

East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership Minutes of the Board Meeting

Wednesday 22 March 2023

Cassop Community Centre, Front Street, Cassop, DH6 4RJ

Present: Neighbourhood Insp Sarah Honeyman, Dave Tempest, Stuart Dunn, Tim Dredge, Kester Noble, Mark Readman, Cllr David Brown, George Storey

Officer Attendance: Jane Bellis – AAP Co-ordinator
Claire Craft – Community Development Project Officer
Marie Ainscough – AAP Support Officer

Forum Members: 3 forum members attended the meeting

Apologies: Cllr Gary Hutchinson, Mel Carr, Cllr Maura McKeon, Cllr Chris Varty, Cllr Chris Lines, Allan Blakemore, Angela Stobbart, Christine Carter, Parish Cllr Sandra Dowson, Emma McLoughlin, Tony Cutmore

1 Introductions and Apologies

In the absence of Cllr Chris Varty and the Vice Chairs, Stuart Dunn chaired the meeting. Everyone was welcomed to the Board Meeting of the East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership (EDRC AAP), and a round of introductions followed.

Apologies [see above]. The meeting was not quorate.

The Chair highlighted that although the names of Board and Forum members are not included in the body of the minutes; advice given in relation to the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), is that the board minutes are made public, therefore should anyone wish to remain anonymous they were to state this.

Anyone present who had a conflict of interest in any item on the agenda, was asked to declare an interest at the start of the agenda item to ensure this was formally recorded in the meeting minutes.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 January 2023 & Matters Arising

The Chair reviewed the previous minutes for matters arising, actions and accuracy.

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3 Countywide Partner Issues:

3.1 Any Requests for Future Agendas

A request had been received from Tony Cutmore from The Cornforth Partnership regarding the withdrawal of the European Social Fund. Jane had queried who could come along to a future Board meeting to update Board Members on this issue and how it will affect our area.

The No 52 bus service had been withdrawn. If anyone wanted any further information, they were asked to contact Cllr Lucy Hovvels or the AAP team.

Partners on the Board were invited to provide an update at future Board meetings -

- Dave Tempest from Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service advised he would be updating on the Integrated Risk Management Plan at a future meeting.
- Mark Readman, Head of Highways, Durham County Council offered to provide an update and share information on funding, and what projects are running across the whole county with regards to Highways.

Jane provided an update on Section 106 following a request from a Board member. The Board asked if further information on Section 106 monies across the whole AAP area could be provided.

A Forum member thanked the AAP Coordinator for all of her hard work on Section 106 in Sedgefield and Fishburn, and also her and the rest of the Team for everything else they do for the community.

4 Local Neighbourhood Issues (LNI)

4.1 Locality Policing Issues

Neighbourhood Insp. Sarah Honeyman provided an update on local policing issues.

Update from Sgt Kevin Hall (Sherburn)

- Sherburn Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) are conducting patrols to target vehicles anti-social behaviour (ASB) in relation to off-road bikes, which is prominent on Sunday afternoon around Quarrington Hill / Kelloe areas.
- PC Paul Blair has moved beat area to the EDRC villages of Sherburn NPT, along with PCSO Ruth Dickinson.

- They are currently looking for a free venue to hold PACT meetings to cover the EDRC villages, ideally to coincide with existing events i.e. coffee mornings etc.

Stuart Dunn offered the use of Coxhoe Village Hall.

- They are also holding a childrens Easter event at Ludworth community centre on 06/04/23, keep an eye on Facebook for further details.
- Cop-a-bike is being re-launched this Easter, along with a children's competition to win 2 x stunt scooters; again keep an eye on Facebook. They will be attending villages throughout the spring and summer offering free pedal bike and scooter maintenance (weather depending). These will also be advertised on Facebook.
- They are seeking keen and enthusiastic Neighbourhood Community Speed Watch volunteers to develop and deploy the Community Speedwatch Scheme within the majority of the 22 villages they cover. Ideally deploying the equipment 2-3 times a week in various locations. All training will be provided, and fuel expenses will be reimbursed.

Information on this will be included in the next edition of the AAP's e-bulletin.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer was asked to contact Sgt Kevin Hall - Kevin.Hall@durham.police.uk

Any requests for further details about any of the above should be directed to Sgt Kevin Hall.

Update from Insp. Sarah Honeyman

- There had been problems of anti-social behaviour in Sedgefield, and certain people who the neighbourhood team are aware of are being targeted. They had visited schools since the last neighbourhood watch meeting, and training was ongoing around Sedgefield Community College and the primary schools

A forum member highlighted elderly residents of Sedgefield are terrified.

- There had been a ram raid of a house in Sedgefield in the early hours of the morning a couple of weeks ago; no one was injured. There were reprisals in Coxhoe later that day which was a lot worse. Arrests had been made and this was an ongoing enquiry.

Update from Neighbourhood Insp Phil Carter (Peterlee Team)

- There had been some recall prison arrests; one individual had been recalled for 9 years and another one recalled for 9 months.

- 6 off road bikes had been ceased; one was particularly causing problems in the Trimdon(s). Please report these.
- Two drug warrants had been carried out in the East Durham area and a large quantity of drugs ceased. Four arrests were made because of this, and investigations are ongoing.

5 Priority Updates (from Task Group and Projects)

5.1 Easter 2023 Fun and Food

Seven Fun and Food projects were funded for the Easter holidays 2023 with a good mix of activities across the AAP area.

Fun and Food for May Half Term 2023 was launched on 21 March 2023. Board members will be updated in due course.

5.2 Area Budget

It had been confirmed that the AAP will receive £100,000 Area Budget for the coming financial year, along with £10,000 Welfare Reform and £9,902 Youth Fund. There will be no Older Peoples Social Isolation Fund or Healthy Relationships funding.

Details of Task Group meeting dates will follow in due course.

5.3 Towns and Villages Funding/Projects

In relation to Towns and Villages Funding we currently have £45,559.61 remaining. There are projects in the pipeline.

5.4 Swim Bus

Jane had attended meetings with Durham County Council colleagues to look at ideas to get families to the free swim sessions that are provided in the school holidays. If anyone knew of any groups that would be interested, they were asked to let Jane know so she could follow it up. All community centres and community groups that we work with will also be contacted.

6 Co-ordinator's Report

Quarterly monitoring returns are available to Board members upon request for any project whose lead had submitted them.

Time was allocated on the agenda to give Board members the opportunity to discuss the Community Engagement Review report amongst themselves; the points were noted and would be fed into the review via the survey. The consultation period on the report proposals is now open and will run until 23 April 2023. The main DCC consultation webpage can be accessed here: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/29179/County-Durham-community-engagement-consultation>

Board members were encouraged to complete the online survey and to sign up to one of the sessions.

7 Neighbourhood Budget Projects

There were no neighbourhood budget projects to share with the Board.

8 Date and time of next board meeting

Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 23 May 2023, 5.00 pm – venue tbc

- **Subsequent Board Meeting Dates**

- Tuesday 18th July 2023
- Thursday 21st September 2023, Trimdon Station Community Centre
- Tuesday 21st November 2023
- Wednesday 24th January 2024
- Thursday 21st March 2024, Cassop Community Centre

Everyone was thanked for their attendance and the meeting closed.