

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



**Minutes of the Away Day Meeting held on
2nd July 2019, Vindolanda Roman Fort**

Present: Jane Gibson (Chair), Wendy Scott (Northumberland County Council), Steve Bishop (North Tyneside Council), Graham Kennedy (Allerdale Borough Council), Tania Robinson (South Tyneside Council), Cllr Rob Higgins (Newcastle City Council), Christine Venus (Natural England), Sue Clarke (Cumbria Tourism)

In Attendance: Duncan Wise (Northumberland National Park), John Scott (Coordinator), Sarah Kidd (Northumberland County Council), Andy Poad (National Trust), Andrew Birley (Vindolanda Trust), Zoe Sutton (Carlisle City Council), Rob Collins (Newcastle University), Andrea Selley (English Heritage), Gabrielle Heffernan (Tullie House).

Apologies: Jane Meek (Vice Chair), Cllr Alan McGuckin (Cumbria County Council), Paul Scott (Gateshead Council), Mike Jeffrey (National Trail Partnership), Andrew Rothwell (Newcastle City Council), Nigel Walsh (Northumberland County Council) Bill Griffiths (Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums), Mike Collins (Historic England), Richard Hingley (Durham University),

| Minutes in brief | Action by |
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| <p>Chairs Welcome: JG welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained this was a day of discussion and partnership.</p> | |
| <p>Minutes of the last meeting & Matters Arising: It was noted that Mary Glindon's name had a spelling mistake within the last minutes, otherwise with this correction made members accepted them as a true record.</p> | <p>JS correct the minutes of prior meeting</p> |
| <p>WallCAP Presentation: Rob Collins from Newcastle University provided an introduction to the work of the WallCAP project which is working across the entire Wall for a period of 3 years looking at the archaeology of Hadrian's Wall whilst linking with the adjacent communities that live along its length. RC outlined the key areas of work for the WallCAP team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Looking at sites at risk to gain further knowledge of the challenges they are facing and remedy those negative impacts where possible 2. Explore the life cycle of the stone of Hadrian's Wall from quarry to wall to re-use. <p>Both of these activities will be done alongside the community helping to reconnect people with the monument in a hands on way. The project aims to develop a number of outputs not only in these specific activity areas but to have a sustainable condition monitoring system in place and a functioning GIS system for Wall management and research. Sites that the project will be working on range from Heddon in the east to Beckfoot in the west but will be working with volunteers from far and wide. RC welcomed conversations with members on activity at particular locations of interest as required.</p> | |
| <p>Site Visit to Vindolanda Excavations: Members were treated to a site and museum tour by Andrew Birley exploring the fascinating past of this well-known site and the exciting future of</p> | |

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| <p>archaeology and understanding of our Roman heritage. The Chair thanked the Vindolanda Trust for a being such a great host. An excellent lunch with a good discussion followed.</p> | |
| <p>A journey along the Wall: The chair opened up the meeting to a session of discussion and sharing of activity and ambition. Highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural England - Monitoring of changes to Agri-environmental scheme and how that might be an opportunity and potential challenge to the monument and its management as we go forward. • The Chair - Exploring close working relationships with the wider 'North of Britain' roman sites to share learning and opportunities, linking potential markets and developing wider ranging offers. • English Heritage – looking to further enhance its recent investment into the Hadrian’s Wall corridor having finished projects at Chesters, Corbridge and Birdoswald. Keen to work with partners to revamp the site at Carlisle Castle and add to the critical mass that is building along the WHS. • NCC – will look to broaden the story of Hadrian’s Wall linking the site into the wider cultural story of the area and explore the use of the arts as an interpretive and educational tool. • Allerdale DC – are celebrating having not one but two WHS’s in their area and are looking at projects to better signpost and highlight both. They will be developing the cycling infrastructure and looking at the walking potential with the opportunity brought by the Coastal Path project. • The National Trust – looking to broaden and strengthen the story of the area using their recent transformative work with artists at Cherryburn. AP said they have had a really successful relationship with a variety of partners including Newcastle University and would be happy to share those experiences with the Partnership. • Tullie House – Are excited to be working on a bid with Carlisle City Council and partners to explore the Bath House structure uncovered a few years ago and having finished a recent Resilience grant they have a strategic 15 year plan they are keen to work on with the Partnership. • Cumbria Tourism – will be working with the HW marketing group to maximize the investment made by the Discover England Funds into the corridor; those projects have already had a positive impact on the partners and we can only gain from that further work at attracting a wider international market. We will look to employ a PR and Marketing person dedicated to the Partnership as soon as possible which will have massive joint benefit and we have commissioned film and imagery for Partnership members as that is something we will always need. • Carlisle City Council – are working on the large scale strategic proposals that will be discussed later and see transport link-ups as a key development area for them going into the future. • North Tyneside – Looking to work with TWAM refreshing Segedunum soon and they will be working with some high profile designers on that project that will give a massive boost to the area. • South Tyneside – following a successful redevelopment of Arbeia Roman Fort they are now looking at an animation plan to boost activity on the site, looking at the ways visitors use the site and then make any adjustments to improve the experience further. The aim is to make better links using the newly opened Tunnel and connect both sites either side of the Tyne. • Vindolanda – Developing a ‘detective’ app based on the murder mystery evidence found in the barrack area of the site. 2020 will be the 50 year anniversary of the Trust so will be a great birthday year. The Trust will be looking to improve its facilities at both the Roman Army Museum at Carvoran and Vindolanda in the near future and will continue to investigate through archaeological research at both sites. • Newcastle – are working with the Partnership to highlight the wealth of Hadrian’s Wall sites in the urban area of west Newcastle , with a focus around Denton Burn and with | |

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| <p>Highways England support they will be looking to have visitor facilities and walking routes to explore the area.</p> | |
| <p>NLHF Resilience Project: JS updated on progress and was pleased to announce that contracts and legal issues had been sorted to allow recruitment of the full time Development Officer and half time Admin Support Officer. The adverts would be going out soon and we would be looking for immediate starts. Further details will be circulated.</p> | <p>JS to circulate job advert links when ready</p> |
| <p>Strategic Updates:</p> <p>Borderlands Growth Deal - JR provided a summary update of development on progress with Borderlands. JR was keen to remind members this was the first ever rural Growth Deal offer from government and there was a huge amount of developmental work involved from all sides to work up something suitable to satisfy Treasury systems. The Borderlands team has been working on the deal for a full 21 months and that is a fast timescale for a strategy of this scale and complexity. JR estimated that if things progress as they have to date, we are roughly halfway through the process of seeing the inception of projects on the ground. Outline plans have gone to government and been accepted but there now needs to be full business cases developed for all the projects. JR said that she would keep the partnership up to date as things develop so the partners are ready to respond when the call comes.</p> <p>North of Tyne Devolution Developments – JG asked partners to continue to champion the WHS as the North of Tyne programme takes shape. It’s an exciting opportunity use the value of the WHS for the economic and cultural good of the area. With work on a Tourism Sector Deal and the creation of Local Industrial Strategies through the LEP network, we are in a good position to position the Wall as a strong feature of everyone’s plans.</p> <p>The meeting discussed these major opportunities at length. It was recognised by all partners there is huge potential for the WHS and the region if we can maximize these streams. It was suggested that we look at the WHS as a whole and develop an overarching strategy that can respond to all these strategic funds in a joined up way. This was agreed to be both time effective and developmentally successful way forward. JG asked if the main LA partners could help in bringing capacity to enable this to be done as soon as possible so we do not miss these chances.</p> <p>The Hadrian’s Wall APPG – JG will be meeting Mary Glindon with Steve B shortly to reinvigorate this relationship and advise on the potential Hadrian’s Wall Westminster day. Given the amount of high level strategic programmes the WHS was involved in, it was now especially important to have support from the Wall’s MPs.</p> | <p>JG/SB meeting Mary Glindon July 26th</p> |
| <p>Members Closed Session:</p> <p>Extension of membership – it was unanimously agreed by all current and present members of the partnership to include representation to the group from English Heritage, Tullie House, Vindolanda Trust and The National Trust.</p> | <p>JS to amend circulation list</p> |
| <p>AOB: JS brought to the attention of partners the passing of our colleague for the Baden-Württemberg section of the WHS Dr Stephen Bender who had suffered a short illness. He was well known by all that worked along the Roman Frontier and was a loss to the whole WHS. The members wished to pass on their condolences to family and friends.</p> | |
| <p>Date of next meetings:</p> <p>18th October 2019 (rescheduled from the 21st November) 13.30-15.30 Carlisle Civic Centre Carlisle</p> <p>24th January 2020 – Venue TBC 13.00 – 15.00</p> <p>3rd April 2020 – Birdoswald Roman Fort 13.00 -15.00</p> <p>3rd July 2020 – Venue TBC All day meeting</p> <p>16th October 2020 – Venue TBC 13.00 – 15.00</p> | |

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