

York and North Yorkshire Rural Partnership

**Notes of meeting 8th December 2009
Northdale Horticulture**

Present

Janet Waggott (Chair)
Sarah Bowden (Rural Action Yorkshire)
Rachel Bowles (Harrogate Borough Council)
Bob Curry (NYFVO)
Gary Fielding (NYCC)
Mike Feist (GOYH)
Jo Ireland (Scarborough Borough Council)
Michael Graham (North York Moors Park Authority)
Kate Senior (Craven District Council)

Apologies

Phil Broomhead (NYCC)
Bill Cross (Rural Action Yorkshire)
Andrew Leeming (YNYPU)
Rose Norris (Selby District Council)
Liz Smith (Hambleton and Richmondshire Districts Councils)

In attendance

Ann Forster - Audit Commission
Item 3 – County Councillor Blackburn
Item 3 - Rachel Rushforth, Scrutiny Support Officer NYCC
Item 7 - Debbie Bassett, Local Area Agreement Accountant, NYCC

1	Welcome and apologies	
2	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record.</p> <p>BC requested Helen Ovens contact details in order to look at RDPE and projects involving museums.</p>	JC
3	<p>Report of the North Yorkshire Joint County and District Flood Scrutiny Group</p> <p>Councillor John Blackburn, chair of the Joint County and District Flood Group, discussed work which had reviewed arrangements for flood planning across the county (including parish councils) and involving stakeholders such as the Environment Agency and the National Flood Forum. One of the aims is to develop the support given to people to make their homes more resilient to flooding. The group visited areas previously affected by flooding including Hull and Cumbria to learn from local experiences.</p> <p>Cllr Blackburn and the Group have encouraged parishes to develop flood/emergency plans however response not been great as most parishes see flooding as a separate issue. There are currently no</p>	

	<p>formal arrangements in place to aid development although it was agreed that this should be included in the emergency section of every parish plan. However engaging communities with no experience of flooding remains difficult. Harrogate are currently working with the community to include flooding in the development community plans.</p> <p>All agreed with the recommendation to consider the implications for their own organisations and joint working arrangements.</p>	
4	<p>East Riding Rural Experience</p> <p>Helen Wright, Rural Policy and Partnerships Manager from East Riding, attended the meeting to discuss the development of the Rural Partnership in East Riding and exchange best practice. East Riding has benefited from having a dedicated rural team since 1996 and has been able to demonstrate that the rural context is capable of attracting funding and delivering in the sub region. This has been recognised by the award of Pathfinder Status.</p> <p>East Riding has a broad based rural partnership that encompasses economic, social, voluntary and business sectors and faces similar challenges to North Yorkshire, for example, where the rural agenda starts and stops, how they can add value and ensuring the rural voice is heard. Interest in more information on membership and how the Board works as this Partnership is currently reviewing its own terms of reference.</p> <p>The East Riding Partnership has played a key role in the development and structure of the Hull and Humber Ports City Region which ensures the rural voice is embedded. A rural strategy and implementation framework has been produced which mirrors the structure of the city region development plan. Helen suggested that if each sub region produced a rural strategy the rural voice for the region would be stronger and maximise joint working in areas of overlap.</p> <p>The North Yorkshire Rural Partnership is at a different stage of development, more advanced in terms of linkages to the Local Area Agreement but less so in terms of spatial and geographical planning.</p>	
5	<p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>Discussion focused on getting the right representation/membership for the Stronger and Rural partnerships prior to a report being submitted to the NYSP Executive in January 2010.</p> <p>The membership of the Stronger Communities Partnership will include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 representative from Rural Action Yorkshire • 1 representative from the Thriving Third Sector • 1 representative from NYCC • 1 representative from each District Council/LSP 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 representative from each National Park Authority • 1 representative (as lead) from Access group (to attend as required) • 1 representative (as lead for Community Transport) from the Rural Transport and Access Group • 1 representative (as lead) from Community Engagement group (to attend as required) • 1 representative from the Sustainable Officers Group • 1 representative from GOYH <p>(Total membership – 16)</p> <p>The membership of the Rural Partnership will include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 representative from Rural Action Yorkshire • 1 representative from the Thriving Third Sector • 1 representative from NYCC • 1 representative from each District Council/LSP • 1 representative from the City of York • 1 representative from each National Park Authority • 1 representative from the rural businesses (including agriculture) • 1 representative from English Heritage • 1 representative from Natural England • 1 representative from Environment Agency • 1 representative from GOYH • 1 representative from North Yorkshire Police • 1 representative from North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue • 1 representative of the PCT • 1 representative from Welcome Yorkshire (Tourism) in North Yorkshire • 1 representative from the Rural Affairs Forum Management Group in the event that one of the above is not part of the group <p>(Total membership – 22)</p> <p>Rural Affairs Forum will request two representatives to sit on its management group to represent the sub region.</p>	
6	<p>Refresh of Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement.</p> <p>Agreed that a small task and finish group consisting of JW, RB, BC and JC meet to discuss the relevance of the existing SCS priorities and LAA targets and propose any new priorities /targets for the consideration of the partnership at it's next meeting on the 23rd February 2010.</p>	JW, RB, BC,JC
7	<p>LAA Quarter 1 Performance and Financial Monitoring</p> <p>a) Performance Monitoring</p>	

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	<p>JC presented the Quarter 2 performance figures; targets which remain a cause for concern are Affordable Housing (L72) and the Supply of ready to develop housing sites (NI 159).</p> <p>North Yorkshire has commissioned a survey that will track 18 questions from the PLACE survey in order to provide an interim position on target performance. Results and analysis will be available in January.</p> <p>b) LAA Financial Monitoring Report</p> <p>Debbie Basset attended to update on the current committed spend on pump priming grant. It was also reported that £10k had been allocated for climate change initiatives.</p>	
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>Wheels to Work.</p> <p>MF stated that in North Yorkshire 60% of need was not being met and if assistance could be given by community transport.</p> <p>LAA Pump Priming Grant - volunteering</p> <p>Bob Curry stated that volunteer centres are struggling financially and two centres may close. Request for the Partnership to support a recommendation to the NYSP Executive that funding be provided from future reward. Pump Priming (which ends in March 2010) has provided £5,000 a year to each of the volunteer centres, for the last three years (2007 – 10) to support the development of the LAA targets.</p> <p>Equalities Conference</p> <p>Bob Curry informed that an Equalities conference, hosted by NYFVO, will take place on 23rd March to coincide with the Equalities Bill.</p> <p>Support to Museums</p> <p>Bob Curry advised NYFVO is proposing to hold a number of half day sessions on infrastructure support. Request for key contacts in the districts.</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 23rd February 2010 10 – 1 pm , Pink Room, County Hall, Northallerton.</p>	