

# Notes of the Weardale Area Action Partnership AGM & Board Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023



Eastgate Village Hall

## ATTENDEES

### Board Members

**Public Representatives:** Richard Lawrie (RL)  
Alison Humble (AHU)  
Stephen Thomas (ST)

**Partner Representatives:** Damian Pearson (DP) – Believe Housing – **CHAIR**  
Dan Wootton (DW) – Fire & Rescue Service  
PC Scott Ruddick (SR) – Durham Constabulary  
PCSO Chloe Gilding (CG) – Durham Constabulary  
Julian Haynes (JH) – Voluntary Sector  
Jeff Bell – Business Representative

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

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

**Observers** **The meeting was also attended by 2 members of the public.**

## APOLOGIES

**Public Representatives:** Kevin Roddam  
Adrian Holden (AHO)  
Will Wearmouth (WW)

**Elected Representatives:** Cllr John Shuttleworth  
Cllr Angela Hawkes (Stanhope Parish Council)

**Partner Representatives:** Michael Kelleher - Durham County Council  
Sarah Lee (SL) - Health

**Officers** Bill Lightburn (BL)

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He gave a short statement in which he said that the Weardale Action Partnership had had a really good year with a lot of strong projects. He offered his thanks to Angelina and the team for their support throughout the year.

Introductions were made and apologies recorded as above.

### Board Members Update

AM talked through a slide depicting the current membership of the Weardale Action Partnership Board. She extended a warm welcome to Stephen Thomas our newest board member who joins us as a public representative. AM explained that the recruitment drive for the other Public Representative vacancy has been extended for a further two weeks to encourage applications. She also explained that the elected representative vacancy is hoped to be filled in the near future with a representative from the Edmundbyers or Hunstanworth area.

The Chair led a tribute to longstanding board member, Joan Warriner, who sadly passed away earlier this year. He was joined by Cllr Savory in acknowledging Joan's very active membership of the Weardale Action Partnership Board. Her dedication, insight and knowledge helped to develop numerous projects over the past 14 years. Her time, energy and commitment to the Weardale Agricultural Show was also noted. It was proposed that a letter is sent to her son, Stuart, to acknowledge her incredible contribution to the Weardale Action Partnership since its inception in 2009.

AM also recorded her thanks to the board members who have resigned over the past year including:

- Ian Hirst (Public Representative)
- Trish Chapman (Hunstanworth Representative)
- Lindsay Warren (Public Representative)
- Geoff Paul (Durham County Council)

## 2. 2022/23 Area Budget Update

AM gave an overview of the Area Budget allocation for 2022/23

Budgets available consisted of:

- £117,264 Area Budget (£100,000 + £17,264 carry over from 21/22)
- £25,000 Older People's Social Isolation Fund (OPSIF)
- £10,000 Welfare Reform
- £10,000 Young People's Healthy Relationships Fund
- £9,902 Youth Fund

### Area Budget Projects funded (£117,264 + £5,220 of returned funding)

Stanhope Market Place Installation of Infrastructure & Lights - **£12,531**

Killhope Tales - **£13,500**

Small Grants Fund - **£10,000**

Family Walk Interpretation Panels and Noticeboard - **£9,500**

Accessible Advice in Weardale - **£9,635**

**(£10,000 Welfare Reform + £9,635 Area Budget)**

Stanhope Barrington Wraparound Care - **£21,703**  
 Community Wellness Coordinator- **£1,619**  
 Killhope Wheel - **£9,500**  
 Weardale Play Area Refurbishment Phase 1 - **£24,844**  
 Weardale Play Area Refurbishment Phase 2 - **£9,652**

**Total Area Budget allocation: £122,484**

**Welfare Reform - £10,000**

- Accessible Advice in Weardale – **£19,635**  
**(£10,000 Welfare Reform + £9,635 Area Budget)**

**Youth Fund - £9,902**

- Witton-le-Wear Youth Club continuation **£9,788**

**Older Peoples Social Isolation Fund (OPSIF)- £25,000**

- Community Wellness Coordinator - **£26,619**  
**(£25,000 OPSIF + £1,619 Area Budget)**

**Young Peoples Healthy Relationships - £10,000 (AS & DP declared an interest)**

- Healthy Relationships – Wolsingham School **£9,998**  
 (AM advised that previous confusion regarding this funding has now been resolved. She also stated that she believes this will be a pioneering project. Resources are built into this project so that the benefits will carry on into future years. AM advised that students who attend Wolsingham School but who do not reside in the Weardale AAP area will be eligible to attend.)

**2022/23 Total allocation:**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Area Budget</b>                         | <b>£122,484</b> |
| <b>Welfare Reform</b>                      | <b>£ 10,000</b> |
| <b>Youth Fund</b>                          | <b>£ 9,788</b>  |
| <b>Older Peoples Social Isolation Fund</b> | <b>£ 25,000</b> |
| <b>Young Peoples Healthy Relationships</b> | <b>£ 9,998</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>£177,270</b> |

**3. Neighbourhood Budget**

AM gave an overview of the Neighbourhood Budget allocation for 2022/23. She advised that Cllrs had been unable to rollover any unspent funding into 2023/24.

**Cllr Savory**

**Neighbourhood Budget**

- Winter Warmers – Wolsingham School  
 (AS shared with Board members how much attendees of these sessions had gained from being able to come together. For residents of Weardale who were socially isolated or living alone, the opportunity to meet with others and share a hot nutritious meal was very welcome. The students

who waited on were also exceptional and the feedback has been phenomenal. TE noted that the link with Weardale Community Transport meant that people from all over Weardale could attend and benefit.)

- Wolsingham Christmas Market
- Coronation Badges – Wolsingham School
- Banners and Flags – Weardale Agricultural Society
- Wolsingham Marketplace Christmas Lighting and Infrastructure – Wolsingham Parish Council

### **Small Grant Fund**

- Wolsingham Nursery – Repairs to Wooden Play Castle
- Eastgate Village Hall – Printer
- Weardale Flower & Garden Club – RHS event, Newby Hall
- Weardale Community Hospital – Purchase and printing of Tea Towels
- Blind Life – New Age Curling Competition  
(AS advised that this is a group of people who are partially sighted or blind along with their carers. She stated that there is only one such club in County Durham and that a Kurling World Champion had been in attendance.)
- Weardale Flower & Garden Club – Wreath Making
- Wolsingham WI – Pantomime
- Wolsingham Toddler Group – Play and learning resources

### **Towns and Villages**

Note: Cllr Savory allocated her funding in 2021/22

### **Cllr Shuttleworth**

#### **Neighbourhood Budget**

- Stanhope Photographic Society – Equipment
- High Pennine Horticultural Society – Support to group
- Weardale Agricultural Society – Weardale Show
- Wear Rivers Trust- Bash the Balsam
- Rookhope Village Hall – Electrical Update
- Rookhope Village Hall – Boiler
- Stanhope Show – CCTV, Barriers & Equipment
- Wolsingham Show – Storage Facility
- Wolsingham School – Coronation Badges
- Stanhope Silver Band – Uniforms & Activities for 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Durham County Council – St John’s Chapel Play Area
- Upper Weardale Town Hall - Windows

### **Small Grant Fund**

- Rookhope Village Hall – Leek Show
- Cowshill Village Hall – Leek Club Running costs
- Wolsingham Football Academy – Karting
- St John’s Chapel Recreation Ground – Repairs & Insurance
- Weardale Together CIC – Warm Hub in Stanhope
- Stanhope Town Football Club – Running costs (Referee, Hall hire & kit)
- Barrington Bites – Christmas Event for the Elderly
- Rookhope Village Hall – Village Flowers

### **Towns and Villages**

- Durham County Council – St John’s Chapel Play Area **Application circulated by email to the Board, (inc Neighbourhood & Area Budget) Approved by the Board**

### **Neighbourhood Budget Jubilee Fund**

#### **Cllr Savory**

- Jubilee Afternoon Tea – Advance Learning Partnership – Wolsingham School - £300

#### **Cllr Shuttleworth**

- Hall Hire & Materials – Edmundbyers Village Hall - £100
- Decorations & Bunting – Ireshopeburn Literary Institute - £100
- Jubilee Celebrations – Norman Wright Pavilion - £100

## **4. Annual Report**

AM talked through the pages of the Annual Report. She explained that there were a couple of amendments needed before the report can be submitted for printing.

## **5. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs**

AM explained how the position of Chair rotates through the three sectors on the Board – Elected, Partner, Public. This year the Chair falls to the Public section. Richard Lawrie is the only Public representative to express an interest in being Chair.

Board Members **AGREED** to Richard Lawrie becoming Chair of the Weardale Action Partnership in 2023-24.

AM explained that the role of Vice Chair is important as if a decision is ever required to be made quickly, a quick meeting of the Chair and Vice Chairs can be arranged to discuss. Cllr Anita Savory expressed an interest in remaining as Vice Chair for the Elected Sector and Damian Pearson for the Partner Sector.

Board Members **AGREED** to Cllr Anita Savory (Elected) and Richard Lawrie (Public) becoming Vice-Chairs of the Weardale Action Partnership in 2023-24.

RL took the Chair.

---

## **BOARD MEETING**

### **1. Neighbourhood Issues**

Due to members of the public being in attendance for agenda item no.9 only, the decision was made to move Neighbourhood Issues to the beginning of the agenda for the Board meeting.

AM advised that the WAP team had received communication from representatives of the Friends of Frosterley Primary School (FOFPS) regarding concerns about traffic outside of the school. Karen Hall and Ashleigh Crumplin gave an overview.

Over the last few years, the road outside the school is having issues with speeding vehicles, delivery vans/lorries/cars travelling at great speed. Additionally, the entrance used by children to access the school is also used as the driveway and

some drivers use the entrance as a turning point which is a danger to the children. There are also instances of parking on Keep Clear lines and vehicles mounting curbs. There are also issues regarding speeding in Frosterley village which is endangering children walking to school.

KH also pointed out that the signage for the school is quite a distance from the school itself and is overgrown by the trees around it. She advised that vehicles are often parked in front of another warning sign. Due to the location of the road and very small speed limit signs, some drivers think that it is a 60mph road.

The FOFPS asked for the Board's assistance in helping to resolve the issue. Potential resolutions include:

- Hazard signage – flashing signs
- Moving existing signs closer to the actual school building
- Increasing visibility of existing signage
- Raising awareness of a school being located there
- Crossing patrol / Lollipop person to make it safer within the village (may encourage children who currently drive to school to walk instead).
- Traffic calming on main road

KH also advised that they are contacting anyone who may be interested in helping to resolve the issue and has spoken with the Chair of the Parish Council earlier today.

AM thanked KH and AC for bringing the issue to the attention of the WAP team and Board. She advised that prior to the meeting she had sent an email to the Police so that they could be prepared whilst at the same time acknowledging that they have not had time to formulate a comprehensive response.

AS gave an overview of what has happened in the past – installation of bollards, meetings with the Highways Team. AS committed to getting a speed survey carried out during school time. These surveys record the number and speed of vehicles in both directions over a 7-day time period which will obtain the information required to make decisions. She also committed to getting a team out to get the bushes cut back. AS advised that all options have a potential to be revisited – she encouraged all present to be mindful that any work required has to be funded from a budget somewhere and this often drives what is possible. Having said that she stressed that safety is always a priority.

SR advised that he will speak to FOFPS outside of the meeting to go through the complexities regarding jurisdiction and therefore funding potential. He advised that the Police have been made aware of some of the issues and advised that they had tried to have the speedwatch van present at relevant times. However, he agreed that the layout can pose a challenge when it comes to gaining an accurate picture of the situation. He reminded the Board that the aim of the Police van is to be a visible presence and to help ensure people do not offend. He proposed a site visit to look at a more suitable place for the speedwatch van to be located. SR advised that he has looked back through the logs and no incidents have been reported. He stressed that without this information they are unable to identify patterns and lack the evidence needed to push for change.

AHU advised that when she was a member of Stanhope Parish Council the issue of speeding at Hill End had arisen and again the council were limited in what they could do due to a lack of reported incidents. The Board empathised with KH who explained

that it can be difficult to take details when the first priority is to keep children safe. AC also commented that in a village it is a small community and the FOFPS do not want to be in a position where they are potentially reporting parents and other members of the community. The ideal solution would be for people to slow down – not be punished. However, both KH and AC understood that reporting incidents and gaining evidence is important in achieving the desired outcomes.

SR advised that their existing ASB powers are good and they can issue a warning with reasonable grounds. He reassured members present that they could act on credible information.

DS suggested capturing incidents on mobile phones.

DW suggested that the width of the path outside the school is also an issue. He stated that engagement with the school was vital. KH advised that the school have sent letters to parents and tried to encourage safer behaviour but not all of the issues lie with parents.

DW suggested perhaps school staff would be better placed to monitor the situation than the police. KH agreed that this may help with deterring any parking on Keep Clear markings or mounting the path but not the other issues. She was also unsure whether any members of staff would relish this responsibility.

AM encouraged all parties to work together to avoid duplication and to help resolve the situation quickly. She thanked KH and AC for attending and providing such comprehensive information. KH thanked the Board for listening and for looking into the situation.

**ACTION: FB to send a copy of the notes of this meeting (once confirmed) to FOFPS for their records**

### **Frosterley Play Area**

KH and AC raised the subject of the deteriorating condition of Frosterley Play area. AM advised that the play area is managed by Durham County Council and she has already spoken with the team responsible for its management. AM stated that the equipment has come to the end of its lifespan. AM has therefore asked for three quotes – bronze, silver and gold levels – for a renovation.

## **2. Declaration of Interest**

The Chair asked that Board members declare any interests as they arise on the agenda.

The Chair also declared an interest (or potential interest) in the following projects:

- Ashcroft MUGA (Towns & Villages funding)
- Weardale Way Works (Towns & Villages funding)

## **3. Agreement of Notes from Board Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 and Matters Arising**

The notes of this meeting, as circulated, were **AGREED** and confirmed as a true record by those present.

There were no matters arising.

## 4. Weardale Action Partnership Update

### **Durham Community Engagement Review (AAP Consultation)**

AM thanked Board members for sending in the information required and for participating in previous discussion at Board meetings. A combined response has been submitted. AM advised that AAP Co-ordinators have met together to discuss the implications of the report and that some confusion remains with regard to the report and the suggested changes and it appears that one size will not fit all – or be relevant. Ultimately, cabinet will make the decision although it is thought to be unlikely that any major changes will be made prior to the next funding cycle.

AS commented that the WAP is ‘absolutely crucial’ to Weardale as there is no way that it would benefit from the same level of funding without it. She stated that she firmly believes that WAP is in the top – if not the top – AAP’s of the county and is doing sterling work. She observed that although Teesdale experiences similar issues it is not the same as Weardale and it is vitally important to keep the two areas.

DP stated that he had worked with other AAPs and he could second AS’ comments.

### **Board Member Recruitment**

AM asked Board members to encourage anyone they know who may be interested in applying to be a Board member. AHU voiced concern that currently the Board is a bit ‘top heavy’ with regard to the Upper Dale. AM advised that this has not always been the case.

## 5. Towns & Villages Funding Update

### **Present Position**

1. Cllrs Towns & Villages Fund - £20K - *Fully committed*
2. AAP Towns & Villages Fund - Overview
  - 1 project approved - Ashcroft MUGA - **£32,000 (RL declared an interest)**
  - 1 project designed & costed & full application awaited - Champing at Muggleswick - **£50,000 R/F**
  - 1 project under development - St Thomas Church Hall
  - 1 project confirmed not to progress to full application - Weardale Museum
  - 2 new EOI’s received & circulated for consideration - North Pennines AONB (**£50,000**) & Killhope Mining Museum (**£27,000**)
  - £32K approved for MUGA & £50K ringfenced for Champing Project = £128K still to allocate
  - Will soon start to see time pressures – all supported projects need to be viable, formally approved and in the appraisal process by 30 March 2024 (45 weeks)
  - There are other additional projects (play areas and lighting infrastructure) which could also be brought forward.
3. Update on Projects
  - Ashcroft MUGA**
    - Preliminary electrical survey complete - No major concerns
    - Confirmed planning approval not required for proposed LED lamp upgrade



- Tender package prepared and ready for issue to contractors, following receipt of Landowner approval (DCC) & Licence for site access (Believe Housing)
- Original works schedule (SSL) planned for completion for start of school summer holidays – note this has slipped due to delay in Landowner approval – assuming costs come in within the allocated budget envelope, completion is now likely to be late Summer

#### **St Thomas Church Hall (JH declared an interest)**

- The planning application has been refused – external works cannot be supported, due to the Hall being in the Local Conservation area
- The Church Hall committee has sought further discussions with the Planning Authority
- Consideration may be given to an alternative design – though the applicant has acknowledged that time is likely to be an issue from a T&V Fund perspective

#### **Champing at Muggleswick (HB declared an interest)**

- Project fully designed and costed, grant applications being prepared & ready to submit
- DCC Planning Officers have indicated that a planning application is needed - additional to the C of E Faculty
- This is being worked up, along with the required supporting Heritage Statement, for submission within the next week
- The PCC will be applying for support through a number of external grant bodies in addition to the AAP and DCC Community Resilience Fund
- The Community Resilience Fund request has been increased in light of the updated projects costs - this is being taken forward for consideration
- Match funding needs to be in place to meet eligibility criteria for the next deadline for National Churches Trust funding (7<sup>th</sup> July). The intention is to submit the full AAP application for consideration ASAP.

#### **Other Play areas**

AM advised that if there is a struggle to deploy funding within the funding timeline then other play areas could be brought forward e.g. Frosterley Play Area **(DP declared an interest)**.

AHU asked if funding can be ringfenced – AM confirmed that potentially this can be done but at the moment there are no available costings. There is a risk that prices will continue to rise as time passes.

#### **Light Up The Dale**

AM advised that two potential Christmas lights projects have come forward for Crawleyside and Frosterley. Pre-Covid, money was available for Frosterley however NPG have now changed their priority working and the costings for energy infrastructure work has seen a sharp increase. AM asked Board members if there was any appetite for proceeding with these projects and looking to join them together into one project. OW asked if Witton-le-Wear could also be added. AM advised that this could be investigated.

## **Expressions of Interest – Previously circulated via email**

### Weardale Way Works – North Pennines AONB Partnership - £50,000

AM asked Board members for their initial thoughts.

AHU repeated her query as to who would be responsible for the apprentice. AM confirmed that this would be the AONB.

AHU queried whether £50,000 will go far enough. TE confirmed that work is taking place with the DCC Rights of Way team in regard to the bigger civil works. DW echoed AHU's comment as he stated that footpaths take a lot of money.

Board members confirmed that they were happy for this to proceed to full application.

### Killhope Interpretation - Durham County Council - £27,000

Board members confirmed that they were happy for this to proceed to full application.

Board members requested recognition of WAP support for both projects – by means of a sign or similar.

## **6. Area Budget Overview**

### **2023/24 Area Budget - £100,000**

#### **Applications circulated by email - for ratification by Board**

- **Youth Sessions – Weardale Together CIC - £12,387** – The project was discussed; no additional comments or conditions were made. **Email circulation prior to meeting – APPROVED by Board.**
- **Weardale WordFest – NorthPens - £10,000** – The project was discussed; no additional comments or conditions were made. **Email circulation prior to meeting – APPROVED by Board.**

## **7. Overview of Other WAP Funding Streams**

### **2023/24 Welfare Reform - £10,000**

### **2023/24 Youth Fund - £9,902**

#### **Fun & Food**

AM advised Board members of the current Fun & Food allocation for Weardale:

#### Public Health Half Term Holiday Funding - £5,297

Covers February, May and October 2023 half-term holidays as well as February 2024.

#### Department of Education Holiday Funding - £19,691

Covers Easter, Summer and Christmas 2023 – 10 weeks in total

AM reminded Board members that the money allocated to Weardale is commensurate with the Free Schools Meal allocation.

Summer applications open on Monday. AM advised that the WAP team have received instruction to use new providers for these activities however ensuring quality for the funding available is proving challenging.

Two activities will be running during the May half-term:

AM advised that three applications have been received for Easter provision

- Rookhope Village Hall - **£500**
- Witton-le-Wear Youth Group - **£1,000**

### **2022/23 Young Peoples Healthy Relationships Funding**

An application for a project including a package of information / training sessions for pupils at Wolsingham School to cover subjects such as consent. The project was circulated via email prior to the meeting – **APPROVED by Board.**

Play Areas Phase 1 - St John's Chapel Play Area inc. funding from Cllr Shuttleworth Towns & Villages & Neighbourhood Budget **Application circulated by email to the Board no declaration of interest, ratified by the Board.**

## **8. Neighbourhood Budget**

Board members were reminded that elected members are only permitted to spend £2,000 on Small Grants.

### **Cllr Savory**

#### **2023/24 Neighbourhood Budget**

- Tables – Wolsingham St Thomas' Centre - **Email circulation prior to meeting, No Declaration of Interest – RATIFIED by Board.**

#### **2023/24 Small Grant Fund**

- Hurdles – Eastgate Sheep Show

#### **Coronation Fund**

- No current spend

AS commented how the two organisations funded this year have not previously received funding from her Neighbourhood Budget.

### **Cllr Shuttleworth**

#### **Neighbourhood Budget**

- No current spend

#### **Small Grant Fund**

- No current spend

#### **Coronation Fund**

- No current spend

### **2022/23 Neighbourhood Budget Applications**

#### **Cllr Savory**

- Wolsingham Market Place Christmas Lighting and Infrastructure  
**Application circulated by email to the Board, approval ratified by the Board**

#### **Cllr Shuttleworth**

- Stanhope Silver Band

- Play Areas Phase 1 - St John's Chapel Play Area inc. Towns & Villages funding & Area Budget  
**Applications circulated by email to the Board no declaration of interest, ratified by the Board.**

## **9. Countywide Partner Issues**

### **Fire Service**

DW reported back on the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) Consultation which ended earlier this month. He thanked anyone who had taken the time to respond. He advised that there had been three questions to consider:

1. Whether to reduce the number of firefighters on appliances – with an aim of saving ¾ of a million pounds.
2. Whether the public are happy to review risk based commercial projects
3. Any other issues with the CRMP

Responses are currently being compiled and evaluated.

Community Safety Responders (previously referred to as Tri-Responders)  
DW advised that the posts are currently vacant as both post-holders have gone onto different roles within the Police and Fire Service. He advised that a review of Terms & Conditions and contracts is underway. The posts will be going to advert soon (open to applicants of any age). These future roles will be as a Bi-Responder (Police and Fire) but will retain the possibility to bring in other partners in the future.

### **Community Resilience Plan**

AM and RL recently attended a meeting at Westgate to test their Community Resilience plan. DW asked whether their protocol is being shared. AM advised that the work is being undertaken with the CCU and LRF. She advised that ultimately, the community has ownership of document.

AM reported that NPG has made funding available following Storm Arwen. Eastgate, Westgate and Stanhope have all benefitted from this funding intended to increase the future resilience of the community. Groups have been supported by AM and TE in the application process.

It is intended that the project will cover the whole of Weardale with Community Resilience Groups. DW offered the help and assistance of the uniformed services. AS commented that the uniformed services in Weardale were second to none during Storm Arwen.

### **Application Approval Process**

TE explained why it is so important to get a reply from Board members when applications require approval. She also explained why there is a need for the approvals to be ratified and recorded in the Board notes. TE explained that lengthy responses are not always necessary, but an indication of approval (or not) is required.

### **Weardale Community Hospital**

AS was delighted to report that the Friends of Weardale Community Hospital had been successful in its bid to receive funding of £5,000 from the Lakes and Dales Co-Op. This money will pay for a Dementia chair and a PAT slide for use by less mobile patients. She advised the Board that once the equipment has been installed, she will report back again.

#### **Thanks to Outgoing Chair**

AS wished to place on record hers and the Board's thanks to DP for a 'cracking year' as Chair. She praised him for always being available and supportive. RL echoed AS' comments and also thanked DP and AS for their work and expertise.

#### **10. Dates and Times of Future Meetings**

The next meeting of the Weardale Action Partnership Board will take place on Thursday **8<sup>th</sup> June at 6:00pm in Eastgate Village Hall.**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.