

**NOTES OF THE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP  
HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

**GROUNDWORKS CRESWELL OFFICES, CLOWNE  
2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2006**

**PRESENT**

T Trafford	(TT)	AHEAG
T Edwards	(TE)	National Trust
J Sherwood	(JWS)	BDC
A Heath	(AH)	DCC
L Khella	(LK)	BLSP (CEPT)
M Connley	(MC)	BDC
N Price	(NP)	BLSP (CEPT)
K Sharpe	(KS)	CEN
J Neeve	(JN)	Involve CEN
D Row	(DR)	Clowne Wildlife Group
G Stokes	(GS)	SMVR
D Betts	(DB)	New Houghton Community Association
R Bennett	(RB)	BDC

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

T Glover	(TG)	Junction Arts
A Hill	(AH)	English Heritage
T Oliver	(TO)	BDC
M Cox	(MC)	Involve CEN

**2/3. NOTES OF MEETING HELD 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006 / MATTERS ARISING**

**Page 1 – Item 2/3 NOTES OF MEETING HELD 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2006 / MATTERS ARISING**

TT, DK and JN had attended a workshop and seminar at Sherwood Energy Village. TT thought this was an excellent social enterprise and their environmental standards are kept very high. Useful advice for community environmental projects is available. JN expressed his disappointment as he thought there was not enough product demonstration on the day.

**Page 2 – Item 5 REVIEW OF COMMISSION PROJECTS**

MC had not sent in his reserve project for circulation as it had been decided that this was not sufficiently cross cutting.

### **Page 3 – Item 7 NRF SPEND**

It has been agreed that the housing projects could not be delivered and would be withdrawn. JWS to clarify if this includes both bids, as he would be interested in continuing with the Landlord Forum Scheme. The Stock Condition Survey would be picked up by the Local Authority during the next year.

### **Page 4 – Item 11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

JN asked for a change in the second paragraph to read as, 'we are developing village appraisals but need indicators back from action groups.'

### **Page 5 – Item 11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no update on the Amber Green Assessment as yet and this is still ongoing.

#### **4. H & E INDICATORS FOR CEN (5 TO 7 POINTS)**

Some consideration was to be given to the indicators that we may want to give to CEN to help them complete the village appraisals. Some discussion took place on Performance Update and indicators, in particular, 'Satisfaction With Neighbourhood' which has shown falling satisfaction. This information is taken from the Citizens Panel on an annual basis. It was agreed that on the next Citizens Panel this question would be broken down into 8 categories to include dogs, noise, traffic etc.

Further questions would be included - do you rent or own your own property, is it in good condition, how long do you wait for your landlord to carry out repairs and is the property suitable for the occupiers needs. JWS will send JN two or three examples of housing questions.

#### **5. ESG REPORT BACK**

##### **NEW REPORT BACK FORMS**

NP had given out the performance update with comments on actions completed. The purpose of the update is to have a more focused report to submit to the ESG Group. It brings to the attention of the action group what they are trying to achieve and whether it is actually being achieved. The update form was designed to promote discussion which would be used to report back to ESG. NP requested that this be a standard agenda item for future meetings for discussion. Part 1 lists all the indicators which this group has ownership for and discussion took place on satisfaction with parks. The information used for the status comes from the survey held in 2003/04. It was agreed that additional questions to be asked to identify what the respondents mean by 'park'. NP would make a brief comment against this indicator, more information is available on TENS (on the internet).

Abandoned vehicles - this has been discussed at Patch Management Group, who are considering issues around nuisance and abandoned vehicles.

Parks – the groups needs to list what is being done to improve parks within the District.

Satisfaction with neighbourhoods had fallen from a previous Citizens Panel response. A report on Grot to Green activities and other schemes that link into Grot to Green to be submitted.

JN said that the Involve Action Group pro forma listed concerns of various communities throughout the District and this could be used to inform the report on performance. JN requested that this also be put on as an agenda item in the future. JN read out comments from a meeting held the previous evening detailing concerns of residents.

JWS asked for some comments to be fed back to him as he was concerned that some of these related to Renewal Areas.

JWS explained that the Home Improvement Agency (HIA) is a joint working venture with Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council and was established to assist older, disabled and vulnerable people within the community. BDC have, as part of their commitment to the agency, employed a Case Worker.

NP spoke about project performance and she requested that action groups monitor projects which are not meeting their expected spend or performance targets and report back to CEPT.

TT thought it was useful to have a quarterly progress report to monitor the group's projects. TT would update comments on the project work and send these to NP with key points of meeting before the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2006. NP agreed that if there was no 'smiley face' she would put in the reason for this in the report.

## **NGAGE AND INVEST TO SAVE PROJECT**

Martin Stone from the CED team had put together a project for the early intervention, and targeted support programme. This project would support eleven activity venues across the District in partnership with other agencies. The whole programme is at a cost of £600,000.00 but there is £140,000.00 support in NRF funding available. This may be an opportunity for the BCP to link in with this work.

## **POSSIBLE EXTRA SPEND FOR 07/08 ON MARKET TOWN INITIATIVE**

LK said that Bolsover had been allocated £47,000.00 capital this year, and next year and is to be spent by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

Any schemes have to be at least 50% match funded and also to be capital works. Designing out crime in Bolsover Town Centre was suitable for the scheme and that project was ready to go ahead. LK asked for any other suitable projects to be brought forward to her. RB thought that there may be some scope for extra funding for the Shirebrook Town Centre bid as the master planning exercise may well exceed the funds which have already been identified in the budget. EMDA and English Partnerships are joint funding this project.

### **NRF CARRY OVER TERMS**

All projects monies to be spent if at all possible.

## **6. RESERVE PROJECTS**

### **GREEN FLAG PARKS**

The Green Flag parks project scheme had not been brought forward, but BDC are discussing this through the Patch Management meeting, an application for 2008 is a more realistic target. Patch Management group are looking at the top 10 Council owned sites and officers will know after the next meeting, to be held next week, if a bid can be put in for 2007 or 2008. Funds could be spent on community consultation and a management plan.

Some discussion took place on the Hodthorpe Community Association's wish to refurbish the site on King Street, after due consideration this was deemed not to be suitable at the present time.

AH offered BCPs potential projects as follows:-

#### **A) Possible Greenway Schemes**

A minor scheme to combat anti social behaviour at the greenway link with the station area in Shirebrook, at an approximate cost of £5,000.00.

Improvement to the link between the Five Pits Trail and the Silverhill Line.

Improvements to the Silverhill Line as part of the phased plans of the Ashfield and Bolsover Trails Network, which is a partnership with BDC, Ashfield District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Mansfield District Council. This scheme will provide an important connection into the National Cycle Network.

#### **B) Improvements to amenity and conservation areas**

The path around Wollen Meadow is in need of improvements, the current path is uneven and not good for wheel chairs and buggies, contractors have already bladed off the path as part of the Grot to Green scheme and found the surface underneath is in poor condition. The schemes aim is to

encourage access to this important local amenity and wildlife site, approximate cost £4,000.00.

Currently the orchid field at Pleasley doesn't receive any management apart from mowing rides to maintain access and scrub clearance. The registered wildlife site is in need of fencing so that sheep can graze the area, to help maintain this important area of magesian limestone grassland. The BCP is working with Pleasley Pit Nature Study Group on managing the rest of the site. Approximate cost £4,000.00.

AH is to send in details of the schemes as soon as possible.

As the next ESG meeting is to be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2006, papers have to be received before the 9<sup>th</sup> November. If this is not possible items could be tabled and papers are to be sent on at a later date.

LK requested the information as soon as possible and she will collate this prior to the ESG meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Outlined briefs to be sent to LK, TT, and JWS. LK to email template for report to LK and MC.

## **LANGWITH SOCIETY**

TT thought that this could be an exemplar project for next year in terms of the energy generation supply. KS stated that a pre-application bid to the Big Lottery Fund had been submitted but no feedback had been given as yet. The Society's biggest priority at the moment is funding and erecting fencing to make the site secure.

### **7. GREEN BIN FUNDING 2007**

TT expressed concerns about this bid as the previous funding allocation had been given on the basis that this would be mainstreamed. It was noted that the composting site will be late in its completion as there had been objections from residents at Grassmoor.

TT to write to AL on behalf of the group and refuse the application as the group understood that this service would be mainstreamed in the next financial year.

### **8. REPORT BACKS**

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT**

No report submitted

#### **BCP**

AH reported all projects were going well and there was good engagement with partners including National Trust, Creswell Heritage Trust and Friends of the Wollen Meadow Group.

The target for the number of volunteer days had been exceeded with help from the British Trust for Volunteers.

The one target which had not been met was the Walking for Health Group, and AH was hopeful that this would be established fully in quarter 3.

### **GROT TO GREEN**

JN reported that spending was on track and that they were waiting for invoices to be submitted. The first phase is completed, including work to reclaim ponds, Woollen Meadow, reclaiming dumping ground, works at Doe Lea River Side Walk and the ground at the back of Lime Stone House in Creswell.

JN spoke about the educational element £19,000.00 covering 13 projects, which is acknowledged as good value for money. Feedback has been positive. There had been much community engagement with volunteers and also co-operation has been received from all parties, including Parish Councils.

### **9. TRAINING AND VISITS**

£3,000.00 allocated for the action group had been discussed at the last meeting and needs to be taken forward. JWS to speak to TO to see how these monies could be spent.

### **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

RB spoke about the two letters sent out with the minutes relating to the supplementary planning documents. These referred to two documents currently being prepared that will be a guide for improving the energy efficiency of new buildings (both residential and non residential) and sustainability of development in general. The letters invite comments to be made on the visioning document and sustainability appraisal for the two supplementary planning documents. Any comments should be made promptly as the date for consultation has just passed. Documents are available online at: <http://www.bolsover.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=7409>.

RB went on to tell the group about the Core Strategy and Site Allocations Development Plan Documents. He gave out a leaflet entitled "Shaping Our Future Together" which is a summary of the Preferred Options for the two documents. RB went on to speak at some length about the contents of the documents and what they would mean for areas within the District in terms of housing and the environment. The main documents are on the website, comments are welcome, there is a 6 week period of consultation which ends on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006.

RB advised that members may have seen pink site notices around the District and confirmed that these identified opportunity sites for housing or other development. The purpose of the signs is to raise awareness in the

community that sites could come forward for development and to draw attention to the development plan documents themselves. He confirmed that the council was not seeking to compulsory purchase the sites.

RB clarified that Brown field sites were generally defined as those that had been built on before, and even if there are no buildings present at the moment it can be perceived as having been built on. He added that there was a detailed definition in government guidance which the council followed. If anyone thought any site had been misrepresented they should make representations to Planning Services.

RB added that all of the consultation documents can be viewed at Contact Centres at Bolsover main offices and in local libraries. They could also be viewed on the internet and also in hard copy. Public meetings were to take place and these would be open and interactive for comments.

A commission brief had been received from BCP and JWS and TT would mark this after the meeting.

NP distributed copies of the Connect newsletter.

**11. NEXT MEETING DATE**

14<sup>th</sup> December 2006 2:30 at Groundwork Creswell Offices, Clowne.