

LEADER North York Moors, Coast and Hills

LAG Executive Group Meeting

28th September 2009, 9.30 am to 2.00 pm

Hovingham Village Hall, Hovingham.

Present:

LAG Executive Members

Malcolm Bowes (Chair)	Elected	Public or non public
Peter Spencer (Vice Chair)	Appointed	Tees Valley RCC
Peter Barfoot	Appointed	NYMNPA
Liz Dowson #	Appointed	Scarborough BC
Jane Johnson #	Appointed	Ryedale DC
David Pybus	Appointed	Business – Cleveland Potash
Cllr George Dunning	Appointed	Redcar and Cleveland BC
Sarah Robinson	Appointed	Rural Action Yorkshire
Will Terry	Appointed	Farming - NFU/CLA
Linda Bell	Elected	Voluntary/Community
Phil Bustard	Elected	Voluntary/Community
Eleanor Dowsland	Elected	Voluntary/Community
Patrick Holdsworth	Elected	Voluntary/Community
Marian Wheeler	Elected	Voluntary/Community
Rachel Donkersley	Elected	Young People

Support Group

Julie Laverick*	North Yorkshire County Council
Mairi Macintyre*	North Yorkshire County Council
Mike Horrocks*	LEADER Programme Manager
Amy Thomas *	LEADER Programme Officer

*non-voting

3 members share 1 vote.

1. Apologies:

Peter Cole #	Appointed	Hambleton DC
Claire Gallagher	Elected	Environment
Janette Holt	Elected	Voluntary/Community
Rita Lawson *		North Yorkshire County Council

2. Notes from the Executive Group Meeting 27th August 2009

2.1 The minutes of the meeting on 27th August 2009 were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. Programme Report – Verbal NYCC and NYMNPA

- 4.1 **JL** circulated a spreadsheet to the Executive Group, which showed a ‘Breakdown of Funding’ up to and including today’s projects.
- 4.2 **MH** gave a brief update on project activity since the last Executive meeting. There have been 96 ‘Project Ideas Forms’ submitted, and 5 application forms received with a further 3 or 4 still to be returned.

5. Declarations of Interest

Project Ref.	Project Name	Exec.Member Initials
LDR/M/0910/008	Esk Energy – Ruswarp Weir Hydro Power	PBar
LDR/M/0910/013	Get Into Rural skills	Pbar, RD
LDR/M/0910/016	Yorkshire Moors Agricultural Apprenticeship Scheme	PBar
LDR/M/0910/019	Robin Hood’s Bay Village Enhancements	Pbar, PH
LDR/M/0910/020	Linden Close Wildlife Area	
LDR/M/0910/021	Esk Pearl Mussel and Salmon Recovery Project (Phase 1)	PBar
LDR/M/0910/022	Seeonee Lair Centre Activities Development	
LDR/M/0910/023	Gilling Community Hub – Sustainable Heating	
LDR/M/0910/026	Small Scale Enhancements Scheme	PBar

PBar as representative for NYMNPA informed the Executive Group of his ‘involvement with/knowledge of’ many of the applications, and ‘Declared an Interest’ accordingly. At his request the Executive Group agreed to the agenda being rearranged to assess ‘those’ applications last, allowing **PBar** to leave the meeting earlier.

6. Applications for Consideration

6.1 **LDR/M/0910/020 Linden Close Wildlife Area**

Grant requested: £5,070 (60.57%)
Total Project Cost: £8,370

6.1.1 The project was **approved a grant of £5,070.**

6.2 **LDR/M/0910/022 Seeonee Lair Centre Activities Development**

Grant requested: £5,848 (100%)
Total Project Cost: £5,848

6.2.1 The project was **approved a grant of £5,848, on the condition that a new lease is formally signed, planning permission is approved by Scarborough Borough Council, and written permission is given by the landowner for commencement of capital works.**

6.3 LDR/M/0910/023 Gilling Community Hub – Sustainable Heating

Grant requested: £13,279 (41.25%)
Total Project Cost: £32,191

6.3.1 The project was **approved a grant of £13,279, on the condition that planning approval is received. The Executive also requested that the applicant submit a report within 12 months with feedback on the success of the ground source heat pump.**

6.4 LDR/M/0910/008 Esk Energy – Ruswarp Weir Hydro

Grant requested: £122,686 (32.45%)
Total Project Cost: £378,058

6.4.1 **PBar** ‘declared an interest’ in this project. He did not contribute to the debate nor did he leave the room.

6.4.2 The project was **deferred on the basis:- that further ‘updated’ information and a revised application were required, and planning, leasehold and Environment Agency approvals were all ‘in place’.** The Executive Group were concerned that the feasibility study produced in 2007 was based on a different location of the river from the final chosen location of the project. Clarification required on whether costs were amended accordingly to take into account the extra distance involved in connection to the National Grid.

After a meeting with Liz Scott at Yorkshire Forward it was agreed that the project be rejected – As the project will be operating as a business, essentially installing the hydro and selling some of the electricity back to the National Grid. This is ineligible activity in terms of the LEADER strand of the Rural Development Programme for England. The applicant was encouraged to consider an alternative axis of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE), namely the Rural Enterprise Investment Programme (REIP), which may be a better fit with their project.

6.4.4 **PBar** left the room, and the meeting.

6.5 LDR/M/0910/013 Get Into Rural Skills

Grant requested: £47,175 (82.5%)
Total Project Cost: £57,175

6.5.1 **RD** ‘declared an interest’ in this project. The Executive Group asked her if she wished to comment on the project before leaving the room.

6.5.2 The project was **rejected – The Executive Group supported the project ‘in principle’, but had concerns regarding a 3 week scheme which did not have a ‘forward strategy’.** It was considered not to give good value for money.

6.5.4 RD re-entered the room.

6.6 LDR/M/0910/016 Yorkshire Moors Agricultural Apprenticeship Scheme

Grant requested: £111,752 (40.78%)
Total Project Cost: £274,007

6.6.1 The project was approved a grant of £55,243 (TPC £134,177), on the basis that :- this be considered a 'Pilot Scheme'(Phase 1) and the applicant receive a 50% apportionment of the original funding sought; reports to be submitted on a regular basis indicating 'work in progress' to be fed back to the Executive Group; and a final report be produced and submitted at the end of this Phase 1.

6.7 LDR/M/0910/019 Robin Hood's Bay Village Enhancements

Grant requested: £31,550 (70.03%)
Total Project Cost: £45,050

6.7.1 PH 'declared an interest' in this project. The Executive Group asked him if he wished to comment on the project before leaving the room.

6.7.2 The project was approved a grant of £31,550, with the recommendation from the Executive Group that:- Further discussions take place with the 'Highways Department' seeking a contribution for future schemes.

6.8 LDR/M/0910/021 Esk Pearl Mussel and Salmon Recovery Project (Phase 1)

Grant requested: £78,750 (70%)
Total Project Cost: £112,500

6.8.1 The project was approved a grant of £78,750, but clarification sought on differentiation in the fencing costs, and whether or not consultations took into account the tributaries as a source of pollution.

6.9 LDR/M/0910/026 Small Scale Enhancements Scheme

Grant requested: £184,362 (70.40%)
Total Project Cost: £261,862

6.9.1 The project was approved a grant of £184,362 (based on 3 years) on the condition that:- programme reports are fed back to the Executive Group on a regular basis (to be arranged); that LEADER criteria are adhered to when assessing each application.

7. Parish Community Caretakers Projects

7.1 Key discussion points:-

- Good attendance at initial awareness raising meeting
- Agreed support 'in principal'

- Decisions taken on the 16th December – for next financial year, next phase (2011/12) decision in October 2010.
- Small amounts of money could be submitted ‘en masse’.
- Suggested decision on Timescale be considered at next Executive Group meeting

MH informed the Executive Group that information would be on the website and available to the Parish Councils from 7th October 2009. Application forms would be a slimmed down version of the usual application forms. The application forms would need to be completed and submitted by 18th November. They would still need to go through an appraisal process, but it would be a ‘light touch’ appraisal. The number of applications and the funding sought should be known, and the information relayed to the Executive Group at the meeting on 16th December 2009.

8. LAG Event 13th October 2009

- 8.1 **MB** informed the Executive Group of the forthcoming LAG Event, and made a request for volunteers from the Executive Group to stand up and speak ‘for a few minutes’, as a reminder to some LAG members of those in the Executive Group, and their role .

The Agenda:-

- There should be half an hour for tea
- The final session should be an open forum to address ‘issues’ should there be any.
- At 16.15 approx. there will be a ‘Celebration of RTF’

Executive Group members who wished to volunteer were:-

- PS**, - speaking on Tourism.
- MW** - speaking on Basic Services,
- PBs** - speaking on Conservation and Upgrading Rural Heritage
- PH** - speaking on Village Renewal.
- SR** - speaking on Basic Services

9. Any Other Business

WT asked if a site visit to the project ‘Esk Energy-Ruswarp Weir Hydro Power should be arranged, or should a representative for the project be asked to address the Executive Group with a view to addressing issues and answering questions posed.

MH informed the Executive that further information was required before the Esk Energy project could progress.

10. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Monday 28th October 2009, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm, NYMNPA Offices, Helmsley.

Signature:

Malcolm Bowes, Chair

Date: