



Better for everyone

STANLEY AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP (AAP)

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 4.00pm via Teams

Present:

Councillors

Cllr Joan Nicholson

Cllr Carole Hampson

Cllr Jeanette Stephenson (Stanley Town Council)

Cllr Gordon Binney

Partner Organisations

Alan Tubman (Stanley Town Council)

Martyn Stenton (Durham County Council)

N Sgt Terry Archbold. (Durham Constabulary)

Max Wright (Business Representative)

Suzanne Jobson (Karbon Homes)

Public Representatives

Nerise Oldfield- Thompson

Vicky Walton

Officer Attendance: Daniel O'Brien (AAP Coordinator)

Andrea Boyd (Community Development Project Officer, CDPO)

Lesley Lines (AAP Support)

Graham Wood, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Antonia Howard, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Graeme Smith, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Cliff Duff, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Kelly Gilmore–Graze, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Susan Cousins, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Alan Hunter, Regeneration, Durham County Council

Joanne Ashworth, Towns & Villages, CDPO

Apologies:

Michael Pearson (County Durham and Darlington Fire and

Rescue Service), Helen McCaughey, Cllr Carl Marshall, Linda Tyman, Cllr

Signed (Chair of meeting)

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Public Attendance: Claire Hunter, and David Tully

Introductions and Apologies:

Daniel welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introductions were made and Daniel then handed over to the Stanley AAP Chair, Suzanne Jobson.

Apologies are noted above.

Declarations of Interest:

Stanley AAP Board Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in relation to the below Agenda items as per the AAP Terms of Reference. None declared.

Agreement of the minutes – 8th September 2021 and Matters Arising:

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

Matters Arising – there were no matters arising.

Towns & Villages Programme Presentation

Graham Wood, Economic Development Manager, Durham County Council:

Graham introduced himself and delivered a presentation covering the Towns & Villages Strategy that gives increased recognition of the issues and challenges facing communities via a Strategic Investment Plan of £20m and a £210k allocation to Stanley AAP and £10k one off allocations to Elected Members. Key areas of focus are; partnership working, aligning activities and budgets, and an equitable approach to disadvantaged communities via five key themes:

- Strategic Investments – support for town and neighbourhood centres
- Housing and Community - to support the accelerated delivery of the Housing Strategy, creating resilient communities
- Environment and Health - to create local opportunities through high quality environment
- Built Environment - to support regeneration activities within our towns and villages; find innovative solutions to underused / derelict land and buildings; support independent retailers and businesses; and to provide clean and attractive built environments that communities are proud of

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- Transport and Connectivity - to ensure connected communities through excellent connectivity for businesses and the workforce

The above information was followed by a snapshot of projects completed, projects in progress and projects to be delivered countywide, along with a slide covering projects that had been delivered in the Stanley AAP area.

Graham highlighted the funding breakdown and criteria for the Towns & Villages funding aligned to Stanley AAP and its Councillors and stated that a number of AAPs had set up Towns & Villages Task Groups.

Joanne Ashworth, Community Development Project Officer for Towns & Villages came in at this point and introduced herself to Stanley AAP Board Members and briefly outlined her role in supporting them in their Towns & Villages work. Daniel also advised that Stanley AAP's Towns & Villages Task Group held its first meeting last week.

The following queries were raised and answered by Graham including:

- Claire Hunter, Job Centre Plus highlighted that Employment in and around Stanley was a priority and was interested to know who the employers were within the area. Graham stated that the Job Centre would be linked into any future job opportunities
- Also Claire noted that transport links around Stanley needed improving. Graham noted that potential transport and connectivity schemes could be explored via the Towns & Villages programme.

The Chair thanked Graham for his presentation.

Housing Strategy Targeted Delivery Plans (TDPs) Presentation

Graeme Smith, Policy Team Leader, Durham County Council:

Graham introduced himself and his colleague Cliff Duff, Housing Regeneration Manager and delivered a presentation on the Housing Strategy Targeted Delivery Plans (TDPs) for New Kyo and Stanley Hall West. The TDPs serve to deliver an intensive, focused and coordinated program of activities in areas most in need across the County. Areas for TDPs are identified based on cumulative evidence ranking. Data considered included:

- Long-term empty homes.
- Median house price.
- Solid walls.
- Fuel Poverty.

The New Kyo TDP identified the above issues plus the prevalence of crime. The action framework for New Kyo is to:

- Support and maintain mixed and balance communities.
- Improve energy efficiency of properties.
- Provide care and support to older and vulnerable people.

The Stanley Hall West TDP identified the same key issues above but also highlighted income deprivation, income deprivation income affecting children, and health. In light of this an additional

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action framework area for Stanley Hall West is addressing poverty and the impacts of welfare reform in a housing context.

TDP activities to date include:

- New Kyo and Stanley Hall West – ECO energy efficiency / fuel poverty grants promoted via letter drops, door to door promotions and social media
- To date grants issued for 12 gas boilers, 1 central heating system, 2 homes insulated and 5 hybrid boiler grants
- Letter drop to all residents offering assistance from DCC’s Managing Money Better service on energy tariffs, fuel debts and Warm Homes Discounts
- Empty Properties – external inspection completed on empty properties

Future actions:

- Solid wall insulation grant project commencing in Jan 2022 to targeted streets in New Kyo and Stanley Hall West
- Joint working with Stanley Medical Group targeting patients with asthma or COPD to provide warmer homes
- Community Engagement exercise being planned for November using online and hard copy resident survey
- Engagement exercise will inform opportunities for bids to the Towns and Villages Fund

Graeme asked Board Members for any comments or queries on the outlined work areas above and asked for connections to key local organisations in the above areas to support them in delivery.

A number of suggestions came from the Board Members around local community groups that were currently active as well as local Schools and youth groups. Daniel advised that he had passed on information previously but was happy to do so again.

The Chair thanked Graeme and Cliff for their presentation.

Neighbourhood Issues and Locality Policing Issues:

Sgt. Terry Archbold gave an update on behalf of Stanley Police this included anti-social behaviour in and around Stanley particularly the Front Street where they have targeted back of shops. Adjustments to the buildings have been made via the use anti-climb paints and other materials and this has seen a drop in incidents.

Targeted work will be starting around the Home Bargains area next and hopefully this will reduce any further anti-social behaviour that is occurring in this area.

A Darker Nights campaign is also starting that will include a range of community safety initiatives and messages. One area being the number of open cars that are being targeted by thieves, so we will make owners more aware and remind them to lock their cars.

PCSO’s will also be contacting local schools and delivering road safety sessions.

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AAP Coodinator Update:

Task Groups Update:

Daniel advised that the first meeting of the Towns & Villages Task Group took place on Wednesday 6th October 2021 on Microsoft Teams prior to the Towns & Villages Presentation coming to the Board.

The next meeting of the Community Recovery Task Group is to take place on Wednesday 20th October 2021 at 2pm on Microsoft Teams.

Community Recovery Project Call Out:

Daniel informed the Board that following their agreement the Community Recovery Project Call Out communications have gone numerous times via email to all Stanley AAP Board, Forum, former and current Task Group Members, and via the Stanley AAP Facebook page.

Not for profit organisations and groups have until 5pm on Friday 22nd October 2021 to submit their Community Recovery Project application to Stanley AAP. This is done by contacting Stanley AAP to express an interest in applying and asking for the online link to the application.

The minimum organisations and groups can apply for is £5,000 and they must also upload their signed constitution, latest signed annual accounts, and a recent bank statement with their online application.

Hybrid Working

Daniel advised that Stanley AAP Staff return to their AAP Office in The Louisa Centre from November 2021 and would be working a hybrid model of at least three days in the office and two working from home.

Partner Work Update / Stanley specific items of interest:

Stanley Town Council

Alan Tubman updated the board on their progress which highlighted:

- Groups who used the Civic Hall pre-covid are returning and hiring facilities
- There is a current vacancy for a New Town Clerk
- Family cinema is returning in October half term for £1
- Panto is also back December and tickets are available
- Stanley Town Council were successful in Silver Gilt in the recent In Bloom judging

Love Beamish and Stanley

Max Wright gave a brief update advising that there was a Love Beamish & Stanley Committee Meeting the next day. They would be discussing their Health and Wellbeing videos project that they received Stanley AAP funding towards. There has been some take up to date, but we still have a number of slots available if any relevant organisations were interested in getting a free highly professional video done to capture their activities and promote them around the area.

Karbon Homes

Suzanne reported that Karbon Homes were starting their first Digi drop ins on a Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at the Skills Hub on Stanley Front Street, where there is free wifi and devices available. Additional skills courses were available in November as well as a Money Works course.

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There will be an open day on the 28th October 2021 from 12-4pm for stakeholders partners and employees to visit the Skills Hub.

Neighbourhood Budget Summaries:

Summary Description – Durham County Council – St Aiden’s Crescent

The project will see the existing carriageway on St Aiden’s Crescent being excavated and reshaped and 150mm of road planings with 20mm layer of Whindust laid, also patching with approximately 1 tonne of close graded macadam 10mm aggregate. This will allow easier access for residents and visitors to the area and prevent further damage to the road.

Project Cost: £9,465.83

Councillor Jeanette Stephenson Contribution: £8,314.91

Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution £1,150.92

Summary Description – Beamish Primary School – Outdoor Opal Project

The project will enable the School to make improvements to its outdoor equipment and outdoor spaces for themselves and the community. We are looking to buy heavy duty storage and large resources such as undercover welly storage with seating, with easy accessibility, large sandpit, mud kitchen, wheeled toys, waterproofs. The Opal project will help us promote healthy lifestyles, bringing children together not only with their school friends but families too.

Project Cost: £7,900.00

Councillor Lyn Boyd Contribution: £5,000.00

Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £2,500.00

Summary Description – Just for Women – Making Baking and Wellbeing

The project is to support the Just for Women Centre to reach a larger number of people needing to access the service they provide. A garden room will be built to create more space to facilitate and will require furniture such as tables, chairs, computer, audio, projector, and screen. Having equipment in the garden room will ensure it is fit for purpose in supporting more individuals.

Project Cost: £16,833.00

Councillor Lyn Boyd Contribution: £9,133.00

Summary Description – Annfield Plain Cricket Club – Roller Replacement 2021/2022

The project will help purchase a replacement roller for the cricket club. A roller is a vital part of any cricket club. No games can be played without pitches being rolled extensively prior to their use. unrolled wickets are very dangerous for any participants. Without the use of cricket wickets sport on the ground would cease to exist for our junior and senior players.

Project Cost: £10,800.00

Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £4,500.00

Councillor Christine Bell Contribution: £4,500.00

Small Grants:

Non-Approved since last report in September 2021.

Pre-notified Any Other Business:

None raised.

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Next Meeting:

The Next Board Meeting will be held on:

Wednesday 10th November 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