

**Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site
Hadrian's Wall Partnership Board**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2018
Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle**

Present: Humphrey Welfare (Chair), Jane Meek (Carlisle City Council), Wendy Scott (Northumberland County Council), Steve Bishop (North Tyneside Council), Graham Kennedy (Allerdale Borough Council), Tania Robinson (South Tyneside Council), Richard Hingley (Durham University), Mike Collins (Historic England), Duncan Wise (Northumberland National Park), Bill Griffiths (Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums)

In Attendance: John Scott (Coordinator), Lady Jane Gibson

Apologies: Cllr David Southward (Cumbria County Council), Sue Clarke (Cumbria Tourism), Christine Venus (Natural England), Paul Scott (Gateshead Council), Mike Jeffrey (National Trail Partnership), Cllr Rob Higgins (Newcastle City Council), Andrew Rothwell (Newcastle City Council), Nigel Walsh (Northumberland County Council)

Minutes in brief	Action by
<p>1. Minutes of the last meeting: Members accepted them as a true record.</p>	
<p>2. Matters Arising:</p> <p>Developments 2018/19 - BG/TR updated on developments at Arbeia: the site is looking really good with new paths and enhanced facilities. Planning is underway for a launch event in the spring to which the Partnership will be invited.</p> <p>Borderlands & North of Tyne Devolution Developments - JM updated: programme submission had been sent to central government for civil servants to review in September. JM praised the work of everyone involved in getting to this stage from officers and individuals to MPs. Senior officers now negotiating with Scottish and Westminster government officials. Partners have been promised feedback by the end of November followed by a deal framework within 12 months. Officers have been assured that this will be kept separate from other issues such as Brexit and the spending review plans and is underlined by the Borderlands mention in the 2018 Budget speech. HW asked if there was any place for members of the Partnership to lobby on behalf of the Deal and in what specific areas would the Borderlands team need help? JM, yes, lobbying MP's welcome especially in the promotion of broader transport infrastructure as it can be difficult for central government to understand the scale of the geography we are dealing with. John Stevenson who is acting as Borderland Champion MP is crucial. HW said that the Borderland Growth Deal is extremely positive news for the WHS and overlapped so well with the ambitions of the WHS Management Plan. http://www.borderlandsgrowth.com/</p>	

SB updated the meeting on North of Tyne developments saying that there will be an interim Mayor in place from the start of December leading to an Elected Mayor taking up post in May with executive authority for devolved powers. WS/AR/SB have been working together on a paper promoting the value of the cultural offer in regional regeneration, Hadrian's Wall featuring widely in the document. HW asked how the Partnership Board can help. SB said once we have had the election we can look to introduce the new Mayor to the Hadrian's Wall offer. JG added this is another great opportunity for Hadrian's Wall to play a big role in the future of the region and the meeting widely agreed to offer any support for both schemes as they develop. The meeting discussed the need to link the cultural offer with the Local Industrial Strategy as Hadrian's Wall does act as the visual reference for the whole area. Could contribute to both people and place.

TR added that Hadrian's Wall Partnership is an exemplar of good practice as is relevant to local authorities south of the Tyne too. They are developing a cultural strategy in which Hadrian's Wall will feature strongly. Members agree there is a huge opportunity to make a step change in our development of the WHS.

All Party Parliamentary Group: HW updated: the APPG held their AGM recently (a formality and did not require HW's attendance). Opportunity is the Hadrian's Wall Day in the Jubilee Room at Westminster. Mary Glindon's (MG) assistant keen to get this organised but HW has asked her if we can postpone until JG is in the chair. BG reported MG keen to do a site visit and understands potential and scale of WHS. Members agreed this was a priority. GK and SB to lead with JG.

Data monitoring project: JS said that he will introduce the simple timesheet developed by Sarah Kidd at NCC to each Delivery Group and suggested we trial the timesheet for a 6 month period. JS was looking for a way to develop the wider site monitoring ambitions with partners possibly linked to the 5G developments and in app technologies. Potential Borderlands project? The meeting agreed that this was the most practical way forward at present and asked JS to feedback.

WallCAP: WallCAP is the 3-year HLF funded project hosted by Newcastle University looking at the 18 Heritage at Risk sites that appear on Historic England's Risk Register. It will: investigate the risk and consider mitigation to safeguard these locations; run a research programme looking at the distribution of the Roman stones from the Wall. Project will be done in partnership with local communities adjacent to the WHS. The project team being formed, work will start early 2019. This project is closely aligned with the Management Plan and is an extremely positive development.

72 Cycleway: JS updated the group on the work of Sustrans who had been successful in attracting funding to redevelop the 72 Cycleway (sometimes referred to as Hadrian's Cycleway between Ravenglass and Newcastle) in Cumbria with some path works, orientation and information signage. Sustrans are currently looking to submit a complimentary bid to rural development funds for similar work in the North East. JS working with Sustran officers on both strands. The meeting discussed the importance of cycling as a way of moving around the WHS including the need to promote E-Biking. Accessing a wider audience and linking to urban cycling and the pedestrian tunnel under the Tyne to visit sites both north and south of the river in Newcastle a priority.

Action: JM, SB and TR to feedback on progress and inform the Partnership when it's time to offer assistance.

Action: SB/JG/MG meeting
SB/GK help plan for the Westminster Day

Action: JS to keep Partnership updated on progress

<p>3. Funding and Governance:</p> <p>HLF Resilience Project: JS reported progress on contracts between Northumberland CC and Carlisle CC to host the two posts attached to the funding. JS thanked officers at both organisations for helping with this. The posts would be advertised as soon as the contracting was done. JG said that the Board needed to support JS in finding the right people to help with his work rather than adding to his work to which all present agreed. JS had been keeping HLF up to date with progress at regular intervals. JS was holding back on spend for this year to secure match funding for the project as it gets underway in 2019 and will talk to NCC finance to ensure smooth carry over in 2019/20 year.</p>	<p>Action: JS to lead on recruitment</p>
<p>4. Finance:</p> <p>Budget 2018/19: JS presented the current situation which was to forecast in all areas except those connected to the Resilience project where JS was holding back to cover match funding. JS added that he will be looking to secure extra resources to develop the business case, feasibility and options studies for Hadrian’s Wall capital projects connected to Borderlands and will speak to partners as and when we have further information.</p>	
<p>5. Reports from the Delivery Groups:</p> <p>Conservation, Planning and Heritage Management: MC reported that incidents of illicit metal detecting had continued in the Corbridge area. English Heritage had employed extra security and Northumbria Police had been taking the situation very seriously with regular patrols and monitoring. MC had been involved in a number of stakeouts at the site with police in the hope of catching the culprits and they hope to put an end to these crimes in this area soon.</p> <p>MC noted that Historic England are about to commission a new Scheduling programme on Tyneside to clarify particular sites in the area following recent research. He was also hoping to hear back soon as to what the effect of Brexit will be on the Agricultural Stewardship programmes which are used widely by farms within the WHS corridor and have a substantial benefit for conservation.</p> <p>MC praised the work of officers at Allerdale DC for their management of relations with large scale developers working on a scheme in the area, particularly thanking Kevin Kerrigan for his efforts resulting in positive outcomes for the WHS.</p> <p>Learning and Interpretation: BG said that he had the opportunity to share the work on Hadrian's Cavalry with colleagues in Serbia at the Lime Conference and the project had been greeted enthusiastically and seen as good practice. The group had been working closely with National Trust on their national programme with some good projects coming out of that relationship celebrating the arts and diversity. The group had started thinking about ways to mark the 1900 anniversary of Hadrian’s Wall construction in 2022 with a wall-wide programme of activity.</p> <p>Archaeological Research: The main area of work for this group is the Research Framework and this has been going well and is being peer appraised. RH added that they looking to seek funding for the publication of the Framework. Sustainability of</p>	

<p>the (largely aging) group is an issue as they are not seeing new academics driving Roman frontier research. The vice chair Rob Collins is an exception but the community is not big enough to secure the future of study in this field. The group is thinking of ways to develop a succession of scholars; a long term task but crucial for the future of research, conservation and interpretation. HW said that research was fundamental to all the other aspects of the WHS management plan. This was echoed by members. It was suggested that this is raised at the APPG as a priority as policy makers might be able to help. RH finished by asking if the Archaeological Research group could work closely with the Trail Partnership offering advice and oversight on Archaeological issues. HW said that this is a good idea and possibly the Trail Partnership can think about how the collective energy of the Research Group could feed in.</p> <p>Marketing and Transport: DW updated on transport issues discussed at the group's meetings, of which the most important is the continuation of the AD122 bus service. The bus comes to the end of its funded period at the close of the 2019 season. NNPA and NCC have been supporting the bus for the last 4 years on the premise that this leads to a self-sustaining model for the 2020 season. Bus numbers are up and part of that has been the ability of Go Northeast to plan over an extended time getting timetables out in time for the visitor peaks. The last few years Go Northeast have been considering slightly extending the operating season to service the attractions as they go into the off-season for the Trail. Stronger links have been forged with the rail network and the situations looks to be positive, however nothing can be taken for granted and DW would keep the Partnership Board up to date on process for the services future running.</p>	<p>Action: RH/JG/JS to look at APPG agenda</p> <p>Action: RH/JS Coordinate with Trail Partnership</p> <p>Action: DW to keep working on AD122</p>
<p>6. Management Plan:</p> <p>Summary Annual Report: JS presented the updated summary report for members, including key achievements over the last 12 months. Members thanked JS and suggested that it would be useful to have a summary update twice a year for their own reporting activities. HW suggested that the update is provided at alternative meetings.</p> <p>Revision schedule of the Plan: JS reported that the schedule has slipped a few months due to delays with Resilience and lack of capacity but by working with WallCAP on consultations and focussing on the areas to be readdressed and updated we should be back on target. The meeting wished to see an updated schedule for the next meeting.</p> <p>Delivery Group Chairs meeting feedback & recommendations: The Delivery Group Chairs had met and spent several hours reviewing, updating and scoping actions and policies in the existing plan and for the forthcoming edition. As outlined in the circulated paper, the format of the plan was thought to be ideal and so should be carried forward into the new edition. Delivery of actions had gone very well with just over 78% of the 51 actions delivered or in action at this point. Consultation should focus on new actions but should continue to be realistic and practicable, should think about steps to achieving the big outcome and focus on those. BG said that building strong partnerships has been very successful in this last period and should continue to be a focus. The meeting agreed, adding that we should at all times not forget to be as outwardly looking as possible. DW added there is a need to continue to use less terminology and engage as widely as possible, keeping the plans as living documents.</p>	<p>Action: JS to update meeting as suggested</p> <p>Action: JS to update and circulate for March meeting</p>

<p>HW asked the DG Chairs to act as the project board for this activity and support JS. The meeting discussed consultation on the plan. It was agreed that it can happen online but must be paralleled with some face to face sessions with communities and other stakeholders. JS would note these points and build them into the schedule.</p> <p>Community Networking Conference: To be held on Saturday 16th February in collaboration with WallCAP team like in 2018. They are seeking a venue in the west. Format to be short presentations and plenty of time for discussion. JS said that the same format had recently been used by colleagues on the Antonine Wall at which Hadrian's Wall was present and gave an update as part of the day.</p>	<p>Action: DG Chairs/JS form a project board.</p> <p>Action: All note the date</p>
<p>7. Frontiers of the Roman Empire:</p> <p>FRE Management Group meeting: Hadrian's Wall will be hosting the Management Group meeting (often known as Hexham Group) in March 2019. MC and JS are planning the 3 day meeting with site visits. JS will circulate the programme once it is finalised.</p>	<p>Action: JS Circulate schedule for the Hexham Group meeting</p>
<p>8. Hadrian's Wall National Trail:</p> <p>The chair of the Trail Partnership had provided a report for circulation. HW said that this report was for information but asked members to make time to discuss practical ways to support and advocate for the work of the Trail Partnership at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Action: JS put on agenda for next meeting</p>
<p>9. Partnership Board ToR:</p> <p>HW had circulated an amendment to the ToR for the Partnership Board to allow for the position of Vice Chair. Members agreed with this amendment as worded to add to the ToRs.</p>	<p>Action: JS to update</p>
<p>10. AOB:</p> <p>Hadrian's Wall Pilgrimage: BG and HW said this prestigious event will be happening in July 2019 and is pretty much booked up already. First half of the week-long event is based in Northumberland, second half in Carlisle. BG said that 1849 is often taken as the year it started so this is the 14th one. Members noted that we need to maximise the press coverage for this.</p> <p>Historic England restructure: MC said Historic England was being restructured and as a result he would now be the HE representative on the Partnership Board. There would be no change to the support of HE. HW thanked MC for his long term support and welcomed MC as HE rep.</p>	
<p>11. Demission: remarks from the outgoing Chair and Handover:</p> <p>HW said that he wanted to make a couple of observations from his two terms as chair of the Partnership before handing over to the new chair.</p>	

The Frontiers of the Roman Empire: Working with our German and Scottish partners needs to be a priority, there is a lot to gain from having ever closer links and working cooperatively. We need more understanding and awareness not less and now we have come out of the firefighting phase we have no excuse not to reach out and play our part in the wider WHS.

Scheduling: Support for the work of Historic England and MC as they try to keep pace with the Scheduling of this massive site. The WHS is the Scheduled areas, that's how it's defined. New finds and better research throw up new things all the time. HW was pleased to note that Tyneside sites were being updated and urged the Partnership to help keep this up

The Management Plan: Moving the plan onto a website in its entirety was a brave plan which appears to have worked, but that website needs to be refreshed and kept up to date or all the dynamic gains will be lost, for both management and visitors. The last Management Plan was delivered against the odds and became something new and HW was pleased to be associated with it, but it can be better, we can always improve and we can always be more outward looking in our consultations and messages. It's not a plan owned by any one organisation and will only work if it's used by as many partners as possible.

Future plans: We are now, possibly, entering a time when we need to think about a central dedicated foundation or resource for the WHS again, the right size and scale for the way we now work, something that helps get things done. JS has been central to keeping the ball rolling over the past few years. HW said he had enjoyed working with him through the thick and thin of recent times and that he was an asset to the Partnership.

WHS role: HW finished by saying most of all he had enjoyed being Chair of a WHS that sees humanity as central to its role. Walls and borders can divide but they also unite and this Partnership, the FRE, all those interested in the upkeep and study of this monument and all the people that live, work and visit Hadrian's Wall WHS are in the partnership together.

HW asked JG to formally assume the position of Chair of the Partnership Board with JM as Vice Chair. JG and JM led the Board in thanking HW for his tireless work and commitment, vision and leadership through some of the WHS rockiest times. They looked forward to carrying on his work and building on these foundations.

12. Date of next meetings:

21st March 2019 2-4pm at the Mansion House Newcastle

2nd July 2019 (all day away day session) Venue TBC

21st November 2019 2-4pm Carlisle Civic Centre Carlisle