

Spennymoor Area Action Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

Date:	Thursday, 11 th July 2019, 6.00pm - 8.00pm	
Location:	Croxdale Community Centre, 13 Rogerson Tce, Croxdale, DH6 5HJ	
Present:	<p>Elected Councillors Cllr Kevin Thompson (Cllr KT) Cllr Michael Ord (Cllr MO) Cllr Liz Maddison (Cllr LM) Cllr Ian Geldard (Cllr IG) Cllr Paul Humble (Cllr PH)</p> <p>Partner Organisations Insp Warren Edwards (InspWE) Jenny Haworth (JH) De Hickson (DH) Nigel James (NJ)</p> <p>Public Representatives Agnes Armstrong (AA) Nikki Skinner (NS) Bill Noble (BN) Kay Seymour (KS) Sandra Wyper (SW)</p> <p>Other Attendees Michael Wilkes (MW) Peter Henderson (PH) Lynn Cummings (LC)</p>	<p>Other Attendees Public Val Mortimer (VM) Sue Lupton (SL) Sara Courtley (SC) Elizabeth Jowett (EJ) Phillip Bennett (PB) Peter Molloy (PM) Sue Noble (SN) Karen James (KJ) Paul Taphouse (PT) Shirley Taphouse (SP) Edward Taphouse (ET) Neil Foster (NF) Don Gordon (DG) Judith Machin (JM) Ian Machin (IM) Barbara Brown (BB) Pat Lawton (PL) K Owens (KO) J Owens (JO) Elaine Laurie (EL) Lauren Summers (LS) P Billingham (PB)</p>
Apologies:	Cllr Alan Gardner, Ian Walker, Mick Clark, Norman Vaulks, Barbara Harker, Cllr Neil Grayson. Kirsty Wilkinson, Peter Yarbrough, Cllr Peter Atkinson and Dean Ranyard	

1.	<p>Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>BN welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed Cllr Paul Humble as the Town Council Member representative on the Board. BN stated, as the new Data Protection rules (GDPR) had come in to force and as the Board meetings are recorded and posted on the Durham County Council (DCC) website, if anyone was requesting to be anonymous when participating in discussions to state so.</p> <p>BN invited the Board to introduce themselves. Apologies were noted, and there were no declarations. MW stated Cllr Alan Gardner had resigned as a Board member and MW would also be meeting with Cllr Neil Grayson next week to ascertain if he was still intending to sit on the Board.</p>
2.	<p>Agreement of Minutes of Previous AGM/Board Meeting 30th May 2019</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record.</p>
3.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>3 - Spennymoor News delivery to Byers Green – MW stated a meeting has been arranged for 16th July to discuss the circulation of Spennymoor News.</p> <p>3 – Attendance of Cllr Carl Marshal at Board meetings – MW stated this invite had been deferred to the January 2020 meeting.</p> <p>4b – Highways issues – MW stated the DCC Highways section representative will attend the January 2020 Board meeting.</p> <p>4b – PACT meeting info – MW stated dates, times and venues had been circulated around the Board and Forum.</p> <p>A question was raised asking who is responsible for the street and park cleaning after the Gala event. It was stated DCC will clear the streets and the Town Council will clear the park. It was also stated, following a request from a member of the public concerning glass after this year's Gala, the Town Council had cleared it.</p>
4.	<p>Local Neighbourhood Issues</p> <p>a) <u>Locality Policing Issues</u></p> <p>Insp WE gave an update to the Board on the current workload. Local crime statistics were also provided. Insp WE requested that certain individual cases, which had already been raised at previous public meetings, be taken in private and not discussed at this meeting due to privacy issues etc.</p> <p>It was stated shoplifting was a problem particularly in Asda in Spennymoor. It was stated this is being addressed on a regular basis.</p>

It was stated older residents do not feel safe in the town at night due to the large amount of youths congregating in the town centre.

Action: Insp WE stated he would report back with more in-depth statistics at the September Board Meeting to give a full picture of what's going on in the areas outlined.

A question was raised asking what the policy on alcohol is, particularly at town events. It was stated PCSO's can seize alcohol and then the ASB Teams would escalate it to inform the parents of the situation.

It was stated there is a large issue at present with shed and allotment break-ins. Cllr MO stated he is asking residents to report any incidents straight to the Police.

Action: Insp WE will speak to his counterpart in the Durham division concerning any issues in the Hett, Croxdale and Sunderland Bridge.

It was stated there currently are problems with drug dealing at Middlestone Moor on the bypass and in South View area. This has significantly increased and has also been mentioned at the PACT meeting

Action: Insp WE will report back on this issue at the September Board Meeting.

b) Local Neighbourhood Issues

A question had been forwarded asking for an update on Festival Walk and DurhamGate. It was stated there had been an announcement on the Festival Walk development this week. It was also noted that there would be a pre-planning consultation concerning Festival Walk in Spennymoor Town Hall on 18th July 10.00am – 6.00pm.

Action: MW will circulate more information on the consultation to the Board and Forum.

DG stated he would be happy to deliver letters to all the local shops in Spennymoor to advertise the consultation.

Action: MW to check with DCC Regeneration section informing them and enquiring how they are going to advertise the consultation.

A question was raised asking why the timescale is so short, from the news being announced and the consultation ending, it is only giving the public a week to give their views. It was stated the timescale is short to enable people to think about what they would like to see with Festival Walk prior to the actual consultation.

Action: Cllr KT stated he would investigate it and report back.

Action: It was suggested MW and JH report back to the Board and Forum with more structured information on the planning and pre-planning consultation stages.

A question was raised asking what the timescale for conclusion of the statutory requirement was. It was stated the stakeholders would oversee the process and the timescales.

A question was raised around School Governors and their replacement in the Tudhoe area.

Action: JH stated she would speak to DCC colleagues to glean more information and feedback on the two schools affected.

MW/AA referred to a leaflet that was distributed to attendees concerning changes to the repeat prescription process. It was felt residents needed to be aware this was happening and to contact their GP practices for more information on its impact.

c) Spennymoor Town Council Update

Cllr PH gave an update on the current projects and work the Town Council are promoting. He stated they had successfully delivered their first Armed Forces Day on the 29th June which was preceded by the unveiling of a bench in memory of the late Arnold Sanderson.

He also stated £500 of funding had been granted towards Middlefest which would be taking place on 27th July 2019.

PH stated visitor numbers had increased for the Bob Abley Art Gallery, the Cornish Centenary Exhibition, Cornish Trail and John Kitson Archway.

The Town Council wanted to remind people that, apart from the bowls, all facilities in Jubilee Park are free over the school holidays.

PH noted that the Party in the Park will take place 9th August 2019 and they would like to thank DCC Councillors and Livin for supporting the event. They also wanted to thank Livin for sponsoring the free Annual Town Show/Family Fun day in Jubilee Park on 7th September.

5 Presentations

a) A Vision for County Durham – County Durham Vision 2035

Jenny Haworth (DCC Head of Strategy) explained the A Vision for County Durham – County Durham Vision 2035 (available on request)

	<p>Following the presentation, it was opened for questions</p> <p>A question was raised asking what is happening with the County Durham Plan. It was stated this is ongoing and the vision should align with it.</p> <p>A question was raised asking what is being done about the infrastructure as traffic is a major problem across the County already and this would only get worst if the infrastructure is not in place.</p> <p>It was stated there is nothing in the County Durham Plan which contradicts the new Vision proposals. It was stated school improvements underpins this Vision and is supported by the Children & Young Peoples Strategy which is available online and on request from DCC.</p> <p>Action: MW will forward the link to the Children & Young Peoples Strategy to Board and Forum</p> <p>A question was raised asking how will children reach their potential while schools are being closed. It was stated an element of the County Plan must look at the infrastructure and school places will be addressed as this is a legal requirement.</p> <p>It was stated there are lots of inequalities across County Durham as most things seem to centre around Durham City. More consultation is needed in other areas not just the city centre. It was stated the Vision needs to be for all areas across the County and there has been extensive consultation with residents and partners to create the Vision.</p> <p>It was stated foodbanks and various child poverty problems still exist in this area. It was stated these issues are constantly being looked and a whole host of things are being done to address such issues.</p> <p>It was stated Ferryhill AAP operate a clothes bank and could this be looked at in Spennymoor AAP. It was stated this could be looked at. It was also noted that, in reference to holiday hunger etc, a more strategic overview was possibly required.</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>b) Employability, Upskilling & Discretionary Project</p> <p>Elaine Laurie (Bishop Auckland College) explained the Employability, Upskilling & Discretionary Project (available on request)</p> <p>Following the presentation, it was opened for questions but there were none</p>
<p>6.</p> <p>a)</p>	<p>Priorities</p> <p>Task & Finish Group Update</p>

	<p>MW explained that full Task & Finish Group updates would be provided at the September Board Meeting. MW also stated there had been a 'call out for projects' with a closing date of 9th August 2019 for both Task and Finish Groups.</p>
b)	<p>Neighbourhood Budget Application</p>
i)	<p><u>Mad Alice Theatre Company – Rose and Robin Stage Show</u></p> <p>PH gave an overview of the report available on request. The project will provide funding towards nine performances of the Mad Alice Theatre production of Rose and Robin. A play for children telling the story of their lives from childhood to old age.</p> <p>The application identifies a contribution of £750 each from Councilors Gardner and Grayson, £500 each from Councilors Geldard, Maddison and Thompson and £375 from Councilor Makepeace's Neighbourhood Budget allocation. The overall cost of the project is £3,375</p> <p>Recommendation: The Board agreed the recommendation and approved the application</p>
c)	<p>Neighbourhood Budget Application – Members Small Grant Fund</p>
i)	<p><u>Update Report</u></p> <p>PH explained the report (available on request)</p> <p><u>Spennymoor Aged Gala Committee – Spennymoor Gala 2019</u></p> <p>Councillors' Gardner, Geldard, Grayson, Maddison and Thompson supported the Spennymoor Aged Gala Committee with £190 each towards the cost of a Samba band, banners and flags for the Gala parade on 6th July 2019.</p> <p><u>Kirk Merrington Primary School – Brass 2019</u></p> <p>Councillor Atkinson supported Kirk Merrington Primary School with a total of £250 towards the provision of a brass concert in conjunction with DCC 2019 Brass Festival.</p> <p>Recommendation - The Board agreed the recommendation</p>
7.	<p>General AAP, Partner & Countywide Issues</p>
a)	<p>Public Representative Vacancy</p> <p>MW explained we had a Public Representative vacancy on the Board which has been filled by Mrs Pat Lawton. He also stated, due to Cllr Gardner's resignation,</p>

	<p>there would now be a Councillor vacancy to fill.</p>
b)	<p>Annual Review</p> <p>MW stated the new Annual Report template is not finalised yet but once it is the Annual Report will be circulated to Board and Forum.</p>
c)	<p>Business Forum</p> <p>MW stated he, along with NJ and other partners, are looking into setting up a Business Forum. It was noted that more information on this will follow in due course.</p>
8.	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>Next scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Thursday 19th September 2019, venue Kirk Merrington Village Hall.</p> <p>BN thanked everyone for attending and wished them a safe journey home.</p>