

York and North Yorkshire Rural Partnership - Supporting Stronger Communities

Notes of meeting 12 January 2011

| Item | | Action |
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| 1 | Present and Apologies | |
| | <p>Present: Chair - Janet Waggott (Chief Executive, Ryedale District Council), Bob Curry (NYFVO), Michael Graham (Yorkshire Dales National Park), Gary Fielding (NYCC), Kate Senior (Craven District Council), Steve Willis (Food and Farming Forum), Colin Wilson (NYCC), John Banks (NYCC), Kate Tayler (NYFVO), Jane Money (Harrogate BC), Gary Fielding (NYCC)</p> <p>Apologies: Jo Ireland (Scarborough Borough Council), Rose Norris (Selby BC), Sarah Bowden (Rural Voice Project), Liz Smith (Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils), Andrew Leeming (YNYPU)</p> <p>Secretariat: Deborah Hugill (NYCC)</p> | |
| 2 | Note of last meeting and matters arising | |
| | <p>The minutes were agreed as a correct record with the following correction:</p> <p>Item 8 should reference two separate pieces of work by North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a conference on employment issues • work with ACAS to help organisations with change management. <p>Matter arising: JW asked that all organisations respond in relation to the questions on volunteering infrastructure.</p> | |
| 3 | Performance Reward Grant | |
| | <p>Seven bids were received for the partnership allocation of £1,140,500. The meeting discussed each bid in turn with the following outcomes:</p> <p>1. Active Communities (£400k) The bid had been amended from a traditional community development bid to allow a more intensive, rapid response. The project is scaleable to a certain extent. It was agreed that this is a cross cutting project and that other partnerships should be encouraged to contribute. <i>The group agreed to support a contribution from the Rural Partnership of £150k.</i></p> | |

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| | <p>2. Broadband (£750k) The project concerns infrastructure and fills a gap which other related funding streams will miss in relation to rural communities. It has the potential to be scaleable. <i>The group agreed to support this bid.</i></p> <p>3. Rural Housing Enablers (£160k) Concern was expressed as to the lack of information in the bid about achievements which have already been made. The need for the money was also queried as the bid stated that the grant would be repaid. More information about other solutions to this issue to be sought.</p> <p>4. CO2 emission reduction in buildings used by or for the public (170k) The following concerns were expressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • invest to save will cost too much in relation to the overall pot • money may not make a discernible difference • individual local authority projects rather than a strategic solution <p>It was agreed that work on video-conferencing which included other organisations as well as local authorities might be a more strategic way forward. The North York Moors National Park Authority had good practice to share on this issue.</p> <p>5. Green Communities (£40k) Links to the previous bid but covers communities. Local communities are already identified but are not county wide all being located in the National Parks.</p> <p>6. Demand response services (£550k) This project is currently running but funding is being withdrawn at the end of March. Concerns were expressed about what the basis was for arriving at the figures in the bid.</p> <p>7. Vehicle Tracking (£205k) This concept is being tested elsewhere. It needs to be assessed and then economies of scale can hopefully be achieved. There was concern that community consultation has not been done yet.</p> | |
| 4 | Sustainable Community Strategy | |
| | <p>The following suggestions for priorities were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting vulnerable people • empowering communities | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environment (as a cross cutting issue to be considered in everything we do) • economic growth <p>It was acknowledged that priorities lead to actions which achievable and realistic.</p> | |
| 5 | Impact of Budget cuts | |
| | <p>KT reported that the voluntary and community sector are waiting for cuts to filter down from the public sector. She expressed her concern that it be recognised how individual cuts, which may be of a minor scale, can add up to major cuts, and that efforts be made to map and co-ordinate where possible to ensure that the effect on the VCS is not worse than it needs to be.</p> <p>JB reported that projects have had funding removed as a result of the demise of Yorkshire Forward. This will impact on local communities.</p> | |
| 6 | Statement of rural priorities | |
| | <p>This statement signposts to other relevant plans and provides a statement of commitment in relation to rural issues.</p> <p>Any additions/amendments in relation to the other plans and strategies which should be referenced in the document to be sent to Colin Wilson colin.wilson@northyorks.gov.uk</p> | |
| 7 | Climate change update | |
| | <p>JM gave a brief update from meetings of the Sustainable Officers Group and Climate change sub group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools conference at Thirsk Racecourse February 4 – ‘Climate change exchange’ • Teachers’ training events with toolkit support – 3 or 4 events in March • Harrogate BC presenting findings of their carbon modelling project at Government Office on 20 January. Leeds also presenting. | |
| 8 | Any other business | |
| | No other business was raised. | |
| | Date/time of next meeting | |
| | 10 am Tuesday 12 th April 2011. The Grand Meeting Room, County Hall, Northallerton | |