

Notes of the Weardale Area Action Partnership Board Meeting

8th September 2022 – Eastgate Village Hall



ATTENDEES

Board Members

Public Representatives: Will Wearmouth (WW)
Kevin Roddam (KR)
Richard Lawrie (RL)
Adrian Holden (AHo)
Alison Humble (AHu)

Partner Representatives: Damian Pearson (DP) – believe housing-**CHAIR**
Insp. Ed Turner (PS) – Durham Constabulary
Jeff Bell (JB) – Business Representative
Sarah Lee (SL) – NHS
Dan Wootton (DW) – County Durham and Darlington Fire and
Rescue Service

Elected Members: Cllr Anita Savory (AS)
Cllr David Sugden (DS) – Wolsingham Parish Council
Cllr Helen Barrass (HB) – Muggleswick Parish Council
Cllr Olive Wilson (OW) – Witton-le-Wear Parish Council
Cllr Angela Hawkes (AHa) – Stanhope Parish Council

Officers: Angelina Maddison (AM)
Tracy Edwards (TE)
Fiona Barber (FB)

Presenters: Maxine Houston (MH) – ERS

APOLOGIES

Public Representatives: Joan Warriner

Elected Representatives: Cllr John Shuttleworth

Partner Representatives: Julian Haynes – Voluntary Sector Representative

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introductions were made around the table.

Apologies are recorded above.

2. Declaration of Interest

The Chair asked for any Declarations of Interest to be raised as appropriate during the meeting.

RL declared an interest in Ashcroft MUGA (Parish Councillor)

AS declared an interest in Winter Warmers (Chair of Governors)

JH declared an interest in Winter Warmers (Weardale Community Partnership)

3. Agreement of Notes from Board Meeting of 21st July 2022 and Matters Arising

The notes of this meeting, as printed and circulated, were **AGREED** and confirmed as a true record by those present. There were no matters arising.

4. Presentations:

Community Engagement Review – Maxine Houston, ERS

MH gave a presentation to the Board outlining the background and process of the AAP Review. A copy of the presentation is held on file in the WAP office – please contact a member of the team for a copy via email at weardaleaap@durham.gov.uk

MH asked the Board for their thoughts on the review. She explained that her role is to listen and not to tell the Board what to do.

MH asked Board members to consider if there are any settlements on the boundary of the WAP area which would identify better as being in Weardale.

Summary of points raised:

- Any change to the name of Area Action Partnerships would be a step backwards. It is now established and recognisable.
- Without the WAP and the associated funding, Weardale would have not been able to access the same amount of funding as other AAP areas.
- The strength of the AAP lies in the depth of local knowledge which was particularly evident during the Covid pandemic.
- The WAP team can deal with any issues that are brought to them or signpost them on as appropriate.
- The team go over and beyond to support residents of Weardale.
- In rural areas, County Hall is a significant distance away. The AAPs enable the council to connect with these areas.
- The AAP overview of all settlements in the area ensures that other people can also find out what is going on.
- AAPs are efficient and provide a mechanism of checks and balances.

The Chair closed the meeting early on receiving the news that Queen Elizabeth II had passed away.