



**Distington Big Local  
Partnership, Board & General Meeting  
Held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 9 am, via Zoom**

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

**In Attendance:** Ingrid Morris (IM), Pete Duncan (PD), Simon Underwood (SU)

**Apologies:** Vic Askew (VA)

**RR Welcomed everyone to the meeting.**

**85.21 Declarations of Interest** None

**86.21 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021** were passed as a true record

**87.21 Response to Complaint by a Community Member to Local Trust (LT)** A draft response has been drawn up which needs some more work done on it before being submitted to LT. Action : PD, IM & board members.

**88.21 Update on Copeland Borough Council (CBC) Funding** CBC have confirmed that they can pay us the last 2 lots of funding we applied for which has come from Homes England (HE) funding. Action: IM to complete the claim forms.

**89.21 Final Decision on the Planning Application** Anthony Collins solicitors have advised that as DBL is the applicant to the planning authority, DBL can withdraw the application without the need for agreement from H21. The fact that HE have advised CBC that they can pay us the last 2 lots of funding for the land development gives us confidence that they will not clawback the funding they have awarded DBL. The board voted in favour of withdrawing the planning application, 6 members were for this motion, 2 were against. It should be noted that H21 were very understanding of this decision and did not try to oppose it. The DBL board very much hope that a new board can be formed to enable the Community Benefit Society to stay in place and the land to remain in ownership of the village. Action : IM to instruct the architects to withdraw the planning application.

**90.21 Wording and Timing of 3<sup>rd</sup> Statement** Amendments to the draft 3<sup>rd</sup> statement were made. It will be circulated to board members, Local Trust and Anthony Collins solicitor for signing off before being issued (by Anthony Collins, on behalf of the board) on Friday 21 May, once the planning application has been officially been withdrawn. Action: IM to circulate.

**91.21 ACT Proposal Update** SU reported that he had spoken to ACT and that their trustees were not allowing staff to undertake face to face meetings until at least September. This puts into question the practicality of involving ACT in any conciliation process. It was agreed to follow up on this item at our next meeting. Action: SU.

**92.21 Staffing & CVS** Ronnie Hewer has resigned, his new job starts on 28<sup>th</sup> May, therefore his last day of work for DBL will 27<sup>th</sup> May. Vic Askew has resigned, in line with her notice period her last day of work will be 15<sup>th</sup> June. IM to liaise with CVS regarding RH & VA's end of employment. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] IM then left the meeting. Rhoda and Pete explained the main points of a meeting held earlier in the week with David Allen CEO at Cumbria CVS. The main focus was on the need for DBL to issue an advance notice of risk of redundancy to Ingrid and for CVS to then enter into a consultation period. It was agreed that this would be discussed in detail at the next Board meeting.

**93.21 AOB** None

**Date of Next Meeting** Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 2pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.