**Working in Partnership Copeland**

**Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership**

**Held at Calderbridge and Ponsonby Village Hall**

**On Tuesday 28th February 2023**

**Commencing at 15:00 hrs**

**PRESENT:**

Andy Pratt Chair

Cllr David Moore Copeland Borough Council, Councillor & Nuclear Portfolio Holder

Julie Nugent Beckermet with Thornhill Parish Council Chair

Mark Fussell Gosforth Parish Council Chair

Mike Slater Farming Sector Lead

Bob Jones Calderbridge & Ponsonby Parish Council Chair

Yvonne Clarkson Business Sector Lead

Deborah Naylor Youth Sector Lead

Gillian Johnston GDF Team, Community Engagement Manager – Mid Copeland Community Partnership

**Supporting Attendees:**

Gill Thorne GDF Team, Communications Lead

Sue Shepherd GDF Team, Community Coordinator

Claire Dobson GDF Team, Community Coordinator

Jonathan Cook Copeland Borough Council, Officer

**In attendance:**

Lisa Rothery GDF Team, Secretariat Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership

Chris Keenan GDF Team, Head of Property and Land

**APOLOGIES:**

Karen Warmoth Drigg & Carleton Parish Council Representative

Rob Ward GDF Team, Community Partnership Operations Manager

Helen Conway GDF Team, Grants Manager

**AGENDA 1: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS TO INCLUDE DOI, MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND ACTION POINTS**

The Chair welcomed the Community Partnership members and 1 member of the public.

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| **Ref 09012023** | **MEETING ACTION LOG** |
| Agenda 7  05092022 2 | The Mid Copeland Community Partnership to review the terms of reference and Community Partnership Agreement – Review changes and add to next agenda - Complete |
| Agenda 10  21102022 4 | Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) - letter sent to the South Copeland Community Partnership with reference to Mid Copeland Community Partnership’s decision on LGR and a letter also sent to Drigg and Carleton Parish Council - Complete |
| **Ref 09012023** | **MEETING DECISION LOG** |
| 09012023 01 | Mid Copeland Community Partnership draft minutes not to be issued on the Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership website as meeting briefings are provided within 48 hours of the meeting and will be put on the website. Approved minutes will be added to the website - Complete |
| 09012023 02 | Moving public questions to later on in the agenda for future Mid Copeland Community Partnership meetings, so all the information could be heard before asking questions. This was agreed in the meeting and will be moved for future meetings - Complete |

**AGENDA 2: ROUND THE ROOM INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed the Community Partnership members and 1 member of the public.

Introductions were made by the Mid Copeland Community Partnership members and support team.

The actions from the previous meeting’s minutes were reviewed, there was a suggested revision to Agenda Item 6. This was agreed.

**AGENDA 3:**  **CHAIR’S REPORT**

**Nuclear Waste Advisory Association Correspondence**

The Chair informed members of an email from the Nuclear Waste Advisory Association (NWAA) offering advisory support. An action was to share the NWAA website link for the members to review content as this may be something that is considered in the future.

[www.nuclearwasteadvisory.co.uk](http://www.nuclearwasteadvisory.co.uk)

**Independent Evaluation of Community Engagement in Community Partnership**

Government policy states that independent evaluation of Community Partnerships should be kept under review. The Chair asked the Community Partnership if they felt that the Community Engagement of the Community Partnership should be independently evaluated. The membership decided this isn’t currently required and should be reviewed in twelve months.

**The Canadian GDF Visit**

The Canadian GDF visit in April was briefly discussed. It was suggested to put the visit on the next agenda.

**The WhatsApp Group**

The Chair asked the Community Partnership if they were happy for a WhatsApp group to be set up for meeting reminders and information on events etc. This was agreed and will be actioned.

**AGENDA 4:**  **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT**

The Youth Lead gave feedback on the progress that is being made on the Youth Strategy. She outlined the purpose and scope for implementing an inclusive Youth Engagement Strategy. She explained that the strategy would be a ‘living’ document and welcomed everyone’s advice explaining that she is working very closely with the GDF Engagement Coordinators. She is delighted that Shackles Off have agreed to work with us as a pilot to gather young people’s ideas and thoughts. The Shackles Off initiative will be a 6-week project which will outline the purpose and scope of a GDF to young people. Once this work is complete, the Community Partnership needs to consider working with Primary and Secondary schools relevant to the Search Area. A suggestion was that we should also consider working with District Young Farmers.

**AGENDA 5: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT UPDATE**

A member of the Community Engagement Team read through the amendments of the Community Partnership Agreement.  One of the members queried the changing of Radioactive Waste Management to Nuclear Waste Services in the CPA. The Community Engagement Team members agreed to seek advice on whether Radioactive Waste Management could remain in the CPA or provide a line of clarity to add to the CPA to define the two.  All partnership members formally agreed the amendments to the CPA (pending outcome of the query).

**AGENDA 6: LAND AND PROPERTY**

Nuclear Waste Services’ Head of Property and Land outlined his role to the Partnership members. It was explained that his key focus is to answer and address any queries in the community relating to property and land.

It was further explained that the GDF developer tracks the property market to understand the local market and monitor trends in sales.

It was also discussed in the Summer of 2023 the Head of Land and Property would come back to a Community Partnership Meeting in order to provide an update on an emerging property scheme. It was suggested that the GDF Team will look at some FAQs that we can put on the Mid Copeland Community Partnership website, our Chair asked if they be factual and realistic to our area.

**AGENDA 7: AOB TO INCLUDE: ENGAGEMENT UPDATE, COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDING (CIF) UPDATE**

**Engagement Update**

A member of the Engagement Team gave an update on the Drop in Events that took place in January and February. There were 9 events in Gosforth, Beckermet, Thornhill, Seascale, Drigg and Calderbridge with 59 attendees, 42% having never attended an event before. The sentiment was generally positive with questions around head works, inshore seismic results, and Local Government Reorganisation. The Community Partnership members were thanked for their support with the events.

Out of Search Area events were discussed, and it was explained that these are scheduled to commence throughout the summer as Nuclear Waste Services and not as a Community Partnership. The Community Partnership Drop in Events are scheduled again from September. It was explained that the Engagement Team is to produce a flyer, to explain how people can get in touch and the sort of events, talks and discussions which members of the community could get involved with.

**Communications Update**

The Communications Lead recapped on content which went on the website in January and February, including Search Area changes due to Local Government Reorganisation and a press release on Mid Copeland’s technical and safety events being held in March. Current communications activity includes delivery this week of the first quarterly Mid Copeland newspaper-style printed newsletter to homes in the Search Area and a forthcoming press release about some initial site evaluation studies which are currently taking place. The next e-newsletter is due out in March and a video of some of the Engagement Events and Community Investment Funding projects has been put together for the March events. An interactive map is being worked on for the website and the next printed newsletter will be published in June.

A member of the Community Partnership mentioned that when the Communications update has gone to CALC, they are then sending it on to all CALC parishes which includes South Copeland, and this is unfortunately causing some issues. This with be actioned by the Chair.

**Community Investment Funding Update**

There have been 4 awards in year 2 so far.

* 09/12/22 - **£3,960** Age UK West Cumbria Muncaster Community Shed Veteran’s Session
* 09/12/22 - **£2640** Little Lifers First Aid Ltd Flat Stan First Aid Workshop to Year 3 Primary
* 01/02/23 - **£29,086.78** Copeland Age & Advice Service CAAS Core Costs 2023- 2024
* 01/02/23 - **£3,126** Gosforth Agricultural Show Improvements to Staging of Gosforth Show Community Wellbeing
* **(Total £38,812)**

Four funding requests were presented to the February Community Investment Panel for consideration, of these, two part-awards were made, one funding request was deferred and one was rejected.

4 funding requests are currently in assessment for the March Panel, totalling approx. £495,000.

A number of other projects are at funding enquiry stage.

**General CIF Update**

A new streamlined version of the £10,000 funding application has now gone “live” online.

Members of the CIF team will be attending some of the March engagement events in Gosforth -11/03/23, Seascale - 17/03/23, Drigg - 18/03/23.

The monitoring process of active grants is increasing as more grantees begin to submit interim and final reports on their projects. Report content covers project expenditure against the grant award, progress against any agreed project outcomes etc. A new streamlined version of the under £10,000 funding application has now gone ‘live’ online.

**The Hub**

A member of the Engagement Team asked the Community Partnership if they were happy to share their emails for the Hub invites. This was agreed.

**Events Team Base**

The Community Engagement Manager informed the Community Partnership that they have potentially found a base in the community for one day a week, Wednesdays between 10am and 5:30pm. This will start with a 3-month trial from May. The Partnership was happy to proceed once all the relevant checks had been made.

**Recruitment pack**

The Community Engagement Manager informed the Community Partnership that the Recruitment Pack online needs updated. The Community Partnership was asked if members agreed to this being taken offline whilst being amended. Also, whilst still recruiting for a representative from the tourism industry, the Community Partnership was asked if it wanted to make any sector revisions whilst the document was being updated. The Community Partnership agreed for the update to go ahead and to take the Recruitment Pack offline but keep the vacancy as Tourism Lead only.

**Appointment to the Chair**

The Community Engagement Manager reminded the members that the current Chair’s 12-month period will be up for renewal in July. She explained that if any Community Partnership members, including the current Chair, were interested in the Chair’s position to contact her for an initial brief discussion. A formal process for recruitment of Chair will be drafted and added to the Community Partnership meeting agenda on 27th March 2023.

**AGENDA 9: PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

**Q:**  I understand that a new Policy on the near surface disposal was due to be released soon and I’d like to enquire if someone from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) government department would be able to come to the Community Partnership Meetings to provide a brief?

**A:** I believe the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) is about to launch consultation on the UK’s Radioactive Substances and Nuclear Decommissioning Policy.  Among other things, this does include proposals for Near Surface Disposal. Once this has been launched, we will invite a representative to attend a Community Partnership meeting.

**AGENDA 10: DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership Meeting is as follows:

Monday 27th March 3-5pm at Drigg and Carleton Village Hall

Members of the public welcome.

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| **Ref 28022023** | **MEETING ACTION LOG** |
| Agenda 2  28022023 01 | A member of the Community Partnership raised a suggestion about deleting a comment from Agenda Item 6 in the previous Community Partnership Meeting Minutes, 9th January 2023. This was agreed to be actioned. |
| Agenda 3  28022023 02 | Secretariat to send round the link to NWAA website to the Partnership members. |
| Agenda 3  28022023 03 | Secretariat to set up a WhatsApp group for reminders and information on events. |
| Agenda 4  28022023 04 | Chair to get in touch with the District Young Farmers to provide a contact for us. |
| Agenda 4  28022023 05 | Youth Lead to feed back to our next Community Partnership meeting on Monday 27th March 2023, to give a quick overview on how the Shackles off programme is processing. |
| Agenda 6  28022023 06 | Head of Property and Land to take questions back for answers. |
| Agenda 6  28022023 07 | Head of Property and Land to work on some FAQ’s that we can put on the website. |
| Agenda 7  28022023 08 | Chair who is also the CALC Chair to add the issue of stopping Mid Copeland Community Partnerships Communications going to the South Copeland Community Partnership. |
| Agenda 7  28022023 09 | Community Engagement Manager to produce a process for nominating and recruiting a Chair. |
| Agenda 9  28022023 10 | Chair to put an Agenda item on for the next Community Partnership Meeting regarding NSD and Policy Consultation. |
| **Ref 28022023** | **MEETING DECISION LOG** |
| Agenda 3  20022023 01 | Independent evaluation. It was agreed today that the partnership will review their decision about using independent evaluators in twelve months’. |
| Agenda 3  28022023 02 | The Canadian Visit to be put on the next agenda as we should hopefully have more information by then. |
| Agenda 5  28022023 03 | All partnership members formally agreed the amendments to the CPA (pending outcome of the query). |
| Agenda 4  28022023 04 | All partnership members are happy for the Youth Lead, with the help of the Community Engagement Coordinators, to trial a Youth Project with Shackles Off Youth Group in Seascale. |
| Agenda 7  28022023 05 | The Community Partnership members are happy to start using the Hub and are willing to share their emails for this to go ahead. |
| Agenda 7  28022023 06 | The Community Partnership members are happy for the Community Engagement Team to use an Events Team Base once all the checks have been made. |