

## **Notes of the Appleby Fair Multi-Agency Strategic Co-ordinating Group held on Wednesday 21 July 2021**

**Attendance:** Les Clark, Eden District Council (Chair)  
Louise Biggs, Eden District Council  
Matt Kennerley, Cumbria Constabulary  
Councillor Karen Greenwood, Eden District Council  
Councillor Andy Connell, Eden District Council  
Councillor Phil Dew, Cumbria County Council  
Emma Brass, Eden District Council  
Karen Lowthrop, Appleby Town Council  
Laura McClellan, Cumbria County Highways  
Steve Wilde, Eden District Council  
Damian Lavictoire, Cumbria Constabulary  
Richard Batham, Highways England  
Mike Taylor, Cumbria Constabulary  
Stephen Vickers, Cumbria Constabulary  
Amanda McKirdy, Cumbria Constabulary  
Kellie Bradburn-Sims, Cumbria County Council  
Neil Aitken, Cumbria Fire & Rescue  
Dan McAulay, Eden District Council  
Bill Lloyd, Gypsy & Traveller Representative  
Billy Welch, Gypsy & Traveller Representative  
Neil Graham, Cumbria Constabulary  
Rob Melloy, RSPCA  
Mike Clusker, Cumbria Fire & Rescue  
Nick Wright, Cumbria County Council  
Neil Buck, Eden District Council  
Nick Griggs, North West Ambulance Service  
Peter Aiston, Cumbria Constabulary  
Dan Chalmers, Cumbria County Highways  
Trevor Marsh, Environment Agency

**Apologies:** Colin Cox, Director of Public Health, Cumbria County Council  
Robert Docherty, Eden District Council  
John Barwise, South Lakeland District Council

### **1. Notes of the Previous Meeting held on 7 July 2021**

These were agreed as a true record with a minor amendment to the attendance list and a paragraph which was under the wrong item.

### **2. Public Health Update**

In the absence of CC, EB gave an update. It had been agreed at a meeting on 15 July that the sub-group would be stood down and any issues will be raised at the main MASCG meetings. EB had attended site meetings to look at potential areas for the testing/vaccination site. The only suitable area was Appleby Grammar School as staff running the centre would need access to water/toilets etc. She was waiting for the School to get in touch with her.

CC team would be funding an SIA doorman for each of the licensed premises - use of QR codes/test and trace would be encouraged. It was proving difficult to source additional hand washing facilities and additional toilets.

EB said that LFT tests would be available during Phase 1 and handed out to caravans and be encouraged to use. The question was how many would be needed - EB suggested 400-500 but it was a bit of an unknown. LC asked how many caravans would be in and around Appleby during the Fair and thought we should make tests available during Phase 2. If there was no mobile testing unit, an information point would be set up (possibility at Salt Tip Corner) where LFT tests would be available. EB would speak to CC on number of tests.

BW felt that the best place to hand out the LFT kits would be Salt Tip Corner. He would be happy to put out info to the Gypsy and Travellers regarding vaccines, testing, mask wearing etc. He also had managed to get hold of some toilets and may be able to help EB get some more. BW/EB would discuss further.

KG suggested if the Grammar School was unavailable to use as a testing site, the car park at the Doctors surgery could be another option. EB would raise this as a potential site.

### **3. Communications and Engagement**

NG said that the main messaging was still around the “don’t come too soon” message and vaccination comms. Closer to the Fair messages would be put out regarding road safety. He said that the website had recently been updated to reflect the updated messages and encampment details. RM asked for animal welfare messages to be circulated which NG would include in any comms.

It was noted that the public meeting was due to take place the following evening. LC thanked KBS for her hard work in arranging this. AC would be chairing the meeting and would make an opening statement along with LC and MK with questions then taken from those in attendance. KBS and colleagues will be at the meeting to make a note of questions asked. KL said that 49 people had booked to attend. RM said that if there were any specific animal welfare questions, to let him know so that he can respond.

### **4. Encampments**

EB said that everything for Alston/Melmerby would be as the 2019 Fair. Great Asby will be used and facilities would be available. Cote Moor would be used but could be withdrawn in future.

The owner has decided that he doesn’t want Watter Yat available for encampment. There will be no toilets or refuse collections and the Police will only respond to incident rather than routine patrol. A joint email from EDC/Police had been sent to him outlining the position as a private land owner. There was a meeting scheduled for the next day with Mallerstang Parish Council as the land owner has spread an area of the common with muck. There had been a number of calls from the Parish Council/residents concerned with this action. BL said there was tension on social media over this action. He would speak to PA on this.

Following discussions with JB, temporary signage would be put up at Watter Yat signposting people to use other tolerated sites. PD supported the plan to redirect people to other sites - including Scroggs Bank because this would relieve pressure on the local Mallerstang community. EB reassured PD that Cote Moor would not be included in the list. Scroggs Bank has no maximum number specified within the planning permissions. JB said usually around 40-50 caravans would park up in a usual year and felt there would be space for another 30. SLDC have facilities on route to Scroggs Bank. EDC have other sites subject to availability. The A685 would not be mentioned as a stopping point. PD said EB had done a great job under the

circumstances and thanked her for the reassurance. It was noted Great Asby would be in use from Thursday 5 August and doesn't usually have return travellers. The toilets etc would be removed from the site by 12 August.

BW had heard that Devils Bridge was closed. EB would follow this up with JB as nothing had been mentioned about this.

## **5. Operational Working Group Update**

### **a) Highways**

LM said work progressing with the installation of posts/signage in Kirkby Stephen, Brough and Appleby. Warcop and Melmerby parishes had requested posting and restrictions as part of Appleby Fair TRO but neither parishes are included in the current Traffic Management Plan. A decision was required from MASCG to include both in Traffic Management Plan. PD said this would usually be approved by the Local Committee and was happy with the proposals. It was agreed by MASCG that this work could be undertaken.

### **b) Parish Engagement**

Nothing further to report.

### **c) Licensing**

SW said there had been a positive meeting on 15 July where the security company had attended an Appleby Pub Watch meeting. It was anticipated that a number of the licensed premises will open and will have a better picture on 5 August. He will be visiting licensed premises in Kirkby Stephen to tie up any loose ends.

RM asked what the Royal Oak's plans were. SW said they were planning to open outside only.

PD asked about the tethering of horses in Kirkby Stephen and what the position was in relation to the boarding of the railings. AM said that the boards would be going up the following week and people would not be allowed to ride into town and leave horses unsupervised.

### **d) South Lakeland**

In the absence of JB, EB reported that there were no encampments on the migration route but was a small encampment at a school who had been spoken to. JB had spoken to a contact in Bradford who had suggested that it would be a busy Fair.

## **6. Any Other Business**

An online Q&A session would take place over Facebook with all agencies involved.

BL asked whether SLDC residents with any concerns about encampments should still call 101. MK confirmed that this was still the case and there would be a dedicated team within the control room to deal with this. Patrols have started in SLDC this week and would cover the full county from the following week.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 4 August 2021 at 10.00am.

### Actions to carry forward

<b>2. Public Health Update</b>	Emma Brass/Colin Cox to decide on number of LFT tests	EB/CC
<b>4. Encampments</b>	Emma Brass to follow up on situation on Devils Bridge with John Barwise	EB/JB