



Northumberland
County Council

Haltwhistle
Borderlands Place Programme Board
Minutes
22 June 2022
10:30-12:00 Mechanics Institute

Attendees

Board Members	Organisation
Cllr Ian Hutchinson	NCC
Cllr Marie Bowes	Haltwhistle Town Council
Anne Charlton	Killfrost
Julie Gibbon	Haltwhistle Partnership
Eric Taylor	Berry Global
Maxine Wilson	Haltwhistle Swimming & Leisure Centre
Sheila Cadge	Young & Sweet
Ian Dommett	Haltwhistle Chamber of Trade
Officers	Role
Peter Mawer (Town Lead)	Community Regeneration Officer
Chris Walker	Community Regeneration Officer

Apologies

Name	Representing
Anne Lawson	NCC
Cllr Alan Sharp	Haltwhistle Town Council
John Scott	Hadrian's Wall Partnership
John Taylor	Agma

Minutes (Action points in red)

Item	Details	Actions
1	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Board members were asked to confirm that their DOIs summarised on the town's webpage at: (https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Economy-Regeneration/Programmes/Borderlands-Place-Programme/Borderlands-Place-Programme.aspx) remains accurate. All members present confirmed this to be the case.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest will be reviewed at every board meeting and the online version updated as changes occur.</p>	AL/PM
2	<p>Place Plan development</p> <p>CW presented an overview of the work required to develop Haltwhistle's Place Plan and subsequent Town Investment Plan. Linking into recent work on the initial consultation, the presentation explained the process for development of the overall plan. The presentation will also be published on the town's webpage.</p> <p>It was explained that PM would be responsible for much of the desk work involved in developing the Place Plan but that the input from board was vital to ensure the above points were maintained.</p>	PM
3	<p>Alignment with other projects in the town</p> <p>The board was asked to consider alignment of the place programme with other investments in the town, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has been delivered recently? • What went well? • What were the challenges • What is currently being delivered? • What do we believe to be in the pipeline? • Who else should we talk to, to understand the project pipeline better? <p>Appendix I demonstrates the work completed by the board, separated into three groups.</p> <p>A fourth group will be added if members unable to attend the meeting would like to pass their comments under each heading to peter.mawer@northumberland.gov.uk no later than COP Wednesday 29 June 2022.</p>	

4	<p>SWOT analysis</p> <p>The board was then asked to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats with regard to Haltwhistle as a town.</p> <p>The SWOT analysis is included in appendix II. The comments of members unable to attend the meeting will be added if passed to peter.mawer@northumberland.gov.uk no later than COP Wednesday 29 June 2022.</p>	
5	<p>Next Steps</p> <p>Officers will start to populate the Draft Place Plan for the town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy • Strategic approach • Consultation • Governance <p>Work will start on gathering context data for the town</p> <p>Next meeting – date tbc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on Place Plan progress • Priorities and themes for the Place Plan projects 	PM
6	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>No other business was declared</p>	
7	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>7th September 2022, 10:30 – 12:00, Mechanics Institute</p>	

Appendix I - Alignment with other programmes and investments

Group 1 (Chris, Maxine & Sheila)

What is currently being delivered?

Housing project
Redevelopment of First School site
Church Hall redevelopment

What do we believe to be in the pipeline?

Youth Centre – dedicated/other community + community allotment, Zig Zag
Leisure facilities – outdoor heated pool, several activities for all ages
Village Green – bike track, football pitch and facilities, open space
School improvements
Carnival
Walking Festival
Town Twinning
Choir
Late night shopping
Xmas activities for young people
Cycle route improvements

What has been delivered recently?

- What went well?
- What were the challenges

Who else should we talk to, to understand the project pipeline better?

Terry Christie (Manor House)
NCC
Karbon Homes
Active Northumberland

Group 2 (Ian, Anne & Marie)

What is currently being delivered?

Park Road housing
School refurbishment
Burn Field project (Football)
Renewal of bike track surface
Haltwhistle hospital
Station refurb
Town Centre Redevelopment

What do we believe to be in the pipeline?

Church Hall – proposed Residential Home

What has been delivered recently?

- What went well?
- What were the challenges

Who else should we talk to, to understand the project pipeline better?

Planning
Property/landowners
Local businesses

Group 3 (Eric, Ian & Julie)

What is currently being delivered?

What do we believe to be in the pipeline?

Railway station studios
Railway station EBike Hub
Community energy PV on Berry roof, leisure centre and Young & Sweet
Karbon Homes investment community projects
Haltwhistle retail strategy
Walkers/cyclists welcome schemes
Mechanics Institute developments

Land/properties available for development

Hadrian Enterprise Park

Former Church Hall (suitable for Retirement Home?)

First School site (suitable for multi-use, walking and cycling centre, all weather pitch)

Land next to roundabout (suitable for community energy, EV station)

Scarth's Yard

Border Pine building

'Greystonedale'

What has been delivered recently?

• **What went well?**

Community energy PV on Berry roof, leisure centre and Young & Sweet
Karbon Homes investment community projects

• **What were the challenges**

Mechanics Institute developments
NCC departments
Private speculators
Current economic climate and funding challenges

Who else should we talk to, to understand the project pipeline better?

Private investors – Colin Francis Neurogenics Ltd, Meenu Malhotra of Malhotra Group

Appendix II – SWOT analysis

Internal Town Factors	External Factors
<p>Strengths of the town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very close-knit community• Location – proximity to cycling and walking• Good rail links• World Heritage Site and landmarks• Sports & leisure facilities – heated swimming pool• Private sector/large employers• Cheap rents for shops	<p>Opportunities for the town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proximity to Hadrian’s Wall• Visitor economy• Heritage Centre• Cater for visitors e.g. Made in Northumberland products• Entrepreneurship• Retail strategy• Local community store• Seasonality – year-round economy• Increase aspirations• Attract tech companies
<p>Weaknesses of the town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Town doesn’t advertise itself• Lack of consistent communications with residents• Lack of all-weather facilities• No central heritage/visitor centre• Residents can be insular/lack of aspirations• Lack of confidence in the town• Visitor spend lower than elsewhere• Shops closing and becoming holiday lets• Businesses not catering for visitors• Lack of diversity in retail• Lack of year-round economy	<p>Threats for the town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Negative perception of town by residents• Focus only on visitor economy – not all residents want this• NCC – not working with residents• Inflation• Young people moving away• Young people having low aspirations