

FRONTIERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE WORLD HERITAGE SITE

HADRIAN'S WALL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14th November 2017 at Baltic 39 Newcastle

Members: Humphrey Welfare (Chair), Mike Collins (Historic England), Tania Robinson (South Tyneside Council), Janice Rose (Northumberland County Council), Andrew Rothwell (Newcastle City Council), Andrew Miller (Northumberland National Park), Nigel Walsh (Northumberland County Council). Paul Scott (Gateshead Council), Richard Hingley (Durham University), Steve Robinson (Carlisle City Council) Mike Jeffrey (Northumberland County Council / National Trail Partnership)

In Attendance: John Scott (Coordinator), Colin Welsh (Jura Consultants)

1. Apologies: Jane Meek (Carlisle City Council), Bill Griffiths (Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums), Cllr David Southward (Cumbria County Council), Wendy Scott (Northumberland County Council), Carol Pyrah (Historic England). Cllr Rob Higgins (Newcastle City Council), Joe Broomfield (Allerdale Borough Council), Duncan Wise (Northumberland National Park). Sara Rushton (Northumberland County Council) Steve Bishop (North Tyneside Council)

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Members accepted them as a true record. RH noted that there was a little confusion between his comments and those of Cllr Rob Higgins. The distinction will be made clear.

3. Matters arising:

HW National Trail – HW had discussed with MJ ways of better linking the Partnership Board and the National Trail Partnership. MJ had agreed to attend the Board so as to begin to take this further.

All Party Parliamentary Group – HW is meeting with Mary Glendon MP on 24 November to discuss the work of the Group and provide a background briefing.

Action – HW to feedback to members following the meeting.

Support in Kind – There is still a need for better understanding and communication of the level of Support in Kind provided by partners to the management of the WHS. JS and JR will discuss this with Officers at NCC to find a simple and effective way to capture. A proposal will come to the next meeting of the Board, for implementation at the start of the new financial year.

Action – JS and JR to discuss with NCC external funding officers

North West LEP – Through Joe Broomfield (Allerdale), JS had been able to meet and brief the North West LEP and Cumbria Tourism senior Officers. The LEP offered its support in developing future projects. JR gave a quick update on development on the Borderlands Initiative; this is likely to be mentioned in the Budget speech on 22 November, and Hadrian's Wall could have a high profile in the initiative. A proposal has been submitted to the government but it may be six to nine months before there is a substantive response. PS asked if there was detail that could be shared with the rest of the Partnership, HW asked JR to circulate the proposition.

Action – JR to circulate details on the vision for the Borderlands Initiative.

Politicians' Event. - The Board agreed with the suggestion that it would be beneficial to bring together the political leaders from across the World Heritage Site. This would help to broaden understanding and support for the WHS amongst decision-makers. The timing needs to be thought about carefully as there are elections approaching in some areas. It was suggested that the Partnership look to Councillor Kim McGuinness to be the convenor and host. This initiative would be discussed further at the next meeting of the Board.

HLF Resilience application – The Board had agreed at the last meeting that an HLF Resilience application should be made before Christmas. Members had decided to explore Option 4 in the Jura report. A Resilience award would allow for the recruitment of further effective capacity, leading to a step change in the opportunities for enhanced WHS Management. JS had been asked to explore retaining Jura Consultants to help with the application – especially important given the short timescale. £3000 had been secured to allow this to happen and subsequently JS, WS and CW had met to sketch out a submission.

Following this, CW had done the preliminary work on the application. CW explained that the main headlines in the application would be about unlocking the potential of the WHS by 'strengthening the management system' and exploring the potential for events and activities to 'animate the space'. These two themes were based on the findings in the report.

Strand one – To build on the management system and to explore other sources of funding, including applications for joint funding for projects, capacity-building, and training.

Strand two - Product development: the positioning of Hadrian's Wall within other opportunities and high-profile events and activities; developing marketing with partners and defining the scope and scale of the Hadrian's Wall offer.

The meeting discussed the scale of the bid. A bid in the area of £180k to £200k would provide two posts for 18 months. It was possible to bring this down to £150k if the posts are 0.6 and not full time. The Board wished to go in with a larger bid but would take on board the HLF advice at the pre-application stage.

RH welcomed the potential of this extra capacity; the WHS is complex and needs more capacity if it is to move forward rather than stand still. Eighteen months is the minimum period to test and prove the systems. The meeting also had discussion about the current situation, JR said that the Coordinator post will continue to be central but it will need to be reviewed if the postholder is to manage and oversee the new staff and the projects resulting from an HLF award.

CW asked the meeting who would host the project and where could they be based? The members agreed that, given the short time scales and the current governance structure, the most practical solution is to centre it on the Coordinator post for management and monitoring, and thus to host it with Northumberland County Council. A location for the team can be finalised later but somewhere more central could be explored.

The Pre-application paperwork would be submitted by 20 November. To save time, CW will continue to populate the full form as a draft, ready to be edited once Comments are received 10 days after the Pre-application submission. CW will circulate the draft as soon as possible and would allow a week for members' comments before full submission in advance of the Christmas break. The Board thanked the team for their work on this and looked forward to seeing the draft.

Action – CW and JS

5. Chair Succession (brought forward in the agenda)

HW alerted the Board to the fact that his term as Chair of the Partnership Board will come to an end in June 2018, after two three-year terms. The timing was auspicious as the implementation of the recommendations in the Jura report will mark a new beginning. Furthermore, the timetable for the preparation of the next Management Plan (for January 2020 – December 2024) should start after the summer of next year. HW will circulate the procedure for the election of the new Chair in the next week. and would welcome nominations for the February meeting. The Board discussed the option of electing an independent Chair and whether there was potential to involve and to influence political leaders. AR urged members to think carefully before they submitted nominations.

Action – HW will circulate for comment the procedure for the selection of the Chair; members to think about possible candidates

4. Review of the Recommendations in the Jura Report.

The Recommendations (1 – 18) were considered in turn:

1. The Board agreed with the recommendation.
- 2 The Board agreed. The budget will be presented at the February meeting.
3. The Board agreed. There is a need to factor in 'support in kind' in order to have a comprehensive picture of income and expenditure.
4. The Board agreed. However they felt the term 'Task Group' (rather than 'executive group') would better describe the role. There is a need to better record inputs and outcomes – qualitative, quantitative, and in-kind - from the start of the next financial year. NW suggested the models used by Northern Film and Media; he will circulate the details as it might be something we build on. A small group is required; HW asked members to put their names forward as appropriate.

Action - NW to circulate the models used by Northern Film and Media.

Action – Members with suitable experience should consider volunteering for the task group.

5. See number 7

6. The Board agreed. This is an important aspect of the management of the WHS, increasingly so as the FRE expands in the next few years.

7. and number 5. The Board agreed. There is a need to not only for time-recording JS activity but also in-kind support and third-party delivery. This is made more complex by the differing scales and the variety of partners. JR said that she will discuss with those with experience in this area to see if there any good models for us to follow.

Action - JR

8. This was not accepted, as set out, but the meeting discussed representation on the Partnership Board and the areas where this could evolve. Better communication between the different groups was paramount and would be largely answered by the circulation of a quarterly progress report. Some further stakeholder analysis would improve the identification of audiences, and therefore stakeholder engagement.

9. The Board agreed. This would be done once the result of the HLF application was known.

10. The Board agreed. No change.

11. The Board agreed.

12. HW had been talking to MJ with the main aim improving the communication between the Partnership Board and the Trail Partnership. MJ introduced the work of the Trail Partnership, emphasising that it focuses on the practical issues surrounding the management of the Trail and acts more in the model of a Partnership Board Delivery Group in that respect. MJ welcomed further integration and he thought that it may be useful for the Coordinator to attend the Trail Partnership. RH thanked MJ for the update; the Archaeological Research Delivery Group often raises comments or questions about the Trail. MJ said that he would be happy to receive these. AR said that there were a number of Trail related questions that came from Newcastle politicians; he would be glad to share them with MJ.

13. The Board agreed

14. The Board agreed, linking this to Recommendation 4.

15. The Board agreed. In hand.

16. The Board agreed. CW added that there would be more opportunities for funding and project development if there was an entity to cover the WHS but in his opinion it is not the right time at present. Nevertheless it should be seriously considered over the next few years.

17. The Board agreed. HW said that we need the Marketing group to work on getting the message out and cross-selling the various conferences. TR suggested that the Board ask the Marketing group to look at audience identity, social media, and development.

18. The Board agreed.

Action – CW to make the appropriate changes to the recommendations to reflex the views of the Partnership Board.

HW thanked CW and Jura for the work that had been done in preparing the report and the Recommendations.

6. AOB

JS reported that its was the turn of Hadrian's Wall to host the FRE Management Group (often referred to as the Hexham Group) in 2018, The Board thought that it might be beneficial for this to take place during the Great Exhibition of the North.

HW said that a professional seminar, focused on the conservation of Hadrian's Wall and that of the Great Wall of China, would be hosted in Newcastle University in March 2018. This is a collaboration between Historic England and the Chinese Academy for Cultural Heritage, with the support of the British Council and of this Board. The Secretary of State will announce this on 7 December.

7. Dates of next meetings

6th February 2018 – 2pm -4pm Venue tbc

12th June 2018 -2-4pm Venue tbc

23rd October 2018 – 2-4pm Venue tbc