



WITHOUT WALLS PARTNERSHIP Minutes

DATE 12 November 2015

VENUE Snow Room, West Offices, Station Rise

PRESENT

Board Members:

Cllr Chris Steward (Chair) – Leader, City of York Council
Sir Ron Cooke – Vice Chair of WoW Board
Kevin Curley – Chief Executive, York Council for Voluntary Service
Fred Ring – York Racial Equality Network
Steve Stewart – Chief Executive, City of York Council
Chris Bailey – Chair, York @ Large Board
Deputy Chief Constable Tim Madgwick – North Yorkshire Police
Cllr Keith Aspden – Deputy Leader, City of York Council
Sara Farrar – Department for Work and Pensions
Cllr Janet Looker – Labour Group Leader, City of York Council
Dianne Willcocks – Chair, Fairness and Equalities Board
David Dryburgh – North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

In attendance:

Phil Witcherley – Group Manager, Economy and Place Strategy, City of York Council
Alice Rowland – Strategy and Policy Officer (Economy and Place), City of York Council

APOLOGIES:

Professor Koen Lamberts – Vice Chancellor, University of York
Alison Birkinshaw – Principal, York College
Michael Slater – Assistant Director of Planning and Sustainable Development, City of York Council
Stirling Kimkeran – Chair, York Economic Partnership

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cllr Steward welcomed the group to the meeting, and apologies were received from those not in attendance, as above.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2015 were agreed. Cllr Steward confirmed that all actions from the previous meeting have been completed.

3 UPDATE ON DEVOLUTION

Cllr Steward and Steve Stewart gave a verbal update on devolution.

Steve Stewart informed the group that several different devolution 'bids' were submitted to government on 4th September that included York, covering different geographies across Yorkshire – the Leeds City Region, Greater Yorkshire and York, North Yorkshire and East Riding.

Action: The York, North Yorkshire and East Riding devolution bid to be circulated around the group. This can be found via this link

<https://www.york.gov.uk/devolution>

4 UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE YORK RACIAL EQUALITY NETWORK (YREN)

Fred Ring provided the group with a verbal update on the work of YREN.

Fred Ring informed the group about the range of activities undertaken by YREN over the last year or so and highlighted YREN's work on its 2014-19 Business Plan and the launch of the York Practitioners Equality Network. The group discussed how the different groups within the partnership could collaborate to contribute to YREN's work e.g. through YREN and York CVS working together.

5 FUTURE OF WITHOUT WALLS PARTNERSHIP

Phil Witcherley and Alice Rowland provided a presentation on potential future working of the Without Walls Partnership Board (not its constituent groups). They presented some ideas on the principles behind what the city's partnership working system should try to achieve, along with some examples of what other places have done to reform their partnership working structures. One potential new model proposed for discussion was to move away from a Board structure to holding an annual conference. The conference would allow stakeholders to discuss what the future priorities for the city should be and to form 'task and finish'

working groups to achieve them. The conference would be inclusive and open to a wide range of people including residents.

The Board discussed the presentation and ideas for future working of the WoW Board. The following points were raised:

- It is important to be clear on the purpose and role of the partnership; what is it achieving for the city?
- The same outcomes could be achieved through Board members meeting more informally to discuss ideas etc.
- It is important to try and avoid duplication in the work done by the partnership – ensure it is fulfilling a unique role rather than doing things other groups are already working on.
- Must ensure the ‘right people are around the table’ to make a difference (e.g. could representation be widened to faith groups, the private sector, housing etc).
- A general need to try and decrease the amount of cross partner strategic meetings and turn into more action based groups.
- Ask the questions: ‘What wouldn’t have happened without WoW?’ and ‘what are we doing that will have an impact on residents in the city?’
- Need to recognise that CYC cannot deliver everything. For the partnership to work, other partners need to be willing to commit resource to it. People have many other mechanisms to contact the council and this board shouldn’t be limited to that; make WoW something ‘more York, less CYC’.

Action: A small, informal working group to meet to work up some ideas on what the future of the WoW Board should look like, and what format it should be in (e.g. retain the board structure? Annual conference?)

Action: Survey WoW Board members on their opinions about how WoW should work in the future.

Conclusion: Cllr Steward concluded the discussion by stating that the group would explore the idea of an annual conference and additional informal meetings.

7 Any other business

There was no other business raised to discuss.

8 Close

Cllr Steward thanked the members for their contributions and closed the meeting.

Alice Rowland
18/11/15