

**TRIPARTITE MEETING BETWEEN CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL, COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE, AND CARLISLE PARISH COUNCILS**

MONDAY 24 OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT:

Carlisle City Council:

Councillor Glover (Chairman)
Councillor Dr Tickner
Councillor Mrs Bradley
Councillor Southward
Councillor Burns
Councillor McNulty
Councillors Mrs McKerrell
Councillor J Mallinson
Mr D Crossley
Mrs J Meek
Mr C Hardman

Cumbria County Council

Councillor C Weber
Mr T Thwaites

Parishes

Mrs M E McKenna	- Beaumont Parish Council
Councillor E Williamson	- Beaumont Parish Council
Councillor D Moorat	- Brampton Parish Council
Councillor J Stonebridge	- Burgh by Sands Parish Council
Councillor T Allison	- Cummersdale Parish Council
Councillor A Byers	- Dalston Parish Council
Councillor B Craig	- Dalston Parish Council
Councillor R Tinnion	- Hayton Parish Council
Ms S Kyle	- Hethersgill, Scaleby and Stanwix Rural Parish Councils
Councillor M Jack	- Kirklington Parish Council
Councillor M Fox	- Stanwix Rural Parish Council
Councillor B Earp	- Wetheral Parish Council
Councillor M Higginbotham	- Wetheral Parish Council
Councillor C Nicholson	- CPCA
Mrs C Rankin	- CALC

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the tripartite meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms Quilter and Miss Sherriff, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive (Carlisle City Council), Councillor Harper, Rockcliffe Parish Council, Councillor Auld, Dalston Parish Council and Councillor McIntosh, Cummersdale Parish Council.

3. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Notes of the Tripartite Meeting held on 22 March 2016 were received and agreed as a true record of the meeting.

4. PLANNING CHARTER – PLANNING WORKING AGREEMENT

Mr Hardman, Development Manager and Councillor Nicholson provided an update on the completion/launch of the City and Parishes Planning Charter.

Councillor Nicholson reported that the working agreement had been agreed and gave Parish Councils the right to speak at Development Control Site Visits which Parishes had been requesting for some time. He thanked Mr Hardman for all the work that he had carried out during the preparation of the Agreement and also Mrs Meek for her assistance in the matter.

Mr Hardman added that the Agreement had been adopted by the City Council's Executive on 1 August 2016 and a copy of the Agreement had been circulated to the meeting with the agenda. The City Council was working to the Agreement and treated Parish Councils as Statutory Consultees. The document would be kept under review and the Council would strive to continuously look for ways to improve the working relationship.

5. FLOOD / WINTER READY PLAN FOR CARLISLE

Mrs Meek, Corporate Director of Economic Development, gave a presentation setting out the details of the Carlisle Flood Response Plan 2016/17 / Carlisle Winter Readiness Plan 2016/17.

Mrs Meek set out the background to the Plan including the objective and the partners which had been involved then detailed each of the Sections which covered reducing the risk, recovery and repair work following Storm Desmond, preparation for flooding, responding to flooding and recovery from flooding.

She informed the meeting that all of the structural work and repairs had been undertaken and all gulleys had been inspected and, where appropriate, repaired. She added that sandbags would not be distributed widely but their use would be targeted only to the areas they may actually be of benefit. The sandbags would not be the traditional style but would be modern sandbags which expanded when wet.

Copies of the presentation were tabled at the meeting.

Councillor Byers highlighted an issue in her Ward which had required attention by the Environment Agency; she reported that it had been very difficult to engage with the Environment Agency to address the problem. She asked how the Flood Response Plan would reduce the risks of flooding.

Mrs Meek responded that the City Council worked with partners to try and address issues in Wards as quickly as possible and she had not been aware of the issue in the Dalston Ward. With regard to the reduction of risks she explained that no long term decisions had been taken yet. A Strategic Group would be established to address long term issues but the immediate issue had been plans for this winter.

Councillor Fox raised a number of concerns with regard to the Plan, he felt that Parishes had not been engaged in the production or communication of the Plan, that the Plan had taken too long to produce and felt that there was not enough joined up working between the City, County and Environment Agency or local communities. He asked if named contacts would be provided to areas at risk.

Mr Thwaites, Area Manager, agreed to pass on contact details for the Environment Agency and explained that initially not all groups wished to engage in establishing community emergency plans; although work had seemed to take some time it was now being progressed.

Councillor Allison commented that he had undertaken a survey of the river Caldew from Cummersdale to Dalston last year and repeated it recently, apart from the removal of one tree and some emergency repair work the river banks were in the same condition as they had been last year and the issues highlighted last year had not been addressed.

Councillor Nicholson asked if consideration had been given to equip all 4x4 vehicles which the City and County Councils owned so they could be used as wading vehicles and could respond immediately if there was a flood.

Mrs Meek responded that 4x4 vehicles were being purchased as part of the City Council's fleet renewal but was unsure if they had wading capabilities. She closed the presentation by explaining that the Plan would be launched in November. The Plan would be a working document and she encouraged Parish Councils to engage with the Council on flood response matters.

6. SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Councillor Burns, Chairman of the City Council's Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Councillor McNulty outlined the Panel's approach to reviewing services for young people.

Councillor Burns gave the background to the Panel's reasons for the review of services and introduced Councillor McNulty. He explained that the Panel sought the input of Parishes on the provision of services for young people in the rural areas.

Councillor McNulty gave a short presentation which showed some of the youth provision across the City. The presentation highlighted a number of providers such as Youth Clubs, Youth Zone, Scouts etc but did not include any provision by Churches or Village Halls. It also included a timetable of activities but did not have any rural activities included.

Councillor McNulty commented that the list of activities was not in an easy location for young people to access so many young people were not aware of the activities across the Carlisle District.

Councillor Burns asked for any input or ideas which the Panel could take forward and any key issues for young people, in particular those living in the rural areas.

During discussions the following issues / suggestions were raised for consideration by the Panel:

- Email all Parish Clerks / Village Halls to ask about the youth provision in their area;
- Suggest older children / young adults organise activities for themselves to gain new skills and experience;
- Some Parishes provide their own play schemes but it was very difficult to access funding to support activities;
- Social Media should be used as a central access point;
- Discuss the matter with Brampton Youth Club as they carry out a lot of outreach work;
- Transportation to activities was difficult for a large number of young people especially in the rural areas.

Councillor Glover commented that it was very useful to gain rural areas' perspective on youth provision and the challenges being faced. He suggested that a rural representative be included in the Task and Finish work that the Panel would undertake and urged any interested parish members to contact Councillors Burns.

7. REVIEW OF FUTURE TRIPARTITE MEETINGS

Councillor Glover reported that a review of the Tripartite Meetings had been requested due to the difficulty in identifying agenda items.

Mr Crossley, Deputy Chief Executive, reiterated the issues with setting the agendas, he reminded the meeting that successful debates had taken place when specific relevant issues had been raised. He suggested that future meetings should be issue led and only called when one of the three parties had a specific issue or matter that required input and debate.

Councillor Nicholson agreed that setting the agenda had been difficult and felt that this was a good opportunity to review the format of the meeting.

Councillor Fox suggested that a different form of communication be used between the three parties as he felt communication was not happening and agreed that an issue led agenda would be more productive.

Parish Councillors raised specific issues in their Wards that would benefit from a tripartite level meeting including speeding issues and devolution and it was agreed that smaller meetings which addressed specific issues could be beneficial.

Mr Thwaites added that the Tri-partite meetings were widely advertised within parishes and few items were forthcoming. He felt that until specific issues were addressed the meetings would not be productive as they could be.

It was agreed that the Chairmen would discuss options for the future of the tripartite meetings and report back for a formal decision.

8. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman thanked all those present for their attendance.

(The meeting ended at 8.04pm)