

**Yorkshire Dales LEADER  
Note of Management Group meeting  
14<sup>th</sup> October 2009, 10.00a.m. – 2.00p.m.  
Nidderdale High School, Pateley Bridge**

**Present:**

**Management Group:**

Dawn Clarkson (Vice Chair)	Business / tourism representative
Paul Burgess (sub)	Nidderdale AONB
Colin Bailey	North Yorkshire Learning Partnership
Cllr Richard Foster	Craven District Council
Mike Keeble	Heritage / culture representative
Prue Kegwin	Community / rural services representative
Tom Wheelwright	Business / tourism representative
Rita Lawson (sub)	North Yorkshire County Council
Mark Haynes	Hambleton District Council
Stephen Ramsden	Agricultural representative
Cllr Les Ellington	Harrogate Borough Council (sub attended)
Sue Kelly (sub)	Richmondshire District Council

**Support Officers:**

Rima Berry	LEADER Co-ordinator
Catherine Maudsley	North Yorkshire County Council
Julie Laverick	North Yorkshire County Council

**1. Apologies for absence**

Dawn Clarkson welcomed everybody. Apologies for absence were received from:

**Management Group:**

Cllr Jimmy Wilson-Petch	Richmondshire District Council (sub attended)
Cllr Heather Garnett	Nidderdale AONB (sub attended)
Cllr John Fort	North Yorkshire County Council (sub attended)
Cllr Margaret Atkinson	Harrogate Borough Council (sub attended)
Kevin Lancaster	Yorkshire Dales National Park
Ann Harding	Environmental representative
Graham Wilkinson	Community/rural services representative
Sue Vasey	Voluntary sector representative

**2. Minutes of the last meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

The Chairman referred to Item 3 in the previous minutes and reminded the group that they could fund projects up to 100% intervention rate if they so wished. The Vice Chair signed the previous minutes as accurate and correct.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes**

With reference to Item 5a - IT Hub for North Stainley Village Hall, further funding had been approved by written procedure after the meeting because the applicants were misinformed about a potential source of funding for which they were ineligible. The group had awarded less than the applicant had requested believing that they could find funding elsewhere.

#### 4. Declarations of Interest

The principles of the declaration of interest were outlined, with all members of the Management Group bound to declare interest in projects that they had been involved in developing or supporting, or within which they had a pecuniary interest.

The Vice Chair, DC informed the group of her declaration of interest in three of the applications and the group agreed that RL could be temporary Chair in DC's absence.

The following declarations of interest were recorded.

<i>Project ref</i>	<i>Project name</i>	<i>Management Group member</i>
LDR/D/0910/010	Creative Business Networking Support	Dawn Clarkson
LDR/D/0910/011	Cultural Events Marketing & Promotion	Dawn Clarkson
LDR/D/0910/014	Developing Festival & Events in Richmondshire	Dawn Clarkson
LDR/D/0910/013	Yorkshire Dales Farmers Network	Stephen Ramsden
LDR/D/0910/017	Washburn Heritage Centre	Tom Wheelwright

The Vice Chair requested a change to the agenda due to PB having to leave the meeting early. The group agreed to the change in running order. The next items are therefore 6, 7 and 8 of the original agenda, commencing with 8.

#### (8.) Trans-national and Inter-territorial Cooperation

- RB made reference to the report on the above subject and explained that LEADER Dales has £100,000 to 2011 for both Trans-National and Inter-Territorial Cooperation
- One that scores high is the one from Parc Regionale de la Millevaches. It also aligns closely with Yorkshire Dales Local Development Strategy. The Task and Finish Group wish to make contact and develop an application as soon as possible. The expression of interest from a Polish group called Razem na Wyzny would fully fund a sharing exercise on women's handicrafts from their own LEADER programme
- The group were asked to consider the following:  
Task & Finish Group for Trans-national and Inter-territorial Cooperation will contact PNR Millevaches to develop project proposal for approval by Management Group at the earliest opportunity. T&F Group with full support from RB will develop proposal with one person leading and guiding the project
- Invite Razem na Wyzny group to submit detailed programme for implementation, and ask LEADER Coordinator to circulate details of any actions and events to Management Group. RB will make contact with group and contacts in Yorkshire Dales area. One of T&F Group will be a lead partner and report back
- T&F Group develop a 'Call for Trans-national and Inter-territorial Cooperation Projects' in conjunction with interested members of other T&F Groups. RB is receiving a lot of interest in this particular strand of LEADER

- Agreement to fund Way of the Roses Cycleway, only recently been received as an expression of interest but the route crosses a good southern area of the LEADER Dales area. Applicant has applied to LEADER Moors and Coast for £20,000. They need £8,000 of Cooperation funding to carry out a more detailed scoping exercise. Project would have a good economic impact on the area. Applicant also applying to the Coast & Wolds LEADER Area
- In total Management Group were asked to authorise commitment of:
  - a) PNR Millevaches - £11,000.00
  - b) Razem na Wyzny - £5,000.00
  - c) Way of the Roses - £4,000.00

The Group were in full agreement and voted 'Yes' to all of the above. RB would ensure that a full proposal would be tabled in December 2009.

### **(6.) Parish Caretaker Proposal**

RB requested that the Group consider a variation be made in Programme 2, Village Renewal and Development, Measure 322. Call for Projects 2009, Activity: Caring for the Parish. RB proposed the following:

- There are two rounds for project applications. £100,000 to be set aside for Round 1, £65,000 for Round 2 from the nominal allocation of £165,000 for the parishes. One deadline set for applications to finite pots this year (Dec 09) and second deadline next year (Oct 10) thus creating the opportunity for 36 month and 35 month parish/community caretaker projects. Individual Parishes can now apply. They do not have to share a caretaker as was indicated in the original guidelines
- The minimum intervention rate is lowered to £2,000 to maximum £5,000 reducing scale of LEADER support over 3 years
- Intervention rates be set at 75% for the first 12 months of a project; 50% for the next 12 months; and 25% for final 12 months (11 months if Round 2). Over the lifetime of LEADER, parishes can only apply once within this activity. The minimum intervention rate is for this activity only
- May be a need to have extra December Panel in order to get through applications. This will be decided at a later date but would help to get the backlog moving once 'Caring for the Parish' is the focus for a campaign of engagement

Key discussion points:

- Parish Councils would be unwilling to raise parish precepts to continue any of the caretaker projects after the three years
- Successful parish caretaker schemes have managed to carry on in Lancashire and parts of Nidderdale
- Could 'caretaker' look after the local public rights of way in year 2 and 3
- Once the funding ceased the project could wind down
- Clarification on application form re evidence of commitment to carry on the project after funding had finished
- Light touch appraisal would be welcome if quantity is as anticipated
- Rate will be staggered as 60%, then 50% and finally 40%

In conclusion the Group unanimously agreed that:

- Press release is issued
- PC's are informed directly through the LEADER Newsletter
- Application forms and the full 'Caring for the Parish' information packs are available to download on the LEADER Blog site (temporary)
- A 'Caring for the Parish' specific event is held in November to focus on this activity
- First round of projects - £100k allocated for parish caretaker - closing date of December 2009 - projects lasting 36 months
- Second round - £65k - closing date October 2010 – projects lasting 35 months
- Funding now between £2-5k over 3 years
- Grant rate will be at 60%, 50%, then 40%
- Parishes can only apply once
- Single or joint parish applications can be made

**(7.) Variation to measure 321**

- More applicants had been expected for Basic Services. When T&F Group put together measures at the beginning of LEADER, they had not anticipated that the rate set at 40% would be too low. RB requested more flexibility in this measure and stated the following in her power point presentation:
  - The 40% intervention is proving difficult to achieve
  - The envisaged 'match' for the larger projects is not there yet
  - Measure 321 has most of the LEADER budget and has achieved least commitment
  - Projects coming forward under the Measure have ground to a halt (32 with 18 applications issued)
  - RB recommended a temporary 6 month variation in LEADER intervention rate to a maximum of 80%

The Management Group were in favour of approving the recommendations and agreed:

- All projects applying under Measure 321 are informed of temporary variation
- A press release informing of temporary variation is issued
- Projects have until 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010 to submit under this variation
- LEADER Management expect to see that the projects demonstrate quality, value and excellence in what they are trying to achieve

**5. Project applications seeking approval**

Two applications were withdrawn before the meeting date, these are noted below.

Vice Chair – DC declared an interest in the next three projects, the Group were in favour of RL assuming the position of temporary Chair.

**(a) LDR/D/0910/010 Creative Business Networking Support**

DC left the room

Grant requested: £10,000 (41.67%)

Total Project Costs: £24,000

The project was **REJECTED** – The main concerns being that the objectives of the project were not clear and that they work with Richmondshire Culture to integrate the project with theirs (014) and their own 011.

**(b) LDR/D/0910/011 Cultural Events Marketing and Promotion**

Grant requested: £35,000 (66.04%)

Total Project Costs: £53,000

The project was **REJECTED** – The main concerns being the lack of coverage of the whole LEADER area and the obvious overlaps and duplications between this project and 014.

**(c) LDR/D/0910/014 Developing Festivals and Events in Richmondshire**

Grant requested: £15,750 (79.95%)

Total Project Costs: £19,700

The project was **REJECTED** – The main concerns being the lack of coverage of the whole LEADER area and the overlaps and duplications between this project and 011. The Management Group would like the applicant to meet with AiR and the LEADER Coordinator to integrate the applications into one, along with AiR's application 010.

DC was invited to re-join the meeting.

**(d) LDR/D/0910/001 Threshfield Quarry Community Heritage Project**

This project was withdrawn because the applicants were unable to secure the match funding.

**(h) LDR/D/0910/008 North Craven Sustainable Future Project**

This project was withdrawn because the key parties have decided the project could not be delivered in the timescale.

**(e) LDR/D/0910/013 Yorkshire Dales Farmers Network**

SR left the meeting as he had declared an interest in this project.

Grant requested: £25,000 (32.87%)

Project costs: £76,063

The project was **approved with a grant of £25,000** and the group recommended that **through the monitoring and claims process it was checked that as the group become more established they become more independent ie their own bank account to ensure the activity claimed for is in YD LEADER area.**

SR was invited to re-join the meeting.

**(f) LDR/D/0910/015 Yorkshire Dales Sustainable Communities Project**

Grant requested: £75,000 (69.53)

Project costs: £107,872

The project was **approved a grant of £75,000 with the conditions that the funding is spread evenly over the whole of the LEADER area. That the applicant communicates with District Councils whilst the project is being delivered and a final report is sent to all District Councils and Parish Councils in the LEADER area**

**(g) LDR/D/0910/017 Washburn Heritage Centre**

TW left the meeting as he had declared an interest in the project.

Grant requested: £23,228 (40%)

Project costs: £58,070

The project was **approved with a grant of £23,228.**

TW was invited to re-join the meeting.

**(i) LDR/D/0910/018 Craven Volunteer Driver Project/Car Scheme**

Grant requested: £15,535 (40%)

Project costs: £38,835

The project was **approved with a grant of £15,535.**

**(j) LDR/D/0910/012 Extending Practice/Celebrating Place**

Grant requested: £20,000 (57.14%)

Project costs: £35,000

The project was **approved with a grant of £20,000. With the conditions that the number of arts based practitioners/businesses benefiting from funding should be raised to 8 (not including Chrysalis Arts in the total). Also that arts based practitioners/businesses that are assisted be spread across the full LEADER Dales area.**

**(k) LDR/D/0910/016 Settle Hydro**

Grant requested: £45,962

Project costs: £210,962

The project **was approved with a grant of £45,962.**

**9. Any Other Business**

All those present were reminded that any approval decisions must be kept confidential until confirmation from Yorkshire Forward is received.

The deadline for the next project applications to be considered is 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009, once the number is established then the meeting may have to start earlier or an extra meeting arranged. The Parish Caretaker applications could be dealt with separately at the second meeting. RB expected that many of the next applications would be capital spend. See next item for confirmation of dates etc.

The Management Group would like to see a presentation from some of the successful applicants for the wider LAG meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

SR wished to state that he was pleased to feel that so far the Management Group had awarded funding carefully and to good projects. It was better to spend wisely and not use all of the allocated funding for the year than to award it just to use it all up. The rest of the group were in agreement.

The Vice Chair agreed with SR and thought that Management Group as a whole, including RB who works single-handedly, were doing a good job and have approved projects with confidence that should leave a legacy of LEADER in the Dales for years to come.

**10. Date, time and venue of next meeting:**

The date of the next meeting is on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December and the second meeting will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Both venues need to be confirmed but Hawes Countryside Museum has been suggested for the first meeting and Darley for the second. Confirmation will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed.

Signature:

Dawn Clarkson, Vice Chair

Date: 2009