



STANLEY AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP (AAP)

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

Held on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 5.00pm via 'Teams'

Councillor

Cllr Joan Nicholson
Cllr Gordon Binney
Cllr Carole Hampson
Cllr Angela Hanson
Cllr Christine Bell

Partner Organisations

Martyn Stenton (Durham County Council)
Nerise Oldfield-Thompson (Voluntary & Community Sector)
Suzanne Jobson (Karbon Homes)
Barbara Edmundson (Integrated Care Board, NHS)
Helen Richardson (Stanley Town Council) Co-optee

Public Representatives

Linda Tyman
Helen McCaughey
John Ullathorne
Olga Milburn
Darren McMahon

Officer Attendance

Daniel O'Brien (AAP Coordinator)
Andrea Boyd (AAP Community Development Project Officer)
Lesley Lines (AAP Support Officer)
Joanne Ashworth (Town & Villages, Community Development Project Officer)

Apologies

Cllr Jeanette Stephenson (Stanley Town Council), Cllr Carl Marshall, N Insp Dave Stewart (Durham Constabulary), Max Wright (Business Representative), Vicky Walton (Public Representative), Jonathan Smith (Fire Service)

Public Attendance:

Eight members of the Forum/Public attended the meeting.

Introductions and Apologies:

Martyn Stenton, Acting Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies are noted above.

Declaration of Interest:

There were no expressions of interest.

Agreement of the Minutes – 20th December 2022 and matters arising not covered on this agenda:

The Minutes of 20th December 2022 were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Neighbourhood Issues and Locality Policing Issues:

Two crime types have increased significantly in the last ten months. The first is shoplifting. This has increased over the same period last year by 101%. It will be no surprise that the town centre is the location for the vast majority of these. It is also not likely to be a coincidence that this figure has increased while the cost of living becomes a greater challenge to more of us. I will say that while this crime type does not result in a level of direct harm as other crime types such as domestic abuse, child neglect it does account for an inordinate amount of time in terms of investigating.

The second crime type is theft from vehicles, which is up over the same period 58%. Most of these offences are the result of owners leaving their cars open by accident. It is an opportunist crime and thieves will tend to go out and commit several offences in the space of a few days. On a positive note, this type of crime has gone down in January, but the message is clear, please remember to lock your cars. We put this message out regularly and I know people get sick of being told (until their vehicle is broken into) so any help the AAP members can give in getting this message out to the people they represent is much appreciated.

In terms of youth related anti-social behaviour there is some positive news in that the numbers are down 13% over the last ten months and down 70% since the last meeting. The two previous hotspot areas, the town and Annfield Plain are showing ten-month reductions of 26% and 38% respectively. That said, we are working on dealing with and working with the youths who become identified as repeat offenders.

Daniel asked if Board Members had any other issues they would like to highlight to N Insp. Stewart.

Darren invited PCSO's to get involved with the Stanley Assistance Scheme Funding.

John asked for an update on the usage of the drones and if the long lens camera had been used to identify off road bikes? He also felt that there was very little Police presence seen in Stanley.

Daniel advised the PACT meeting for Stanley Town Centre, Shield Row and No Place is held at Stanley Indoor Bowls Centre. Helen Richardson asked for a forward plan of meetings. She advised she would advertise these meetings as the last one was publicised at short notice.

There were no other issues.

Stanley South Sustainable Drainage (SuDS+) Project Overview and Engagement Opportunities

Ed Rollason, Mark Davison, and Anastasia Vikhornova gave a presentation.

SuDS+ is an innovative DEFRA-funded project which aims to rewrite the way we tackle water challenges, like flooding, in the UK by working together with local people.

Traditionally, residents are only consulted at the end of the process giving them little say in what happens in their community. This project aims to work with residents to identify and meet the needs of the community, while reducing the chances of flooding. Hoping to build a picture of the water problem and devise resident-led solutions that go beyond traditional water infrastructure and address other pressing challenges like health, housing, education, energy, and employment.

Stanley South has been affected by flooding several times in the last decade after heavy rainfall. This has impacted residents' homes and the roads in the town. With increasingly unpredictable weather due to our changing climate this problem is likely to worsen.

Need for new solutions

Traditional drainage systems move rainwater as quickly as possible from where it falls to the river (in Stanley, this is the Stanley Burn) or to the sewage treatment plant via street manholes and underground pipes. On its way, the rainwater is mixed with wastewater from houses and commercial premises into a combined sewer system. When this network of pipes is overwhelmed by too much water from rain, or from houses and businesses, the network overflows, causing flooding and river pollution.

How SuDS can help with flooding:

There is an alternative approach where drainage systems improve the places and spaces where we live, work and play. These approaches are called Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). SuDS manage water quantity, improve water quality while also creating habitats, improving air quality, sequester carbon and create spaces for people to enjoy and play in. They are designed to reduce and slow the flow of water into the sewers. SuDS features hold water, treat it, and release it slowly, so the sewer systems are not overwhelmed during rainfall events. The use of SuDS is not new. Historically they were used to move water from one place to another. Drainage ditches and stone barriers have been used for centuries to hold back water. SuDS are now an important part of every new housing development and are essential for managing flooding into the future. There are a wide variety of possible SuDS features from individual household to community level.

It was highlighted that community input is key to the project and would be appreciated. Mark added that two engagement events were planned this week.

The Chair thanked Mark, Anastasia, and Ed for the presentation.

For more information visit our website stanleysuds.co.uk

If you have any questions, or would like to bring any flooding issues to our attention please get in touch:

Mark Davinson, SuDS+ Engagement Facilitator
mark.davinson@wear-rivers-trust.org.uk

AAP Coordinator Update:

Daniel updated on a range of initiatives that the AAP had been working on.

Poverty Task Group:

Stanley Assistance Scheme – Is now active with five partners delivering: PACT House, Annfield Plain Community Centre, Craghead Village Hall, South Stanley Partnership, and Quaking Houses Village Hall, with Stanley Town Council administrating the fund.

Warm Spaces:

A range of venues (21) are now open Monday to Sunday offering a warm space for residents struggling to heat their homes.

Fun & Food:

February Half Term 2023 & Easter 2023 – six projects have now been offered funding.

The application window is now live for Easter. Closes 12noon on Wednesday 15th February 2023. All groups have already been contacted to apply for this funding. Daniel to send out another reminder.

Towns & Villages Task Group – Next Meeting is Monday 13th February 2023 at 1pm on Teams.

Partner Work Update / Stanley specific items of interest:

There were no updates from Partners.

John Caulfield advised that Headway County Durham (our local Brain Injury Charity) had secured Stanley Masonic Hall for Drop-In meetings during March 2023.

Neighbourhood Budget Summaries:

Durham County Council Neighbourhoods – Play Area Improvements

The project will support the Towns & Villages application to upgrade the local play area within the Tanfield ward. This will help provide quality play areas for children & families enjoy.

Project Cost: £17,646.00

Councillor Gordon Binney Contribution: £6,146.00

Durham Hospital Radio – Studio Update

The project will support the hospital radio to upgrade Studio 3 with advanced technology to allow the radio to continue broadcasting and be able to continue to provide patients, relatives, and staff with an invaluable service.

Project Cost: £3,323.00

Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £250.00

Councillor Christine Bell Contribution: £250.00

Out of the area Cllr Contribution: £1000.00

Durham County Council Neighbourhoods – Causey Arch Interpretation Project

The project will see the local Causey Arch Picnic Area's existing interpretation signs renewed and replaced as the existing signs on the site are in very poor condition, with many having not been renewed for decades. The scheme will improve the overall quality of Causey Arch Picnic Area as a visitor attraction. It will help the site become a higher quality place to visit and will highlight access routes around the site.

Project Cost: £11,445.00

Councillor Gordon Binney Contribution: £2,500.00

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £2,500.00

DCC Neighbourhoods – The Old School Board CCTV Project

The project will support the installation of CCTV at the old Board School to reduce incidents of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in the building and its surrounding area.

Project Cost: £1,953.46

Councillor Gordon Binney Contribution: £726.50

Councillor Joyce Charlton Contribution: £726.50

Small Grants:

New Kyo & Oxhill Partnership – Christmas Fair

Project Brief: To deliver a Christmas fair for the local community.

Total Cost: £300.00

Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £150.00

Councillor Christine Bell Contribution: £150.00

Durham County Council Highways – Salt Bin & Refills

Project Brief: To provide a salt bin and refills outside Annfield Plain Community Centre.

Total Cost: £912.00

Councillor Joan Nicholson Contribution: £456.00

Councillor Christine Bell Contribution: £456.00

Beamish Football Club – Fundraising Event

Project Brief: To support an Under 12 Football Team's fundraising event for new kit and equipment.

Total Cost: £800.00

Councillor Carl Marshall Contribution: £200.00

Councillor Angela Hanson Contribution: £200.00

Pre-Notified Any Other Business:

Daniel advised that 1409 Sqn will be holding an Opening Evening on **Friday 17th March 2023** to showcase their STEM / IT Suite / VR flight SIMS project that was funded by both the local Area Action Partnerships, the Durham High Sheriffs Award and also funds raised by the 1409 Sqn Civilian Committee.

He further advised that there was a lot of consultation ongoing at present. He added he would send an e mail with all the links to all the consultation.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 5pm Via Teams.

For further details about these minutes please contact Stanley AAP office,
Tel: 03000 265323 or Email: Stanleyaap@durham.gov.uk