

Minutes of the Meeting of the Active Partnerships National Board Held on Wednesday 7 July 2021 virtually by Teams

Members Present: Adam Walker (Chair), Dick Fedorcio, Ian Hacon, Adrian Leather, Amanda Pearce-Higgins, , Alison Shipway, Sue Storey,

In attendance: Nigel Harrison (interim Chief Executive), Nicki Couzens (Business Support and Comms)

1. Welcome and Apologises

Apologise received from Mike Sandys

a. Adam welcomed everyone to the meeting

All agreed 8.00 -9.00am was a good time for meetings

Adam outlined the idea that meetings would focus on fewer topics and allow for more debate in future.

2. Sense Check

- Dick informed board that Kent were appointing director, 29 applied, 7 interviewed, taking up references and looking to appoint shortly.
- Amanda- Oxfordshire focusing on SE paperwork
- Active Lancs – nothing negative to report. Asked board on views of Chris Boardman appointment to chair of SE. Whilst he was an elite athlete now very focused on sustainable transport, involved in Manchester vision, community work. Seen as a good appointment.
- Sue reported that feeling she has picked up is that people are now looking to the future. Slight concerns around 2 track review- SE and also an Active Partnership review. Had coffee with John B and Ilana
- Adam attended development group with Ali and Graeme Sinnott, gave brief overview of work and everyone supportive, no challenging questions.
- Nigel joining South West CEO group
- Adams appointment - Ian proposed and Sue seconded.

3. Board Culture

Adam raised the question about Board culture – what style of board do we want to be?

Responses were;

- Not too operational – need to focus on strategy
- More creative – for example have 1 topic meeting where we really explore a particular topic and delve deeper into our thinking.
- Ian mentioned another board he sits on has monthly board meetings
 - 1 month its operational / process board business
 - 1 month its strategy and creative thinking only
- All agreed we need to define the purpose and consider our strategy for the future, considering our strategic positioning for the future

Adam confirmed he and Nigel are looking at setting board dates soon. Board also confirmed they would like some face to face meetings, and soon as some board members hadn't met other board members yet.

Board also confirmed it would be good to have a forward plan / calendar of board activity going forward

Purpose

- All agreed that board need to spend time on both the organisational purpose and the board purpose to redefine the strategic future.

Action

- Nigel to plan a board away day to consider points above
- Nigel and Adam to consider the 'exam' questions for the board away day

4. Board Composition

Nigel outlined currently current board make up could result in lack of diversity of thought. Cannot recruit whilst going through a review but could co-opt people with missing skills, have open and honest conversation with people in the network, ask sub group leading racial equality work on how we solve issue. Strong message on racial equality across network, need to link to open recruitment processes and new code of governance from SE.

Action: Nigel approach sub group and look to address diversity and leaderships issues from coopting within the network until review complete

5. Review Project Update

Nigel outlined the 4 strands to review

1. Narrative – role of AP and relationship with SE
2. Investment- principles and processes
3. Monitoring and Evaluation
4. Support functions – what is needed by Active Partnerships to enable them to deliver Uniting the Movement

3 board phases to the work

1. Defining the support functions and options appraisal (July- Sept)
2. SE and APN body review (Sept – Oct)
3. Organisational change (Oct- march)

3 groups being considered as part of the review of the support functions- role of Active Partnership National Team, role of SE AP team, extended workforce.

Leadership group looking at the work includes Nigel, Adam, Ed and others. Nigel and Adam and 4 Active Partnership representatives looking at the APN support function.

6. Meeting with Tim Hollingsworth

Board asked Nigel and team to consider any risks and weaknesses for the financial process with Sport England. Sport England is discussing funding with individual AP's.

Nigel confirmed he believes this review is very collaborative.

Adam and Nigel are meeting Tim on 8 July 2021

Action: Adam / Nigel will send a note around on the outcome of the meeting with Tim.

7. Operational Update

Nigel provided an update on the work that has been taken place across the national team and network as outlined in the paper circulated prior to the meeting.

8. Team Wellbeing

Regular item on the agenda. National team reported to be now feeling positive and looking forward to the future.

Matters Arising and Future Action

| Resolution or Action | Detail | Responsibility | Action Update |
|----------------------|--|----------------|---------------|
| Resolution | Appointment of Adam Walker as Chair Ian proposed and Sue seconded | n/a | |
| Action | Set out future board dates | Nigel /Adam | |
| Action | Nigel to plan a board away day to consider points above. Nigel and Adam to consider the 'exam' questions for the board away day | Nigel /Adam | |
| Action | Board Composition - Nigel approach sub group and look to address diversity and leaderships issues from co-opting within the network until review complete | Nigel | |
| Action | Meeting Tim Hollingsworth Adam / Nigel will send a note around on the outcome of the meeting with Tim. | Adam/ Nigel | |

Date of Next meeting: 21 September 9.00-11.00 (via teams)