

**Working in Partnership Copeland**  
**Minutes of the 6th meeting of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership**  
**Held on Teams - 15 June 2022**  
**Commencing at 6.30pm**

**PRESENT:**

CLlr Ged McGrath	Chair
CLlr David Savage	Cumbria District Association of Local Councils (CALC)
Kelly Anderson	NWS Community Engagement Manager (CEM)
CLlr Carl Carrington	Millom Without Parish Council
Lesley Cooper	Whicham Parish Council Clerk
CLlr Denise Burness	Millom Town Council

**SUPPORTING ATTENDEES:**

Lucy Clarke	NWS Communications Lead
Anne Broome	NWS Community Engagement Coordinator
Dawn Walker	NWS Secretariat
Barnaby Hudson	Site Evaluation Manger
Bruce Cairns	Chief Policy Advisor

**APOLOGIES:**

CLlr David Moore	Copeland Borough Council, Councillor & Nuclear Portfolio Holder
Jonathan Cook	Copeland Borough Council Officer
CLlr Maggie Cummings	Whicham Parish Council
CLlr Dave Billing	Millom Town 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.

ACTION LOG 23.05.2022

**Agenda 2 23052022 1:** The national press release wasn't released.

**Agenda 2 23052022 2:** A subgroup has been formed to discuss the scope for external engagement support and suggested meeting dates have been circulated.

**Agenda 2 23052022 3** : A risk assessment took place at Silecroft Village Hall and it was deemed a suitable venue for future meetings.

**Agenda 2 23052022 5**: Outlying village halls to be proposed by the Partnership for future meeting venues.

**Agenda 3 23052022 1**: The successful CIF applicants from the last CIP meeting had been shared with the Partnership.

**Action**: Circulate updated CIF policy to partnership members.

### **AGENDA 3: CHAIRS UPDATE**

**Recent Social Media Coverage**: A recent recipient of the Community Investment funding has had some adverse comments on social media and subsequently decided to return the funding and close down their social media sites. It was brought to the attention of the Chair via an email from the organisation and was then escalated appropriately within NWS.

NWS has a duty of care to all those involved in the process and has reached out to the funding recipients to offer support. A task group has also been created to look at this issue in more detail to support future CIF applicants.

There is no obligation on funding recipients to have publicity and all press releases and quotes announcing funding are agreed and approved with the funding recipients before publication.

**GDPR**: The Chair reminded members of the importance of GDPR when sharing emails and information with other members of the Partnership and the supporting NWS teams.

**Member Resignation**: The Chair informed the Partnership that a letter of resignation had been received from Councillor Date, who due to other commitments has decided to step down from the Partnership.

With this resignation the Chair requested the Partnership think about recruitment of new members at the next meeting.

**Action**: Recruitment of new members be added to the next meeting agenda.

The partnership also requested that the various options for membership be presented to them at the next meeting and the stakeholder mapping document which had previously been shared, be shared again.

**Action**: CEM to present the various options for membership at the next meeting.

**Action**: Stakeholder mapping document to be recirculated to members.

**Future Meeting Frequency**: After discussion with the Partnership, it was decided that the meeting frequency should remain at one meeting a month with subgroup meetings as required.

**Meeting With Mark Fryer and the Chairs of the 3 West Cumbria Community Partnerships**: This is being arranged and will happen in the next few weeks.

**CIF Funding**: There are ongoing discussions with the Chairs of the 3 West Cumbria Community Partnerships and the CIF Team regarding how the CIF can support smaller applications and allocate funding in a timelier manner. The Chair will keep the Partnership informed on the progress of this.

#### **AGENDA 4: BASELINE SURVEY**

The Chair thanked the Partnership for the feedback, comments and attendance at the meeting with Yonder and Red Research.

Following the feedback, the survey has been significantly amended to take account of member concerns.

The survey is intended to provide the Partnership with a better understanding of local sentiment and levels of understanding to use as a baseline position.

It will involve face to face interviews around the local area and door to door interviews in more remote areas.

Red Research will conduct the surveys. They are based in Barrow, are aware of the local demographics and are a professional team of researchers.

After further discussion, the Partnership agreed that they were happy for the Survey to proceed.

**Action:** Dates of the field work to be confirmed and shared with the Partnership.

#### **AGENDA 5: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

The Chief Policy Advisor (CPA) took the partnership through a number of potential scenarios that they could consider in the lead up to Local Government Reorganisation. This followed some introductory conversations at the previous meeting where the following was discussed:

- Two Community Partnerships were established in Copeland recognising the two distinct Communities separated by the National Park, adopting a community place based focussed approach.
- The GDF Developer is committed to continuing to work with the two established Community Partnerships covering the two distinct communities.
- When the new Cumberland authority takes over from the current authorities next year, Search Area boundaries will need to reflect the Cumberland electoral ward boundaries.
- The GDF siting process is based on working with real communities and using the appropriate electoral ward boundaries that surround them – not arbitrarily splitting communities across boundaries.
- By keeping change to a minimum, Community Partnership membership will continue to be reflective of the communities in the areas being considered to host a GDF.

The policy dictates that we have to use electoral ward boundaries to identify the search areas as this is the smallest unit of electoral division in England.

Following Local Government Reorganisation in West Cumbria, there will be a northward shift of the boundaries which means:

- The new Cumberland Millom Without electoral ward will incorporate the Parish of Drigg and Carleton which is currently included within the Gosforth and Seascale electoral ward.
- There will be no change to the Millom electoral ward boundary.

The CPA explained what each scenario would mean for each Partnership (Mid and South Copeland).

**Action:** Share the Scenario Options Slides with Partnership members.

- Q- To clarify this issue we need some defined criteria to access the options against the process so that so we can come to the logical decision taking into consideration community’s and place-based consideration.
- Q - Where is the line of accountability who makes the decision? Is this the two Partnerships or the Local authority or an NWS decision?
- A – The Partnership makes the decision. In this case we have two Partnerships with a shared boundary, both Partnerships will need to make the decision.
- Q – This is going to require consensus across both partnerships will you be presenting this presentation to Mid Copeland.
- A – Yes this will be presented to Mid Copeland at the beginning of August.

The Chair thanked the CPA for the presentation and acknowledged that there was more discussion to be had around the Reorganisation but that this requires further discussion and consultation jointly with Mid Copeland once they had received their presentation.

**AGENDA 6: EXHIBITIONS**

The public exhibitions start in South Copeland next week at the following venues:

The Tin Chapel - Mainsgate Rd Millom LA18 4JZ

Date	Public opening times
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	11:00-19:00
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	11:00- 17:00

The Lighthouse Centre - Atkinson St, Haverigg, Millom LA18 4HA

Date	Public opening times
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	11:00-19:00
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	11:00- 17:00

We have secured the support of SME (Subject Matter Experts) for all the exhibitions covering, Geology, Siting, Policy, Environment and Engineering. The Community Investment Funding Manager will also be in attendance to answer questions on the CIF Funding available for the area. Penny Harvey from CoRWM will also be in attendance and although has no formal role for the day will be happy to speak to anyone regarding Government Policy questions. Our Comms Lead will also be in attendance with the photographer for any questions regarding communications, and to get some photographic opportunities for stock photographs for future use.

The Exhibition stands cover a Welcome, The story so far, The role of the Partnership, What is a GDF and Why is there a need for one, Other Partnerships in the UK and worldwide. There will also be visual display points either manned or on a loop system and some Virtual Reality goggles.

There will be literature covering all aspects of the GDF process, facts sheets and copies of the first South Copeland newsletter. Postcards will be available to leave comments or post questions.

The Exhibitions have been extensively promoted in Millom, Haverigg and the surrounding areas.

Q – What arrangements are in place for the safety of the events

A - Full risk assessments have been carried out with health and safety and the security teams, the attending members of staff have had a full brief and will be briefed each morning as well as carrying Orbis Security Devices.

#### **AGENDA 7: COMMS UPDATE**

The Comms Lead shared the promotional activity which had taken place in support of the exhibitions. A5 flyer leaflets had been distributed to every house in the search area and the events had been publicised on the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership website and social media and a press release was sent to local media outlets. Information on the events was also shared with local Parishes for sharing via their channels. The newsletter has been sent out to subscribers and there has been extensive promotion of the events in key locations in the communities of Haverigg and Millom, through the use of flyers and posters, plus some paid for advertising online and in print media, social media, and radio

A draft press release will be sent out to Partnership members to highlight the joint discussions of the Partnership with The Mayor of Ignace in Canada, Penny Lucas, and the Chair of the Ignace Community Nuclear Liaison Committee, Brad Greaves, who gave a presentation to the Partnership on a selection of key topics and issues which had been requested in advance by members of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership.

There has been some negative accusations on social media around the deletion of comments on social media posts. These posts were a series of different Facebook adverts (paid for promotions to advertise the exhibitions) with different heading text but the same moving graphic. The similarity of the adverts, and the fact adverts cannot be found on the social media page, appeared to cause the confusion. South Copeland GDF Community Partnership and/or the GDF developer do not delete, limit or suspend comments. All comments are welcomed. Action will be taken in future to ensure that social media advertisements are more distinct from one another.

The national Marine Geophysical Survey press release did not go ahead as it was thought a local approach would be better. The Q&As on the website has been updated to reflect the fact that the Partnership were not responsible for the commissioning of this survey. In July it is proposed to send out a joint press release from both Mid and South Copeland GDF Community Partnerships to inform the local community that the surveys will be taking place and what it involves. Finally, the Comms Lead took the partnership members through the comms Stats for the last month, covering engagement on social media, webpage visits, newsletter sign-ups etc.

#### **AGENDA 8: AOB/NEXT MEETING**

The Partnership will have received an email informing them that the Working Group in Theddlethorpe have decided to move to form a Community Partnership. This means we now have four Community Partnerships in the UK.

There is a CoRWM plenary meeting on the 30 June 10.00 -11.00 am – an invite will be sent to partnership members but further detail is included below:

The French government authorised the construction of a deep laboratory at Bure in 1999. The role of the CLIS (Local Information and Monitoring Committee) is to collect all information about the project provided by Andra, by the National Safety Authority, and indeed by any organisation

involved in the process, including independent experts, and to make it available and understandable to the public. The aim is to enable anyone to draw their own conclusions while the CLIS itself remains neutral to the outcome.

The presentation will provide further background on some of the key issues raised and reflections on some of the key lessons learned.

The agenda for Regulators Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June is now available and will be shared with members.

**Action:** Agenda for the Regulators meeting to be shared with members.

Q – Should we be sending a congratulatory letter to Theddlethorpe offering the South Copeland Partnerships support?

A- The Chair agreed to respond on behalf of the Partnership.

**Action:** Letter of support from the Chair to the Theddlethorpe Community Partnership.

Can any items for discussion on the next agenda be sent to the Secretariat.

The Chair thanked the members for their attendance.

Next meeting - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Venue - Thwaites Village Hall

Time - 6.30pm

Ref 15062022	Meeting Action Log	
<b>Agenda 2 15062022 1</b>	Circulate updated CIF policy to Partnership members.	Secretariat
<b>Agenda 3 15062022 1</b>	Recruitment of new members be added to the next meeting agenda	Secretariat
<b>Agenda 3 15062022 2</b>	CEM to present the various options for membership at the next meeting.	CEM
<b>Agenda 3 15062022 3</b>	Stakeholder mapping document to be recirculated to members.	Secretariat
<b>Agenda 4 15062022 1</b>	Dates of the field work to be confirmed and shared with the Partnership.	Secretariat
<b>Agenda 5 15062022 1</b>	Share the Scenario Options Slides with Partnership members.	Secretariat
<b>Agenda 8 15062022 1</b>	Agenda for the Regulators meeting to be shared with members.	Secretariat
<b>Agenda 8 15062022 2</b>	Letter of support from the Chair to the Theddlethorpe Community Partnership.	Chair/KA

