

**MNAP Meeting
(online)
2nd April 2020, 6.30pm - 7.30pm**

Present:

Martin Brampton (Chair); Sarah Oswald (Secretary); Paul Andrews; Jan Devos (Treasurer); Paul Emberley; Rodney Brewis; David Lloyd-Williams (joined later)

Apologies:

None received

Current status of project

The local Internal Drainage Board (IDB) has agreed to shift bridge back into position (roughly) in next few weeks

Alan Mitchell is continuing to provide his time to try to resolve the bridge issues and proposed solutions. He communicated with drainage board on this; may attend with IDB when bridge is moved.

Alan suggests work to address the bridge properly should be undertaken in May / June when the ground is dried up further.

Signage has been put up to advise that bridge is closed; police tape that was put up has been removed. Consider that people are given due warning through the signage and that they cross at their own risk

Malton Town Council (MTC) insurers are aware of the situation

Are funds available for this and can 3 quotes be obtained?

Action:

- MB to discuss with Alan Mitchell as to whether there will be any charge
- Ongoing credit / thanks to be given to Alan where possible
- Continue to discuss with Gail (MTC) re insurance and ensure MTC is happy with proposed route forward
- MB to continue to liaise with Martin Dales who had the signage put in place

Ongoing management of the project

Concern as to how MNAP is to continue long term. Providing a public good but is a free provision that costs to provide, and no long term income available.

Can appeal for more sponsorship, but uncertain what will be available.

RB noted charity sector likely to be hard hit just now, not going to be an easy year to raise money from events / fundraising or sponsorship

RB suggested that there should be some from Fitzwilliam Estate

PA suggested could look to Community Interest Company (CIC)

JD clarified position of CIC (funded via Fitzwilliam Estate Trust not the Estate) - best to apply to CIC rather than Estate direct.

PA noted legal liability rests with MTC, works on behalf of partnership and partnership works on behalf of both Town Councils and wider area. Would be appropriate for partnership to ask MTC and Norton Town Council (NTC) and surrounding parish councils to contribute. Feels Fitzwilliam Estate should also be asked to contribute, is in their interest and the town's PE noted that Jan's suggestion re CIC is correct but CIC is having problems financially (events postponed in current situation); Estate is also supporting local businesses currently. In short term it may not be an easy ask. Backstop is MTC due to lease, ultimately there is option to curtail lease and apply break clause

MB - Terms of lease require removal of all infrastructure if it is ended which would be waste of the money and volunteer effort invested, any exit would need to be negotiated. There is money earmarked to finish off what has been planned. There is money in hand to meet immediate needs. Right to think forwards where we go after that.

PA would look very silly if abandoned the scheme after only a few years. More sensible to see what can be done, if required, to raise funds from councils and Estate. If they say no then we know we have to wind up.

PE will be some Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies in both Town Councils shortly. Could be an early help from NTC and MTC.

RB CIL monies - do they have to be spent on capital projects rather than maintenance?

PA Town councils will have to set criteria for spend of their share of SIL; as will Ryedale District Council (RDC)

RB suggested possibility of drawing on Storey Settrington Charitable Trust (though MNAP isn't a charity)

MB would make sense to turn the partnership into a charity, possible even an incorporated one.

JD has some concerns about it becoming a charity. MNAP was of particular use because it could bring together business, charity, councils etc and was hard won to achieve this. Puts it in unique position of funding opportunities, its status allows it to gain funding because it joins up the town representatives in a way a charity can't. A strength not yet played to sufficiently

PA Jan is probably right there, if it was a registered charity would have to follow specific objectives. Not all public benefits are charitable

RB administration in terms of compliance as a charity has become more onerous - should possibly be wary of this

JD should there be a decision to change status of partnership should draw down rest of Portas money first - would be hard to access if status changed. About £2k may be available for the LSW project through that JD another option, not a quick win but could be suitable project for a corporate sponsor e.g. dog food brand? Strategic intent for future opportunities?

SO any views from RDC or the two Town Councils on MNAP's future role / purpose?

MB Seems to be quite good support from RDC officers for MNAP and what it is doing, possibly not financial support

SO noted that Storey Settringham Charity has been approached before without success

MB – views on principle of increasing accessibility?

RB and PE think it should be looked at

SO noted the use of BT Fairfield Trust assessment in the past, and also that looking at the Miles without Stiles approach used by National Parks which grades routes by providing information to users to take their own view in terms of what they are capable of accessing

PA would hope that the partnership doesn't focus purely on one scheme and that it looks at the wider riverbank and tidying up, following on from the work Fiona Croft previously developed

SO has notes from the previous riverbank project work developed by Fiona Croft

MB noted these as future aspects to come back to

DLW mentioned that the issue for other projects is funds

Action

Check on use of CIL monies? Can it be revenue or capital only?

SO to handover notes from previous Riverside Working Group activity (can pass material into MTC when current situation allows)

Next steps

MB willing to pick up the role to take things forward to get things done

JD, RB, PE, SO, DLW agreed with the above

Secretary role? What is required? Minute writing, agendas and invites to meetings.

FaceBook group set up by David Hoggard, SO is an administrator – needs to be passed over to someone to take on

SO confirmed intent to step down as secretary and to resign from MNAP

JD suggested MNAP is back to the situation of needing to recruit people to get momentum going to be able to have enough officers

PA suggested letters to two Town Councils to see if new, active members might be willing to come onto committee

Action

SO to issue minutes from this meeting

MB to contact other members to gauge willingness to take on secretary role

MB to approach two Town Councils for new members

Following the meeting

Several members paid tribute to the vital work done by Sarah Oswald in support of the Lady Spring Wood project, and requested that MNAP's thanks to Sarah be recorded. This is no doubt endorsed by all connected with the project.