

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

**Minutes of the Meeting held on
18th October 2019, Carlisle Civic Centre**



Present: Jane Gibson (Chair), Jane Meek (Vice Chair), Wendy Scott (Northumberland County Council), Steve Bishop (North Tyneside Council), Graham Kennedy (Allerdale Borough Council), Christine Venus (Natural England), Andrew Rothwell (Newcastle City Council), Bill Griffiths (Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums), Andrew Birley (Vindolanda Trust), Andrea Selley (English Heritage), Andy Poad (National Trust), Alison Hatcher & Paul Marriot (Cumbria County Council)

In Attendance: John Scott (Coordinator), Anna Smalley (Tullie House)

Apologies: Paul Scott (Gateshead Council), Mike Jeffrey (National Trail Partnership), Nigel Walsh (Northumberland County Council), Mike Collins (Historic England), Richard Hingley (Durham University), Tania Robinson (South Tyneside Council), Duncan Wise (Northumberland National Park), Sue Clarke (Cumbria Tourism), Andrew MacKay (Tullie House)

Minutes in brief	Action by
<p>1. Chairs Welcome</p> <p>Jane G welcomed everyone to the meeting especially those new members who join us after the July Away Day meeting. Jane G explained that HW was moving into a new phase of strategic planning and delivery after a period of stabilisation for many partners. Partnership Board will be increasingly focused on development opportunities and key business priorities with whole WHS benefit.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the last meeting & Matters Arising</p> <p>Duncan Wise was not as recorded present but had offered his apologies for the Away Day, otherwise with this correction made, members accepted them as a true record.</p>	<p>Action: JS correct the minutes of prior meeting</p>
<p>3. Funding & Governance</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund Resilience Project: John was delighted to announce that the 1.5 members of staff included in the project had been recruited and we are currently waiting on official start dates, following references being checked. The Development Officer is Nick Henderson, who is from English Heritage with good experience in site operations along a number of the EH sites on Hadrian's Wall. Nick is keen to explore new areas of heritage management and impressed at interview with both knowledge and endless enthusiasm. The Admin Support role has been given to Denise Hewison who has a wealth of experience at all levels of administration and whose past career took in roles for both national and international organisations. Denise knows the Wall well and shone through an extensive field of candidates for the position. We are looking forward to welcoming them into post at the end of October or early November.</p> <p>Partner Contributions: Jane G outlined in brief the recent history of the Board and the engagement of the local authorities in taking forward the Partnership to sustain the WHS at a critical time. These contributions in time, effort and resources have brought us to where we are now, in a very positive position, and the Board is very grateful for their support. New partners had been invited to consider their contributions:</p> <p>Vindolanda Trust are making a direct cash contribution of £5000 to the Partnership and an equally</p>	<p>Action: JS to introduce Denise and Nick at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action: JS to invoice partners accordingly</p>

<p>valuable support package for venues and facilities and staff time.</p> <p>Andrea reported that English Heritage have thought through their commitment to the Partnership and want to contribute to areas that can be used by the whole WHS as it progresses; 1) the time and support of officers from the Travel Trade Team 2) the support of their external funding team 3) marketing support.</p> <p>Andy P said that the National Trust are keen to assist the Partnership with support for a KTP (Knowledge Transfer Partnership) with Newcastle University. A KTP will bring extra staff capacity to the Partnership for 2 years. The KTP will explore how the arts can be used to animate our cultural heritage. Andy will offer £5000 from the NT for the next 2 years to enable this project to happen and to work with partners on its development.</p> <p>Anna said that at this moment it was difficult for Tullie House to be in a position to contribute directly to the Partnership but will be able to offer support with accommodation and hosting.</p> <p>Following further discussion the Partners welcomed the idea of the KTP thinking it timely for 2022. Jane welcomed the support of the new members to the Partnership as a sign of the increasing momentum surrounding the WHS.</p> <p>New Politicians Forum: Jane G said that it was essential to maximise everyone’s efforts and find the most effective ways of working together and so has been exploring the opportunity to have an Elected Member’s forum to champion the WHS within the political structures of governance. NCC’s Cllr Cath Homer, whose portfolio contains Culture, Heritage and Tourism, has offered to host the first meeting on the 13th November. An email has gone to LA officers of this Partnership to invite the most appropriate Member from their respective LA. Steve asked how we will give them a background briefing and structure for their discussions. An agenda and background paper will be circulated to attendees and presentations done on the day about external funding opportunities. Jane G said that she and John hoped to be there to support the group. After the first meeting we will have an understanding of how it might work best and how it might connect to the APPG and Mary Glindon MP. Jane thanked all the officers that had worked to get the Politicians Forum underway and she would report back on progress.</p> <p>Potential for new Task and Finish Groups: Jane G opened discussions on the development of new Task and Finish Groups to take forward key activity areas outside this meeting, without duplicating work and with the support of the Delivery Groups. Suggested topics are: Bid drafting; principles of investment.</p>	<p>Action: JG to report back to meeting on progress</p> <p>Action: JG to arrange meetings</p>
<p>4. Strategic Opportunities</p> <p>Borderland Growth Deal: Jane M and Alison took members through the current progress and highlighted the continued work on developing Strategic (by January 2020) and then Outline Business Cases (later in the spring) for each element of the deal. Borderlands currently have heads of terms agreed with Westminster but it will be individual business cases that will secure the final approval. They said that HW had made a good first pitch with the initial Case for Growth document but this needs bringing up to Treasury Green Book detail levels now. They added that part of the Walking and Cycling investment envelope has been added into the HW part of the Destination theme. Jane G has organised a meeting, hosted by the NNPA at their Eastburn Headquarters in Hexham, on 6th December to start work on the development of the Strategic Outline Business Case, invites to follow.</p> <p>North of Tyne: It was suggested that this will be picked up at our next meeting when Jane G has met with Pat Ritchie, CEO Newcastle Council who is the lead for North of Tyne. The Board agreed it was essential to make the most of the opportunity to link with Borderlands so the developments can be Wall wide.</p>	

Hadrian's Wall APPG: This would be discussed at the next meeting after the Politician's Forum. Steve had usefully set up a meeting with the North Tyneside MP Mary Glendon who is the APPG chair and Jane G and Steve met with her late July. Government has obviously been busy with other agendas, but the APPG would be picked up as soon as possible with careful planning for the Westminster Hadrian's Wall day to get the most out of the opportunity.

Next Steps – 10 Year Investment Plan: As discussed at the Away Day, to help the Partnership be ready for any external funding opportunities, it was felt that being proactive and developing a strong 10 year strategy for investment was essential. That way partners could understand and articulate individual and collective benefit. Members agreed that this was very sensible, bringing ambitions together into a single strategy to maximise funding and manage risks. Jane G thanked Northumberland County Council for their substantial support offered to the Partnership to get this Investment Strategy underway.

5. Delivery Groups: Progress and Proposals:

Conservation, Planning & Heritage Management: Mike C had unfortunately had to offer his apologies at short notice, however was able to send an update for members which was outlined at the meeting and is shown here:

"Things have generally been quiet on the *Conservation, Planning and Heritage Management* front since the last meeting, with no major controversial cases, such as that discussed at Heddon at the last Board meeting, having been noted. I do want to emphasise that this isn't because nothing is happening, but that because of a lot of hard work (primarily by our local authority archaeological and general planning colleagues) the potentially difficult cases have been headed off and dealt with before they have become an issue.

Crucial in the success – how few really contentious cases we get – has been having staff in post in the local authorities along the Wall. Generally staff numbers have held firm, which is very impressive at a time of resource-squeeze, but I also think it's worth noting that Tyne and Wear currently have actually managed to expand their provision for archaeological development advice and now have two full-time archaeological advisors on their Team.

The only other thing to note is that although I continue in post as the Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Hadrian's Wall, I also have a new(ish) role in managing our Development Advice Team for Newcastle. To counteract any reduction in service from this change, Historic England is currently recruiting a new Inspector in our North West Region, who will take over all of the day to day casework in the western part of the Wall, although I will still handle the eastern part and our strategic engagement".

Archaeological Research: The group have been extremely busy peer reviewing the Research Strategy for HW. This document sets out the areas of priority for future research work on the WHS. Having assessed progress and consulted with the wider research community, the group is now putting together a funding proposal for the finalisation and publishing of the strategy. The total project cost looks to be in the region of £30,000 to complete and the group will approach Historic England to be a main partner but may need help from the Partnership to match fund to some degree.

Marketing and Transport: John said the group will meet next on 12th November and will be looking at some spring/Christmas holiday PR as people are planning their trips. They will start the 2020 map leaflet production at 150000 units. They are aiming to build on the valuable experience they have gained thanks to the "Tyne Valley Railway with Hadrian's Wall In The City", with a day at Glasgow Station in March 2020.

Learning and Interpretation: Bill introduced the Learning and Interpretation group for the benefit

<p>of new members. He reported that the group are planning the next education sharing day, during which practitioners and officers from across the Wall get together to share best practice and update on plans and activities. The group are also looking at putting in a couple of <£15k Arts Council bids to explore links between community and heritage. The group have also received a project idea from a volunteer working at one of the sites to explore local links to Hadrian's wall and reinforce a sense of local ownership. So the group have a full portfolio of project ideas to currently explore and action leading up to a number of key anniversaries: 50 years of the Vindolanda Trust, 125 years of the National Trust, 30 years of the Senhouse Museum and 10 years of Segedunum to name a few. Ultimately the group are building up to the celebration of the 1900 anniversary of Hadrian ordering the wall to be built when we are planning a year-long events programme.</p>	
<p>6. Management Plan Revised schedule update: John reported that after consultation with colleagues and with the authorization of Henry-Owen John at Historic England, the suggested plan of action was to delay the revision of the Management Plan by 6 months so time could be dedicated to the revision task with reference to the 10 Year Investment Plan and with the NLHF posts input. The Partnership agreed with this plan and is keen to be updated on developments.</p>	<p>Action: JS to present an updated schedule for the revision of the plan at the next meeting</p>
<p>7. Frontiers of the Roman Empire Hexham Group meeting 2020 proposal: John said that following the successful hosting of colleagues from across the FRE WHS on HW in 2019, the German Limes Commission had volunteered to host the meeting for 2020 in Frankfurt. A date had been suggested for the meeting of the w/b 7th September 2020. A number of officers from HW attend this annual meeting of Heritage Managers from the inscribed sections. Jane G asked John to describe the overarching group of bodies that operate across the inscribed sections of the FRE WHS. John described the function of the Inter-Governmental Committee, Bratislava Group and Management Group (Commonly called the Hexham Group).</p>	<p>Action: JS to circulate a short briefing document on the function of these groups.</p>
<p>8. Wall to Wall Update:</p> <p>Humphrey Welfare and Historic England have been busy progressing the links HW has with the Great Wall of China. Following on from the hugely successful seminar hosted by Newcastle University last year, there will be a bilingual publication coming out shortly and 15 colleagues from HW will be heading over to China in November to carry on discussions and develop projects and exhibitions that share the best of HW and the Great Wall. Jane G thanked Hum and the rest of the Wall to Wall team for their work which will also pay off for the International Visitors theme in Borderlands, even though that is not its core purpose.</p>	
<p>9. AOB Andrew B – The Vindolanda Trust has put in an Expression of Interest to the Heritage Horizon stream announced by the NLHF. If successful in the first of the two stage process, they will know by 14th November and will be asked to present the project idea by 2nd December. Andrew B will update the Partnership as and when developments happen. Jane G said that a great deal of time and skill had been put into trying to develop a Wall wide bid, but it was too early in the planning and would not reflect the 10 Year Investment Plan. It further demonstrates the need for an overarching strategy to be put in place as soon as possible, and we offer support to the Vindolanda Trust with their project.</p> <p>John S – highlighted 2 publications partners should be aware of, firstly Mark Richards was updating the Hadrian's Wall Path Handbook which is a very popular publication, and Mark has asked anyone who wishes to provide any updates that should go into the new addition to get in touch through John. And secondly the UNESCO Thematic Study into the wider management of the whole FRE WHS ambition has been printed and copies can be acquired from our Austrian colleague Rene</p>	

<p>Ployer, please contact John for his contact details.</p> <p>Steve – continuing to work with Hemingway Design on the refresh of Segedunum further updates shortly.</p> <p>Anna – reported Tullie House had been successful at getting stage one approval from NLHF for their Master Plan to redevelop the Tullie House offer and would feedback as developments happen.</p> <p>Andrea – EH are busy developing their China Ready products at a number of sites and she is happy to share the outcomes of this with the Partnership.</p> <p>Andrew R – Newcastle Council are looking at developing the Denton Burn area of Newcastle with funds from Highways England to open up the urban HW sites in that area for visitors. There will be onsite interpretation and digital guides to help people navigate and discover the parts of the Wall that appear in the surrounding streets.</p>	
<p>Date of next Partnership Board meetings:</p> <p>24th January 2020 – North Tyneside Council, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside. NE27 0BY. 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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