

LSP Board
27 April
Fluid Power Centre
1.00 pm – 4.00 pm
MINUTES

Present:

Chair	Michael Quigley, Leader, Bassetlaw District Council
Vice Chair	Michael Newstead, Director, BCVS
Bernard Coleman	Managing Director of A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd
Richard Edwards	Neighbourhood Pathfinder Manager
Nigel Hamshere	Assistant Director of Regeneration, Nottinghamshire County Council
David Hunter	Acting Chief Executive, Bassetlaw District Council
Liz Jefferies	National Association of Local Councils
Richard Johnson	Chief Superintendent, Nottinghamshire Police B Division
Keith Jones	Group Manager, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
Paul Learoyd	Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
Sharon Stoltz	Assistant Director of Public Health, Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust
Mick Storey	Chair of Education, Nottinghamshire County Council
Fran Walker	Consultant, North Nottinghamshire College
Gillian Blenkinsop	Bassetlaw District Council

Visiting Speakers

Laura Derry	Dig for Fire
Lisa Fernehough	Dig for Fire

Apologies:

John Berridge	Chair of the Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team
Nigel Clifton	Chief Executive, Doncaster and Bassetlaw NHS Hospitals Foundation Trust
Pauline Elliott	Chair of Social and Community Development Sub-Group, Bassetlaw District Council
Phil Fone	Chief Executive, North Nottinghamshire College
Greg Morrall	Neighbourhood Management, Government Office for the East Midlands
Mary Mitchell	Hospitals Manager, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Louise Newcombe	Chief Executive, Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust
Rachel Quinn	Deputy Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council
Roger Ranson	Acting Chair of the Economic Development Sub-Group
Tom Stockwell	North Nottinghamshire Job Centre Plus
Jo Wilson	Bassetlaw District Council

169. Minutes of the last meeting held on 26 January 2006 and matters arising

Minutes agreed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

170. Events Update

Diversity Event, 9 March 2006

Michael Newstead updated the Board on a very successful Diversity Event which had been held on 9 March 2006 called 'Real Lives, Real People'. The event included video diaries and first hand accounts of what it is like to suffer discrimination. It also highlighted where service providers had been sensitive to individuals needs and the positive effects of this.

Although the conference was useful in raising diversity issues and provided a networking opportunity for people working in this field the success of the event would be judged by what happened next.

Bassetlaw District Council could report that Mencap had been in touch with the Council and the Council were now looking to find employment/work experience opportunities for their clients.

Michael stated that a meeting was to be arranged to discuss the issue of migrant workers and their needs. Feedback on this would be given at the next Board meeting.

Richard Johnson said that the Police had a lot of experience of working with and communicating with diverse communities. He also highlighted some of the enforcement challenges facing the Police where illegal immigrants were entering the District and had been associated with petty theft etc.

Sharon Stoltz advised the Board that the BPCT had employed a specialist worker to deal with the needs of "new entrants" into the country who were facing specific language and cultural challenges. Her name is Susan March, Public Health Specialist Nurse who can be contacted on 01777 274518.

Michael Storey said that there is a Learning Disabilities Partnership Board which may have expertise that could be helpful to the BLSP Board. He gave a contact of Paul Jenson that would be followed up.

Skills 2006

Fran provided an update on the preparations for this event. She circulated flyers that were being used to publicise the event.

Half the tables for the gala dinner were sold but anyone wishing to attend was encouraged to get in touch with Fran as soon as possible.

Michael Newstead gave an update on preparations for the two weeks he was leading on in relation to volunteering and the arts/music.

Fran reminded the Board about the motive behind the month which was to raise aspirations in the District (one of the Board's over-arching objectives).

171. Local Area Agreements

Sharon Stoltz presented the joint paper from the BPCT and the District Council providing an update on the progress of the Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement.

Sharon said that she would call a meeting to agree how the LAA would be implemented in Bassetlaw and to make sure we had effective representation and reporting arrangements in place.

Michael Quigley confirmed the strong performance management role for the Board that would monitor the local delivery plans of the LAA for Bassetlaw.

Richard Johnson said that there had to be clear accountability. The Board needed to know what was happening within the BLSP sub groups and how their work was contributing to the LAA and the improvement of the District as set out on the Community Strategy.

Fran Walker mentioned the key role of the Children's Centres in delivering improvements in the District – in relation to educational achievement, health and general well-being.

Sharon advised the Board that the County were currently doing a mapping exercise to see which groups existed already in the Districts to help drive the implementation of the LAA.

172. Feedback from the Sub-Groups

Community Safety

Richard Johnson could report dramatic reductions in crime over the last year. Burglary was down by 25% . It was now unusual for 2 burglaries to be reported in any 24 hour period. Last year all reported crimes were reduced by 2.6%. A quarter of all crime reported is detected. This included violent crime and domestic violence incidents. Richard said that we have one of the only forces to have reduced vehicle crime. The county as a whole achieved its PSA reduction targets. Richard mentioned the Sherwood Project which started in Bassetlaw but now had been replicated across the County. This was seen as a major contributor to the reduction in crime.

The departure of colleagues like PC Bill Brown were mentioned who had worked in Bassetlaw for many years and would be sadly missed. He had taken on a new exciting role based in London as Head of Security looking after the nation's art treasures. The Community Safety Co-ordinator, Jonathan Tonks, was also moving on to a new post at Stoke on Trent.

David Hunter advised the Board that as an interim Newark and Sherwood's Community Safety Co-ordinator would be taking on some of Jonathan's duties. His name is Mel Thorn and he can be contacted at Bassetlaw District Council, Queen's Buildings, Potter Street, Worksop or email mel.thorn@bassetlaw.gov.uk.

Sharon Stoltz stated that the update on Community Safety needed to recognise the partnership with health on 3 joint projects. This would be added in future updates.

Environment

Paul Learoyd commented on this update. He confirmed that this group were disappointed with the content of the LAA which had reduced the conservation element in the finished submission. Defra are advising at a national level on this. The danger is if this agenda is ignored the natural environment that we take for granted today will not be there in 10 years time.

Paul confirmed that the Wildlife Trust had been keen to pick up the Community Action for Wildlife Project. This was very important in preserving "rural" skills. It also linked with the volunteering campaign that the BLSP Board had been doing and the Volunteer targets within the LAA.

Economic Regeneration

The report was noted.

Gillian Blenkinsop highlighted some of the investment coming into the area that featured within the information report from the SSP at agenda item 13 in particular the £150,000 for Top Flight 2, and Tourist Information Centre improvements.

Health

The Partnership for Health website contained the latest action plans for the Partnership for Health.

A Nottinghamshire Avoidable Injuries Strategy was being produced and an East Midlands Avoidable Injuries Strategy was due to be released. It was therefore thought to be unnecessary to produce a local strategy. Locally we could link in with the above over-arching strategies.

The issue of avoidable injuries falls within the remits of both Community Safety and Health. This issue on who should lead would be picked up in the meeting Sharon was arranging re the LAA.

Michael Newstead said that the new health centres in Harworth and Bircotes and Retford would be fantastic facilities for the area.

He felt that a GP practice based in Manton was still needed. Richard Edwards said that this was a priority for the community.

Skills

This had already been covered in the earlier part of the agenda. Fran confirmed that the College were leading on the creation of Children's Centres in the area.

Fran referred members to page 113 from the SSP and said that a bid was being put forward for the development of rural skills and employment.

Children and Young People

Sharon Stoltz referred to a meeting of this group that had taken place on 25 April 2006. The children's agenda was very complex and included numerous

cross cutting issues. A lot of work on addressing the needs of children pre-dates the LAA and existing plans were already in place.

Locally the sub-group have looked at all of the existing plans to identify what is really important to Bassetlaw. The group has identified lead officers for specific issues. This action plan will be supplied to the BLSP.

Manton

Richard Edwards presented the attached presentation to update members on progress of the pathfinder after 10 months of work. The presentation showed positive signs of development and an awareness of the challenges. The emphasis was on a long-term commitment to change based on trying new methods of engagement and delivery. Richard commended the support of service providers. Services were being shaped to meet local needs and the signs for the future were very positive.

173. Pride

The attached presentation provided an update on the Pride Project.

The volunteering campaign was the first part of the campaign to be delivered. The BPCT had promoted volunteering to their employees very successfully. Gillian Blenkinsop would follow this up with a view to encouraging other employers to engage with the scheme.

Michael Storey provided contacts of theatre companies that could help with the schools tour later in the year.

Fran Walker also provided some contacts.

Michael Newstead said that the volunteering campaign had raised the importance of positive PR campaigning to recruit volunteers.

The Board backed the idea of engaging the public in the choice of sculpture design even though this would throw up opinion against the scheme as well as in favour of the scheme.

The Board offered their support for the continued delivery of the campaign.

174. Proposed evaluation event – 26 September 2006

It was agreed that a BLSP Development Day to shape the new strategy would take place on 26 September 2006.

175. Presentation from Bernard Coleman, A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd

Bernard Coleman, the Managing Director of A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd, presented an update on the progress of A1 Housing.

The presentation set out the core aims of the organisation, the impact on the area, offered help to deliver the LAA and identified where it was already contributing to the delivery of the BLSP's aims.

Bernard reported the good news that A1 had achieved a one star, with promising prospects for improvement in a recent mock inspection.

The emphasis for the organisation is not simply to work on the housing infrastructure but to invest in the local environment and development of more socially sustainable communities. To support this community development role staff were now working in localities rather than across the whole of the District.

A1 were investing in the development of local skills and had identified that they would lose skills in the organisation with the retirement of 20% of their staff in the next 5 years.

A1 had been particularly successful in using new ways of engaging their tenants e.g. text messaging, linking in with existing groups and working with local schools.

176. Representation of A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd on the BLSP Board

The Board agreed that A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd should become a Board member of the Bassetlaw Local Strategic Partnership.

177. Items for Information

These were noted.

Comments

The outcome of the PCT consultation was expected by the end of May 2006.

David Hunter said that anyone interested in participating in the rural excellence scheme should contact him on 01909 533266 or email david.hunter@bassetlaw.gov.uk

Michael Newstead flagged up two exciting developments for the area. The first was the arts, community and worship centre known as the Crossing which was having an official opening on 16 May. The second was the arrival of community cinema for the District which was a high quality, contemporary film service that would tour the District. Both were very positive for the District.

178. Date and time of next meeting

27 July was the original date. The new date is 19 July at 1.00 pm at the Crossing, Worksop.