



Better for everyone

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

Held on Wednesday 21st July 2021 at 4.00pm via Teams

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Angela Hanson
Cllr Christine Bell
Cllr Joan Nicholson
Cllr Carole Hampson
Cllr Jeanette Stephenson (Stanley Town Council)
Cllr Gordon Binney

Partner Organisations

Alan Tubman (Stanley Town Council)
Suzanne Jobson, (Karbon Homes) Chair
Martyn Stenson (Durham County Council)
Insp. Dave Stewart (Durham Constabulary)
Sgt. Terry Archbold (Durham Constabulary)

Public Representatives

Nerise Oldfield-Thompson, Vice Chair
Linda Tyman
Helen McCaughey

OFFICER

ATTENDANCE:

Daniel O'Brien (AAP Coordinator)
Andrea Boyd (CDPO)
Lesley Lines (AAP Support)
Jennifer Jones (Community Action Team, Durham County Council)

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Carl Marshall, Kevin Howe, Michael Pearson (County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service), Joanne Clennell (NHS County Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Vicky Walton.

PUBLIC

ATTENDANCE:

None

1. Introductions and Apologies:

Suzanne Jobson (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies are noted above.

2. Declaration of Interest:

Board members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interest in relation to the

Signed (Chair of meeting)

Date

agenda as per the AAP Terms of Reference. None were raised.

3. Agreement of the minutes – 9th June 2021 and Matters Arising:

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

Matters Arising – To be picked up later in the agenda.

4. Community Action Team – South Moor

Jennifer Jones, Community Action Team, Durham County Council gave a presentation.

Jennifer highlighted the work of the Community Action Team who are currently based in South Moor for seven weeks. Two weeks before the work commenced a consultation within the area had taken place with residents and partners to highlight localised problems. The main problems identified by the consultation have been rubbish; dumped in gardens, yards, on streets, and wasteland, pests, empty properties, and properties needing attention, and dog fouling. The project involves a multi-task force working with partners including the Police, Durham County Council, Karbon Homes and The Fire Rescue Service to take action to remedy the problems identified and educate local residents.

Informal letters were sent to problem residents asking them to comply with requests to remove rubbish and black bags which were causing a problem with rats. Neighbourhood Wardens are continuing to take further action including Enforcement Action to households that do not comply.

Weekly Walkabouts will continue and improvements are already being seen in the area. The main themes/problem areas from the walkabout have been rats, defective manhole covers, fly tipping, smashed windows, weeds, litter, rundown buildings, condition of unadopted roads/paths and the old Greenland School.

A Question-and-Answer session took place:

Q. Snap Survey: how many were returned?

A. 22 surveys were returned although other avenues such as telephone calls and speaking with residents were also used as intelligence.

Q. Has Karbon been involved within the Walkabout?

A. Yes, they have and are getting involved in door knocking

Q. Playing in Street initiative has this started yet?

A. Yes, there are a couple of streets that have been highlighted as pilot areas. I will pass the details onto Daniel to circulate.

The Chair thanked Jennifer for attending and updating the Board on the work of the Community Action Team in South Moor.

5. Neighbourhood Issues and Locality Policing Issues:

5.1 Daniel highlighted that he had received a complaint around Horse Riders using the Sustrans Cycle Track. The person who complained believed that this was not allowed.

A discussion took place.

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Daniel to clarify the matter with Durham County Council.

Action: Daniel

It was further highlighted that motor bikes/Quad bikes were also using the track.

Insp. Stewart highlighted that one of the deterrents the Police were looking into was a long lens camera.

Sgt. Archbold gave an update on how useful the Police eBikes had been both in the Stanley area and wider Derwentside area. He advised three youths were arrested in the South Moor after a fire. They have also been used to support an initiative after midnight to check on the welfare of females. Sgt. Archbold highlighted the Police eBikes were proving to be a versatile tool in reducing Anti-Social Behaviour.

6. AAP Coodinator Update:

6.1 Towns and Villages Funding Report:

Daniel provided an overview of the newly aligned Towns and Villages Funding of £210,000 that Stanley AAP has received to allocate in our area from 2021 - 2024. Going forward the AAP will develop a programme of works that meet the particular needs and priorities of our area under the Towns and Villages banner and will look to invest the funding in projects and initiatives that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Localised environmental maintenance/enhancements.
- Enhancing community resilience.
- Time-limited financial support for current town and village centre businesses to maintain their presence in a locality.
- Time-limited support to assist with attracting new users/businesses to a centre.
- Projects that build on a centre's ability to attract new users to a location e.g., through the improvement of a visitor experience or development of an area's tourism potential.
- Accessibility improvements in order that more people can travel to (e.g., public transport/parking), and within (e.g., disabled access enhancements) a centre.
- Improvements to connectivity (walking and cycling).
- Improved IT connectivity for businesses and visitors.
- Public realm improvements, including addressing 'grot-spots' and parking issues on estates that impact on their open space areas.
- Initiatives to improve public safety in order that people feel more secure when living in or visiting a location.
- The creation of a vibrant community hub within a town or village centre.

Daniel advised that each County Councillor will also each receive £10,000 as a one off allocation towards Towns and Villages projects within their Electoral Divisions.

Daniel asked for Board approval to set up a dedicated Stanley AAP Towns and Villages Task Group to start and look at a forward plan, committed works, and project ideas. He highlighted

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that we have a Durham County Council Officer aligned to work alongside this Task Group who many would already know PJ Harding who now works within the Town and Villages Team.

Board Agreed.

Cllr Joan Nicholson highlighted 3.1 of the report. Stating the over-riding aim of the funding is to have a meaningful impact, and to ensure the public see a real difference, AAP Boards therefore should cap any spend on feasibility studies to a maximum of £30,000. She hoped that the area already knew what the problems were and did not need a feasibility study. Daniel agreed that the capped amount would be a big funding commitment and also hoped such an amount of funding would not be needed for any potential feasibility studies.

Daniel highlighted that the Stanley Masterplan would be a key document in helping to shape our Towns and Villages programme. He would contact Graham Wood for an update about the Masterplan.

Action: Daniel

6.2 Stanley AAP Annual Report 2020/21 Draft:

Daniel advised that Lesley had done a great job pulling all the key information together capturing our work in 2020/21 and that the fully designed draft copy had been sent to Board Members in advance of the meeting. Daniel asked the Board Members if they had any amendments, additions, or comments on the report and if they were happy to approve it to go onto the AAP Website and be circulated via email and Facebook.

Approved

6.3 Project Call Out and Community Recovery Task Group:

Daniel asked for the Board's input into our direction for a Project Call Out via the AAP for applications for funding to support the local community: A discussion followed.

Cllr Joan Nicholson asked how new groups could be found and supported via AAP funding? Daniel advised he hoped Board Members and all Councillors would spread the word and engage with any new and existing groups within their areas in the hope they are able to formulate projects for the benefit of their areas and apply for funding support from the AAP.

Linda advised that Stanley AAP's Directory would be useful in contacting new and existing groups and organisations about funding opportunities. Daniel agreed this was a great idea and that the Team would pick this up for action.

Action: Stanley AAP Staff Team

Nerise highlighted that 'The Stanley Community Fund' was currently live and open for applications until the closing date of the 31st August 2021. Their appraisal Panel would meet in September. She advised waiting until September before launching the AAP's Project Call Out for applications and to liaise with the County Durham Foundation about successful and unsuccessful applications in due course.

Agreed

Daniel asked for Board approval to form a Stanley AAP Community Recovery Task Group to begin the process of looking at potential projects prior to the Project Call Out and speak to any potential applicants prior to our launch in September.

Agreed

6.4 Board Vacancies Update:

Daniel advised that two applications had been received for the two vacant Public Representative positions on the AAP Board. They will both be interviewed on Microsoft Teams in the next two weeks.

Business Representative – Daniel informed the Board that he is to meet with representatives from Love Beamish & Stanley early in August 2021 to discuss the role in more detail and

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ascertain if they are the most appropriate organisation to take up the position on the Board and liaise with the local business community about the work of the AAP.

Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) Representative – Daniel informed the Board that he is to pull an advert together for the role and circulate it via email and on Facebook. Potential applicants will have to provide evidence of their involvement with the VCS in the area.

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

7.1 Karbon Homes – Suzanne advised the Karbon Homes Skills Hub is still active and open every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday although appointments are needed.

Karbon Homes staff are running a Holiday Squad at North Durham Academy – Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday over the school Summer Holidays for children and young people as part of the Fun & Food programme.

Suzanne updated the Board about the work that Karbon Homes had been carrying out with the support of Metro Dynamic’s to gain a better understanding of the area’s strengths and weaknesses, and the opportunities and challenges it faces, in the hope of developing a place-based approach for Karbon’s work in the Stanley area. Suzanne thanked the Board for their involvement in the process last year and informed them that a Summary Report of the work completed to date would be circulated to them after the meeting for comment, and that Karbon Homes will engage with them again on the approach at our next Board Meeting in September.

Karbon Homes are also reviewing how we engage with and speak to our customers via our Area Forum to ensure our customers and tenants are satisfied with our services and are able to input into our work.

7.2 Durham County Council – Martyn highlighted the Fun & Food Holiday Activities with Healthy Food website where Information was available to help families find out about activities close to them and the County Council’s Community Hub where families and individuals are able to access information, advice and guidance if they are self-isolating or experiencing any problems at the current time or they can pick up the phone to speak to a member of staff of the Community Hub for one-to-one support.

Martyn also advised that a large number of referrals had already been received over the Summer and staff were trying to help and assist as best they can, but the pandemic has caused some staff shortages.

7.3 Stanley Town Council – Alan informed the Board that the Judging for Stanley in Bloom’s entry into Northumbria in Bloom had been taking place today. A great deal of work and effort has gone into the submission throughout the area, and he thanked all the staff, volunteers, and schoolchildren involved.

Alan highlighted to the Board that a Civic Hall Cinema Poster is on their Facebook page publicising the eight films that will be shown over three weeks during the Summer Holidays at the cost of £1 for under 16s. And the following Play in the Park schedule:

Play in the Park – Summer 2021

Wed 4th August – North Durham Academy

Sat 7th August – Oakies Park

Wed 11th August – South Moor, Greenland School

Sat 21st August – Annfield Plain Park

Signed (Chair of meeting)

Date

Wed 25th August – Craghead, Millennium Green
All Events are 10am – 3pm

8. Neighbourhood Budget Summaries:

8.1 St Joseph’s RCVA Primary School – IT Equipment

The project will enable the school to purchase iPads for remote learning for the children who don't have access to a computer or tablet at home. As home learning has an increased element of video teaching and online support from teachers, working without online access puts children at a distinct disadvantage. During lockdown and during bubble closures, additional iPads would allow children fair access to the resources online.

Project Cost: £2,080.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £2,080.00

8.2 Shield Row Primary School – IT Equipment

The project will enable the school to buy eight iPads. Due to lockdown the majority of our pupils are learning from home, therefore to ensure high quality teaching/education is still provided, it is important that all our home learners have a device at home, so they can access our online learning offer, the school already loaned out all their devices they had so this will provide all children that need a device provision to take part in home learning.

Project Cost: £2,043.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £2,043.00

8.3 Tantobie Association for Sport and the Community (TASC) – Holiday Clubs

The project will provide weekly Dance/Gymnastics sessions as well as Holiday clubs (with healthy food) for local children and young people from Tantobie and the surrounding areas, thus supporting local families with low cost activities/childcare. Providing weekly active sessions will also help with the children's physical and mental welfare as well as providing food and nourishment for children in a safe environment during the periods when parents struggle to balance work with childcare.

Project Cost: £2,650.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton £1,850.00

8.4 Burnside Primary School – Remote Learning

The project will ensure all children in the school have access to home learning. Schools are being asked to offer remote learning to all children so that if they need to be at home due to COVID related illness or isolation, they will still have the same offer of education as the children who are attending school. Many children in the school do not have the required devices to support home learning, therefore the project will enable this to happen.

Project Cost: £2,400.00

Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £2,000.00

8.5 Stanley Events – Football Centre Redevelopment

The project will support and implement the recent full feasibility study that was produced to further enhance the facility. The redevelopment will meet the current and future needs of the wider community and create a state-of-the-art facility for football, health, exercise, training, and social activity.

Project Cost: £21,200.00

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Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £11,800.00

8.6 Quaking Houses Second Street Allotment Association – Allotment Development

The project will assist the further development of the Allotment Association, consisting of the purchase of a new bee apiary, secure external fencing and the repair and replacement of some internal fencing. The plan is to secure the perimeter of the site with secure fencing, something that has caused complaints and concern from members. Also make available petrol-powered garden equipment to ensure members can keep their plots up to a good standard.

Project Cost: £27,548.00

Councillor Carole Hampson Contribution: £2,500

Councillor Mark Davinson Contribution: £2,500

8.7 Durham County Council Regeneration - Causey Arch Laybys

The project aim is to carry out repairs to the laybys that have been damaged over time with usage, especially over the last year where the area has been attracting more people taking their daily exercise within the area. The works will benefit local residents and visitors to the area, promoting a safer environment for vehicular traffic and pedestrians.

Project Cost: £2,995.00

Councillor Olga Milburn Contribution: £2,995.00

8.8 Tanfield School – Student Recreation Facilities

The project will enable the improvement of the teaching and learning, and social environment within the school. The project will see the food technology classroom updated with a new kitchen installation, along with four new ovens.

The staff car park has also been redeveloped and made into a recreational yard for students, we are looking to install some new picnic benches, football goals, netball posts, table tennis table, line marking and storage to the area.

Project Cost: £15,000.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £1,600.00

8.9 Shield Row Gardens Residents Association & Neighbourhood Watch – IT Suite

The project will provide new up to date IT equipment including desktop PCs and printers. The tech will be of great benefit to the group and its members who are elderly and live alone, as using the internet and digital social platforms can help combat social isolation and improve their health and wellbeing.

Project Cost: £1,137.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £1,128.00

8.10 Catchgate and Annfield Plain Action Partnership (CAP-AP) – Environmental Challenge

The project will support CAP-AP to enter the Northumberland in Bloom Competition. It will allow the Partnership to purchase horticultural materials such as topsoil and compost to facilitate the flower displays, also plant food, water retention crystals (to avoid the waste of water). They will also purchase additional equipment, like litter pickers, gloves, masks, hi-vis clothing (during Covid-19 this is a problem as people have to keep their own kits to avoid any chance of passing the virus to others). By having their own equipment, they will be able to organise litter picks more frequently.

Project Cost: £2,200.00

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Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £2,150.00

8.11 Durham County Council Clean & Green – Tantobie Open Space

The project will allow the installation of low fencing around an area of grassland within Tantobie that has a lot of issues with parking. The fencing will stop cars from gaining access. Trees will also be planted on the green space along with a picnic bench to allow local residents to enjoy the outdoors.

Project Cost: £4,000.00

Councillor Olga Milburn Contribution: £3,863.00

9. Pre-notified Any Other Business:

Working from the office – Daniel advised that the AAP Team had hoped to be Hybrid working from 26th July onwards, however DCC have delayed the return to offices opening until September.

when the Team hoped to get out and about in the community.

10. Next Meeting

The Next Board Meeting will be held on:

Wednesday 8th September at 4pm 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