



Working in Partnership Copeland
Minutes of the 5th meeting of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership
Held at Kirksanton Village Hall 23rd May 2022
Commencing at 6.30pm

PRESENT:

Cllr Ged McGrath	Chair
Cllr David Moore	Copeland Borough Council, Councillor & Nuclear Portfolio Holder
Cllr David Savage	Cumbria District Association of Local Councils (CALC)
Kelly Anderson	NWS Community Engagement Manager (CEM)
Cllr Carl Carrington	Millom Without Parish Council
Cllr Maggie Cummings	Whicham Parish Council
Cllr Dave Billing	Millom Town Council

SUPPORTING ATTENDEES:

Lucy Clarke	NWS Communications Lead
Anne Broome	NWS Community Engagement Coordinator
Dawn Walker	NWS Secretariat
Jonathan Cook	Copeland Borough Council Officer
Sam King	Head of Community Engagement and Site Evaluation
Bruce Cairns	Chief Policy Advisor
Phil Green	Project Manager – Communities, Community Engagement & Site Evaluation
Justin Chamberlin	Head of Campaigns, Communications & Stakeholder Engagement

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Laurence Date	Copeland Borough Council
Cllr Fee Wilson	Copeland Borough Council
Cllr Doug Wilson	Copeland Borough Council

AGENDA 1: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Voting members were recorded from each organisation.
- No changes to voting members were identified.
- No Declarations of Interest were received.

AGENDA 2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION LOG

Minutes were approved as a true reflection of the meeting.
A member requested that an additional comment be added to the Comms update regarding CIF funding.



Action Log 20.04.222

Agenda 3 20042022 1 : Comms lead to feed back to the partnership on the additional communication planned for the Marnie Geophysical Survey.

A corporate press release was going to be published soon in national and regional press and would be shared with partnership members prior to publication.

A member requested that it be made clear in any communications that the Partnership were not involved in the approval of the geophysical survey.

Action: LC to share the press release regarding the geophysical survey and amend and any Comms relating to the commissioning or approval of the survey.

Agenda 5 20042022 1 : CEM to look into commissioning a company to advise on all aspects of Community Engagement.

The Community Engagement Manager talked through the options available to CP members to bring in external engagement support. This included an Engagement Company called Facilitating Change who are already supporting the Working Group in Lincolnshire. The group were given some further information about the organisation and their credentials and were asked if they would like the Community Engagement Team to progress discussions with them.

After discussion, the partnership decided that they would prefer to go through a procurement process so that they could compare potential suppliers against an agreed scope. A small subgroup was suggested to support development of the scope and 2 members volunteered to support.

Action: To form a subgroup to develop a scope of what the partnership requires from an engagement company.

Agenda 5 20042022 3: CEC to investigate suitability of other venues for partnership meetings in the Millom area:

The CEC talked the group through all of the venues she had visited and which ones were suitable and which ones weren't from an accessibility perspective. A member then asked if we would also look at Silecroft Village Hall.

Action : Silecroft Village Hall to be risk assessed for suitability for future Community Partnership Meetings.

Action Outlying Village Halls to be contacted re usage for potential CP meetings, POP In sessions and any future exhibitions.

AGENDA 3: CIF UPDATE

The CEM outlined the current status of the CIF:

- CIF Panel has had 2 meetings
- Meeting 1 – 2 successful applications



- Millom Cricket Club £31,236
- Around the Combe £5,000
- Meeting 2 – 7 applications considered, 5 approved and 2 sent back to the applicants for further review.
- Total funded to date approx. £190k

At the last CIF meeting five projects had been approved but acceptances hadn't been received at the time of the meeting. The Partnership would be notified of the successful projects once the acceptances had been received.

Action: Secretariat to inform partnership members of the successful CIF projects from the latest CIF panel once acceptance of funding had been received.

Going forward, the CP need to consider:

- Reviewing the CIF priorities
- Reviewing and increasing the membership of the CIF Panel

This had been discussed with panel members who didn't feel comfortable with changing anything mid-year as it could lead to challenge from applicants who had been successful under different criteria. A proposal was therefore put to the partnership to keep the priorities and membership the same until the end of the 1st full CIF year (13th Dec) but to start reviewing the priorities and membership in the autumn so that the new approach is ready for year 2.

The proposal from the CIF Panel was accepted by the partnership.

A member suggested that we could look at the type of projects that we were funding and if there were any gaps in the types of projects coming forward for consideration. If this was the case, we could tailor our communications to encourage applications from particular types of projects.

Following further discussion regarding the CIF, the membership felt that clarification was needed regarding carrying forward/accruing money for projects which had been approved but couldn't draw down the money in the same year they had been approved for funding. It wasn't clear in policy whether this could be done or whether the money would have to be taken from the following years pot meaning there was a risk that the £1 million wouldn't be spent. It was also noted that the process was quite time consuming and that some who would benefit from assistance wouldn't have the time to do it. Could assistance be given to help those groups and organisations who needed help to complete the applications?

Action: Provide clarification on whether CI funding can be accrued if approved but not spent within a financial year.

Action: Clarify whether funding/support is available to those who don't have the time or capacity to apply for funding.

AGENDA 4: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The group then discussed what Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria could mean for the Community Partnership. The current district electoral ward boundaries are going to be replaced in



2023 with new unitary electoral ward boundaries that will match the current county ward boundaries. This has potential implications for the CP, particularly around Drigg, where the new boundaries will be in a different position from the current ones. The siting process was designed to be flexible and place-based, to recognise the reality of communities on the ground rather than arbitrary political boundaries. This flexibility has allowed us to have two distinct partnerships in Copeland, recognising that there are 2 distinct communities separated by the National Park with potentially different priorities and we need to make sure that the process protects that. There are several ways we can go about this and the possibilities need to be carefully worked out. We do have time though as these changes will not come into effect until the 31 March 2023.

Q. The changes brought about by the Local Government reorganisation, may have implications for the partnerships as the new Cumberland Council may not want to continue in the GDF siting process.

A. All decisions that have been made by the local Sovereign Councils previously, will be transferred across to the new council as part of the “structural change order” that creates the new council. Dependent on the priorities of the new Cumberland Council, a decision will be taken at some point whether to continue the involvement with the GDF siting process.

It was noted that the Membership will also go through a transition period and several members may need to be replaced because of Local Government reorganisation. It was agreed that the partnership would need to consider how best to do this and put a suitable process in place.

The Chair informed the Partnership that a Letter from all three CP Chairs had been sent to the shadow leader of the new authority, introducing the Partnerships, and inviting discussion on the role of the Partnerships when the time was right.

The members decided they were open to discussion about what LGR means for them and asked NWS to come back to the next meeting with the options for what was possible in relation to Search Area boundaries under the policy.

Action: NWS to explore the options for the Partnership and present them at a future meeting.

AGENDA 5: BASELINE SURVEY.

NWS Head of Campaigns had been invited to talk to members about the practicalities and process for running a baseline survey in South Copeland by the end of July.

The survey would be completed in 2 phases:

- Phase One – Face to Face Survey
- Phase two – Qualitative Research

The suggested ongoing research programme for 2022 -2023 would be:

- Base Line Survey June 2022
- Pulse Survey November 2022
- Fully survey March 2023
- Adhoc research Community mapping (stakeholder mapping), Identification of seldom heard groups, Engagement/research among seldom heard Gatekeepers.



The project would commence in May 2022 and the analysis and final report would be delivered to the partnership in August 2022.

Q- What is required from the Membership to commence this work?

A- We need to arrange a Teams call between the Partnership and Yonder to work together to get the questions in place for the survey.

Q- How will the face-to-face survey take place?

A- It will be a combination of recruitment on the street, places where people congregate in the community and also door to door surveying.

Q- It is important that the view of the communities in the rural areas be taken into consideration not just the towns, to get a true reflection of the views of the community.

A – We can arrange the surveys to suit the requirements of the Partnership.

The Chair asked the partnership if they were happy to take this process further and have a Teams meeting to discuss the scope and questions further. The members agreed.

Action: Secretariat to arrange a Teams Meeting between Yonder and the Community Partnership to discuss and agree the questions and scope of the baseline survey. Proposed questions to be sent to the membership in advance of the meeting.

AGENDA 7: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

An informal round the table chat then took place between the members to help them understand what skills and experiences exist within the membership.

AGENDA 8 : AOB

A member asked if Partnership members would be able to suggest agenda items moving forward. This was agreed.

Dates and venues for CP meetings for the rest of the year were also shared.

Action: Secretariat to share dates and venues for upcoming meetings with members

Next meeting : The Lighthouse Centre Haverigg

Date : 15th June 2022

Time : 6.30pm

The Chair closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Ref 23052022	Meeting Action Log	
Agenda 2 23052022 2	To form a subgroup to develop a scope of what the partnership requires from an engagement company.	CEM
Agenda 2 23052022 3	Silecroft Village Hall to be risk assessed for suitability for future Community Partnership Meetings.	CEC
Agenda 2 23052022 5	Outlying Village Halls within the Search Area to be contacted re proposed future venues	DS
Agenda 3 23052022 1	Secretariat to inform partnership members of the successful CIF projects from the latest CIF panel once acceptance of funding had been received.	Secretariat
Agenda 3 23052022 2	Provide clarification on whether CI funding can be accrued if approved but not spent within a financial year.	HC/MB
Agenda 3 23052022 3	Clarify whether funding/support is available to those who don't have the time or capacity to apply for funding.	BC
Agenda 4 23052022 1	NWS to explore the options for the partnership and present them at a future meeting.	BC
Agenda 5 23052022 1	Secretariat to arrange a Teams Meeting between Yonder and the Community Partnership to discuss and agree the questions and scope of the baseline survey. Proposed questions to be sent to the membership in advance of the meeting.	JC/Secretariat
Agenda 6 23052022 1	Secretariat to share dates and venues for upcoming meetings with members	Secretariat