

## York and North Yorkshire Rural Partnership

### Notes of Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009

#### Present

Janet Waggott (Chair)  
Phil Broomhead (NYCC)  
Bill Cross (Rural Action Yorkshire)  
Mike Feist (GOYH)  
Jo Ireland (Scarborough Borough Council)  
Michael Graham (North York Moors Park Authority)  
Andrew Leeming (YNYPU)  
Rose Norris (Selby District Council)  
Liz Smith (Hambleton and Richmondshire Districts Councils)

#### Apologies

Gary Fielding (NYCC)

#### In attendance

Item 5 John Laking (NYCC)  
Item 5 Helen Ovens (Yorkshire Forward)  
Item 6 Andrea Hobbs

Item		Action
1	<b>Welcome and apologies</b>	
2	<b>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</b>  The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.	
3	<b>Terms of Reference</b>  Liz Smith presented the second paper on this subject which incorporated all comments that had been received with the aim that agreement be reached to move the paper up to the NYSP Executive for adoption.  Once adopted by NYSP the next steps will be to develop the structure and refine membership. It was agreed that LS/GF would take the lead on developing the structure with a representative group other members of the Partnership.  It was agreed that - <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The terms of Reference Paper was signed of in principle</li><li>• That all would look at membership and the numbers of representatives on the two groups</li><li>• That thought be given to how these would interface with other groups</li><li>• That the paper be prepared for sign off by the NYSP Executive</li></ul>	All

4	<p><b>RDPE Progress in North Yorkshire</b></p> <p>Helen Ovens attended the meeting to update on RDPE 20% of which is allocated to rural development and detailed some examples of support packages that had been approved. There is currently an under spend on the 65 million awarded to the region due to a number of factors , such as the Euro exchange rate and enterprises not getting financial support from the banks however momentum is gathering as the RDPE scheme is developed. Within North Yorkshire one third of activity is currently FREP (Farm Resource Efficiency Programme) and another third is Business support (Rural Business Support Programme).</p> <p>This Partnership was asked to think about areas where strategic projects supporting rural businesses could be developed. Projects which are being rolled out in the next couple of months include developing the infrastructure of museums and outdoor activities and tourism.</p>	All
5	<p><b>Local Transport Plan</b> (taken after Item 2)</p> <p>John Laking attended to discuss the current consultation on LPT3. Guidance allows for local flexibility and emphasises partnership working. The current consultation will cease in mid October with an initial draft produced in mid February 2010. Adoption by North Yorkshire County Council is timetabled for July 2010.</p> <p>Six themed working groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Safety and Security</li> <li>• Economy, Congestion and Connectivity</li> <li>• Equality and Opportunity</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Scheme Identification</li> <li>• Maintenance</li> </ul> <p>have been established to look at aligning local and countywide strategies and performance measures and indicators.</p> <p>JL identified areas of interest to this Partnership including equality and opportunity access to services with the aim to discuss to what extent the transport strategy could further the objectives of this group (recognising that this is an NYCC policy document).</p> <p>The Partnership requested chapters specific to each District would be useful as some issues are local to individual districts. JL responded that it was likely that specific issues would be developed rather than District chapters.</p> <p>Concern was raised about lack of information about the proposed funding allocation for each of the project areas ,for example maintenance, as the Partnership wanted to know which area it could influence most and if resources were limited it may be better to co-ordinate a response to areas where influence/resources are greater.</p>	

6	<p><b>Establishing a Rural Voice</b></p> <p>Andrea Hobbs attended the meeting to discuss the work of the York and North Yorkshire Infrastructure Consortium which offers support to the charity and community sector. Four successful Big Lottery Fund bids have been awarded which has led to the setting up of "Rural Voice" .The consortium aims to assist with decision making and policy formation and meet identified gaps such organisations marketing themselves. Working effectively and efficiently is a key aim with a no wrong door approach in that any partner can be approached for support. Value is added by resources being used collectively and having a clear outcome focus. The key aims are to link with this Partnership and the NYSP, to have a rural liaison officer linked to each LSP and to meet the challenges of BME working with a population scattered across a rural area. Once the project has been established and update will be provided to this partnership.</p>	
7	<p><b>Rural Defences and the Proposed Withdrawal of Maintenance Policy</b></p> <p>JW brought forward this report which includes comments on the discussion paper for information. It was agreed that the Environment Agency need to recognise both the impact on and the value of rural communities and that more engagement with rural communities needs to occur.</p>	
8	<p><b>LAA Performance Monitoring</b></p> <p>JC presented the Quarter 1 performance figures; targets which remain a cause for concern include the target concerning Affordable Housing (L72) and the Supply of ready to develop housing sites (NI 159). A detailed document is being prepared for GOYH on this issue and will be shared with the Partnership when available.</p> <p>JW discussed the CO2 targets and the issue of wider ownership than this Partnership alone. JW to attend the NYSP Wider Partnership later in September to present an item about climate change in North Yorkshire.</p>	
9	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>MF enquired about North Yorkshire involvement in the Tees City Region and how Teesside "fits" into this sub region. MF reported that other sub regions are examining the rural impact from the creation of city regions. AL responded, with regard to the Leeds City Region there is an overlap with the York and North Yorkshire Integrated Regional Strategy and current arrangements mean that NY can feed into what the Leeds City Region produce. With regard to the Tees Valley discussions are currently underway in areas of overlap. Government guidance on the Economic Assessment is not set exclusively to boundaries therefore the Partnership Unit will be taking into account activity in Teesside, Leeds and Lancashire. The Yorkshire Forward Strategy Unit are also looking at how rural areas can be involved.</p>	