

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

**Minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2019
The Mansion House, Newcastle**

Present: Jane Gibson (Chair), Graham Kennedy (Allerdale Borough Council), Tania Robinson (South Tyneside Council), Richard Hingley (Durham University), Mike Collins (Historic England), Cllr Alan McGurkin (Cumbria County Council), Sue Clarke (Cumbria Tourism), Christine Venus (Natural England), Paul Scott (Gateshead Council), Lorna Lazzari (National Trail Partnership), Cllr Rob Higgins (Newcastle City Council) Steve Bishop (North Tyneside Council)

In Attendance: John Scott (Coordinator)

Minutes in brief	Action by
<p>1. Chairs Welcome and Apologies:</p> <p>JG welcomed all members to the meeting and thanked Cllr Rob Higgins and Newcastle Council for hosting us at the Mansion House.</p> <p>Apologies were recorded as: Andrew Rothwell (Newcastle City Council), Nigel Walsh (Northumberland County Council), Steve Bishop (North Tyneside Council), Wendy Scott (Northumberland County Council), Jane Meek (Carlisle City Council), Janice Rose (Northumberland County Council)</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the last meeting held 6th November 2018 & Matters Arising not on the agenda:</p> <p>Members accepted minutes as a true record, and all matters arising will be covered by the agenda for this meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Community Networking Conference feedback:</p> <p>JS reported that 125 people attended the Community Networking Conference day at Carlisle Racecourse. A good range of subjects were presented and discussed, from transport to research. JS suggested that looking at the evaluation forms both the pace, breadth of topics and location of the event had gone down well. The day had been presented in partnership with the Newcastle University WallCAP project.</p> <p>JG said that she had been asked to act as host for the day and had been bowled over by the energy, interest and passion of speakers and attendees. Both MC and SC had been present at the event and both agreed it had been a positive day with some valuable time for discussion and networking with a wide range of people and</p>	<p>JS to pass the thanks of the Partnership to the WallCAP team and to feedback on preparations for the 2020 event.</p>

<p>organisations/ groups represented. SC was particularly pleased to be having the event in the west of the site.</p> <p>Aspects to focus on for next year's event: wider promotion of the day including getting the date out sooner. Initial suggested date for 2020 is Saturday February 22nd.</p>	
<p>4. Funding and Governance:</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund Resilience Project update: JS had little to update from prior meeting as the contracts were still being formalised between Northumberland CC and Carlisle CC with regard to host arrangements for the two funded posts. JS thanked officers from both organisations for helping with this but encouraged those officers to help progress the contract through the respective legal and finance departments as soon as possible. The posts would be advertised as soon as the contracting was done.</p> <p>JG asked JS to circulate the job descriptions for the posts to partners as soon as practicable so partners can think about filing the posts through secondment opportunities. PS said that partners can support the project and post the recruitment with internal advertising to maximise the budget.</p> <p>Budget 2019/20: JS will arrange with NCC to invoice for the Partnership contributions as soon as possible in the new financial year. Partners present agreed at existing funding levels.</p>	<p>JS to circulate the JD's for these posts and lead on recruitment</p> <p>JS to organise Invoicing process</p>
<p>5. Updates:</p> <p>Borderlands Growth Deal: JG provided a summary of activity to date leading up to the recent announcement by Westminster of the Growth Deal. JG thanked those who had been working on this proposal for some time and for putting Hadrian's Wall in a very positive position without any confirmation until now as to whether central government would support any sizable funding package.</p> <p>As early commitments from government had been given , it was now time for us all to get involved and to maximise the potential for the World Heritage Site. JG reminded everybody of the quick introductory session led by JR (7th March) outlining the Hadrian's Wall programme within the context of the wider Growth Deal. JR had highlighted Borderlands is an economic development growth programme focused on capital works. Growth Deals are more often used to develop industry in urban areas.</p> <p>JR had said at the introductory meeting on the 7th that Hadrian's Wall was a sub programme within the Destination Programme area of the bid and that the grouping of partners' individual projects had brought a scale and impact to Hadrian's Wall that has allowed it to have a place within the Growth Deal.</p> <p>JG said that JR has organised two workshops (29th May & 21st April). The aim of the workshops will be to work up the project ideas within the Hadrian's Wall programme and develop delivery schedules and business cases. AMcG thanked JG for the update, but he reminded everyone this is still very early days and there are large elements to the deal that will need to be developed much further. JG asked everyone to attend</p>	<p>JG will advise JR to invite all Partnership Board members plus other key partners.</p> <p>All to attend the Borderlands workshops.</p>

<p>the workshop if possible and to do so in a wall wide capacity as this had a better chance of success with government than as individual projects/site activity.</p> <p>North of Tyne Devolution : JG would ask JR to give an update at the next meeting.</p> <p>Hadrians Wall APPG: JG stated that with Brexit dominating parliamentary time it was not surprising that the APPG has been on hold. However, the APPG has held the required AGM which is a formality to keep the group constituted but finding time for additional activity had been understandably difficult and would remain so until Brexit becomes less all-consuming for MPs.</p> <p>JG and SB had a site meeting arranged with Mary Glidon MP which had to be cancelled at the last minute due to Mary's availability. Once normal proceedings in Westminster are reinstated a key priority would be to arrange the Hadrian's Wall event in Westminster to showcase the World Heritage Site.</p>	<p>JG/SB to coordinate with Mary Glidon's office.</p>
<p>6. Reports from the Delivery Groups:</p> <p>Conservation, Planning and Heritage Management: MC started his report with the discovery of Wall foundations (one course of 30m of Wall) in Heddon, during groundworks for a small housing development. The initial trial trenches missed this surviving masonry but once the find came to light obviously it was being recorded in detail. The development will then be allowed to continue. MC also noted that there had been the discovery of Roman graffiti at the 'Rock of Gelt ' quarry site. Inscriptions had been known on the site for many years but recent research has uncovered further drawings and text on the rock face which has been widely covered in local press/media.</p> <p>Archaeological Research: RH updated the meeting on the group's progress with the Research Framework; Matt Symonds and Rob Collins had volunteered to take forward the peer appraisal of the 2009 framework and were making positive inroads in getting a new document together. The rest of the group had been tasked with exploring funding opportunities for the framework publishing. MC and RH discussed the role of the Research Framework in management issues and would meet soon to discuss this in greater detail. RH said that the Research DG were keen to support others in their work on the World Heritage Site. He was also thinking about inviting Humphrey Welfare to the DG with respect to his work on the Wall to Wall project.</p> <p>RH noted that this year's Hadrian's Wall Archaeology Forum (organised by David Mason at Durham Council) will be at Queen's Hall Hexham on 19th October.</p> <p>Marketing and Transport: SC updated the meeting on the Discover England Fund projects that have been operating in and around Hadrian's Wall over the current financial year. Each of these projects has a theme to engage with a specific international audience. They focus on developing products with local businesses that can then be sold by international tourism firms.</p> <p>These include projects focussed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Parks ● National Trails ● Northern World Heritage Sites 	

<p>seasonal and there had continually been the problem of people taking the post on to then leave soon afterwards for something more permanent.</p> <p>Volunteering-wise the trail had had recent success attracting corporate team volunteering and as a result finding opportunities to get large scale works done. They have also been exploring offering 10 week placements (a day a week) for young people. RH thanked LL for the update and was keen to find ways for the Research Group and other DG's to support the Trail Team. LL highlighted that the Trail is looking at a 5% cut for the next financial year which equates to £6k in real terms, this is a key issue where help is definitely needed if we are to continue. LL asked members to lobby for support of the National Trail.</p>	<p>JS put on agenda for next meeting</p>
<p>10. AOB:</p> <p>Tyne Pedestrian Tunnel: TR reported that the tunnel is due to be reopened in July 2019 which reconnects the forts on the north and south of the Tyne for walkers and cyclists. This had great potential for visiting the Roman remains on Tyneside. The Partnership were delighted with this news.</p>	
<p>Date of next meetings:</p> <p>2nd July 2019 (all day Away Day session) Venue TBC 21st November 2019 2-4pm Carlisle Civic Centre Carlisle</p>	