

The project will see White-le-Head Bowls Club purchase a storage container that would be used to store all of the Club's equipment; delivery mats, pushers, ring numbers, markers, spare woods, chairs, tables, electric blower, water sprinkler, hose, and cleaning equipment. This would enable the Club to maintain and hopefully increase bowling participation levels of local residents when it is safe to do so. The project enhances the Bowling Club and will make it safer, more accessible, and more welcoming to our members and visiting bowling teams who we play against during the Summer League.

**Project Cost: £2,510.00**  
**Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £2,510.00**  
**Tantobie Cricket Club – Club Support**

The project will help the Club cover costs for content insurance and players insurance. The player insurance also covers officials/volunteers, so if we are doing pitch inspections or any work whilst the Club is not operating, we are fully insured. The Club is a well-used recreational facility for young people and adults. We will support the community coming out of COVID by helping to improve mental health and tackle social isolation; when we can start to practice and play safely adhering to government guidelines.

**Project Cost: £1,000.00**  
**Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £500.00**  
**Councillor Olga Milburn Contribution: £500.00**

**Durham Constabulary – EBikes & Safer Homes**

The project will support the purchase of two EBikes equipped with first aid kit, hi-vis equipment, enabling them to be available to be deployed 7 days a week across the area. This will allow officers to respond to incidents that are inaccessible by vehicles whilst improving public confidence and increasing visibility of officers, as well as carrying out proactive patrols. Safer Homes kits will also be purchased to support vulnerable residents to feel safe and secure in their homes.

**Project Cost: £9,659.03**  
**Councillor Mark Davinson Contribution: £1,911.25**  
**Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £1,911.25**

**North Road Gym – Heating Project**

The project is to support the gym connect a gas supply and install a heating system into the premises. They currently rely on portable gas fires to provide some heat to the gym when required. By installing the heating system, it will make it a more inviting for the members of the gym and any parents/guardians that accompany the members.

**Project Cost: £9,627.58**  
**Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £8,327.58**

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The following projects all have a declaration of interest and require Board approval.

**Tanfield School – Food Technology & Recreational Student Facilities Project**

Cllr Joyce Charlton declared an interest

Project Cost: £15,000

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £1,600:

The Board Approved the Project.

**Quaking Houses Village Hall Outdoor Improvements & Banner Case Project**

Cllr Hampson declared an interest

Project Cost: £14,025

Councillor Mark Davinson Contribution: £4,071

Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £4,071:

The Board Approved the Project

**Annfield Plain Gateway Enhancement – Stanley Town Council**

Cllr. Jeanette Stephenson declared an interest

Project Cost: £17,377

Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £17,377:

The Board Approved the Project

Daniel thanked Board Members for replying to emails where a declaration of interest was submitted and Board approval was needed.

**9. Pre-notified Any Other Business:**

Daniel highlighted that Shotley Bridge Hospital Consultation was continuing online.

Activity through Football Consultation can also be found online.

**10. Next Meeting**

The Next Board Meeting will be held on:

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June (Board Meeting & AGM) at 1pm on Stanley AAP's dedicated Teams page.

For further details about these minutes please contact Stanley AAP office, Tel: 03000 265323.

Signed (Chair of meeting) .....

Date .....