



Distington Big Local
Partnership, Board & General Meeting
Held on Wednesday 16th June at 10:30 am, via Zoom

Attendees: Rhoda Robinson (RR), Norma Pritt (NP), Julia Powley (JP), Sue Hunter (SH), Alison Boyd (AB), Elaine Ismay (EI), Annette Whitehead (AW), Josephine Greggain (JG)

In Attendance: Pete Duncan (PD), Simon Underwood (SU)

Apologies: Ingrid Morris (IM)

RR welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of Previous Board Meeting on 2nd June 2021 were passed as a true record. PD raised the issue of minutes of previous meetings which were not yet on the DBL website. Following discussion it was agreed that redacted minutes up to and including 29th April 2021 should now be uploaded, with the more recent meeting minutes to follow on July 16th. **Action: IM to upload on her return from holiday.**

PD advised the Board that Local Trust had now received an acknowledgement of their response to the complaint. The complainant had posted a message on Facebook on June 7th which supported the formation of a new Partnership in the village.

Board recruitment JP reported back on a meeting she had held on June 14th with Gary Hewer and Christine Pattinson and a subsequent email she had received with the names of nine residents who were prepared to form a new Big Local partnership. Some of these individuals might be prepared to come onto the CBS Board, but not immediately, to let the dust settle on the land issue. JP stressed that the intention of the group was to encourage more residents to become involved and that they intended to issue a statement to the village expressing their appreciation for the work of the current Board over the past eight years. Members thanked JP for making such good progress with bringing new people together.

Action: SU to contact Christine Pattinson to arrange an initial meeting of the new Partnership w/c 21st June. JP to send list of names to SU and PD

The Plan B for the CBS, with four current Board members agreeing to stay in place in a purely holding capacity would need to be actioned from July 16th as previously discussed.

Update on Transition Plan

SU reported on the position with the new Partnership needing a new LTO. PD reported back on his meeting with Local Trust which included this issue. Members felt this was an issue for the new Partnership Board rather than the current Board. JP felt that the role could be performed by a local firm of accountants and these could be included in the search, although PD did point out that the firm that had been approached by another local Big Local had decided they could not employ staff, which might be an issue if the new Partnership decided it wanted to continue Ingrid's employment.

DBL Newsletter

It was agreed that this needed to be precise so the figures included were correct and that this would be distributed to every household. Vic had offered to help with putting it together in Publisher which was much appreciated. RR offered to help AB draft the newsletter. It was also agreed that the newsletter should include a reference to the people who were to become new Partnership members, to make it more positive and less defensive.

Winding up DBL's role as an LTO

PD reported that everything seemed to be in place to bring DBL's LTO role to a close on July 16th. Following discussion it was agreed that the final spend report needed to be on or around July 16th (rather than the end of June), with repayment of grant to Local Trust as soon as possible after this date. This repayment would then be held by Local Trust and made available to the new Partnership once an LTO is in place.

Report back on PD meeting with Local Trust

DBL Asset Register

A list of assets has been drawn up. It was agreed that whilst these need to be retained for use by the local community there was no need to deal with them all by July 16th as the CBS was not now to be wound up then. Electronic and paper records can be kept in the Community Centre office, with rent paid up by DBL to the end of November 2021. PD said all these records need to be kept for 7 years and should be made available to the new Partnership.

It was suggested that the monitoring of the defibrillator could be transferred to the primary school;
ACTION: JP agreed to raise this possibility at a Governor's meeting on June 17th.

JP raised the issue about the large mower being used informally to help maintain the village over the summer; it was agreed that DBL could not take responsibility for this as it would not be insured. It was agreed that the Parish Council should be approached to see if they would purchase this asset from DBL. PD was asked to contact David Alcock for a legal opinion on whether assets like this could be gifted to the Parish Council, which would speed up the process. **Action: PD to email David Alcock and report to the next Board meeting.**

DCYP funding

PD outlined Local Trust's view on how the agreement with DCYP might be honoured. The payment due for April 2021 is fine, once the progress report has been received, but the September payment is a problem as there would be no organisation to monitor how the funding had been spent. Remaining payments due in 2022 would need to be discussed by the new Partnership. It was agreed that the agreement between DBL and DCYP could potentially be transferred to Copeland Community Fund, who provide match funding for the Club, which could release the September payment.

ACTION: IM to explore this possibility with DCYP and CCF.

DBL Staffing

[REDACTED]

July 12th meeting with Local Trust senior staff

It was agreed that this meeting should go ahead at a venue outside the village, with everyone paying their own way. **Action: RR to explore options and report back to PD so he can inform Local Trust about the arrangements.**

SU will discuss with Local Trust whether they might also like to meet separately with the new Partnership group – possibly in the community centre – and then raise this at his meeting with them next week. **Action: SU to liaise with Local Trust and Christine Pattinson.**

Any other business

Date of next meeting Thursday July 1st at 10.30am

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.