

**BLSP Economic Regeneration Sub-Group
10 January 2007
3pm – 5pm
The Turbine**

MINUTES

Attending:

Roger Ranson (Chair)	Bassetlaw District Council (EDU)
Nicky Corbett	North Notts College
Pat Haigh	Nottingham Business Ventures
Russell Slater	Bassetlaw District Council (EDU)
Ann Vallance	North Notts College
Daniel Watson	Bassetlaw District Council (EDU)
Robert Wilkinson	Bassetlaw District Council (EDU)
Joanne Wilson	Bassetlaw District Council (Policy)

1. Welcome and Apologies

RR welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Barry Bowles	Bassetlaw District Council
Michael Carnall	Notts Chamber of Commerce
Phil Fone	North Notts College

2. Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

3. Local Area Agreement Update

RR agreed to circulate document containing action points and issues raised at the last LAA meeting. The focus of the meeting was around defining the targets and target setting.

RR reported that the LAA Board were also looking at disaggregating the targets by the end of 2006, however, this has not yet been completed. The figures for Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Severe Disability Allowance (SDA) are now available down to district level.

RR informed the group that RW has been nominated as a representative on the Innovation Network.

RR reported that there was a target around masterplanning and that it may be useful to look at a masterplan for the A57 corridor, in particular adjacent Gateford Common.

RR acknowledged that the masterplan exercise would also raise issues around the provision of quality land, and that this should be addressed through the LDF.

RR suggested that it may be useful to ascertain whether the SSP would fund the commissioning of a small study to look at the development of a masterplan for the A57 corridor.

LAA Management Meeting

JW reported feedback from the December meeting following the 6-month review.

The main feedback from GOEM was that the EDE block required a lead partner / organisation. GOEM identified major structural issues: Notts has GNP and Alliance instead of 1 SSP – also NCC restructure – has led to lack of overall leadership. Although relevant practitioners have been meeting to move the block forward a new ‘lead’ needs to be established. There is also an issue of whether the sustainable element should be moved to this block (this is a national consideration). There needs to be further consideration as to whether ‘sustainable’ could be on its own – EDE block will examine this as this area needs to include current local community angle and global.

One idea around securing a new lead was that the responsibility of leading the group be split between the two SSPs and a third ‘broker’ potentially NRCC, or Business in the Community. Ashfield DC has also said that they would be interested leading the EDE block.

For the Safer, Stronger, Sustainable block there were concerns about establishing ‘one’ lead based on 3 areas. The Safer and Stronger areas are quite strong with lots of work going on. However, as noted above there may need to be a new Sustainable block to look at wider ‘global’ issues.

JW also reported that GOEM would be sending a ‘Highlight’ report this month (January 2007) to DCLG following the 6-month review and the refresh, highlighting actions and providing an update on progress.

4. Action Plan Update

RW explained to the group that as the action plan has now been established it would be useful to look at accountability and responsibility of the targets, and their delivery.

JW reported that the action plan was still not on Covalent, and that there is still work to be done around the management of the action plan.

RR reported that the action plan had gone to Cabinet to be agreed and then be adopted as the Economic Development Strategy.

5. Discussion on Skills and Worklessness

RR reported that the first meeting of the group had taken place on 8 January.

The main points that were raised at the meeting were:

- 1 – to identify the groups of people / areas that are most affected;
- 2 – to identify the existing provision of support;
- 3 – to identify gaps in provision / what else could be done;
- 4 – to clearly define what is meant by the term 'worklessness'.

NC suggested that it would be useful to establish which partners / organisations do what. The focus of the S&W group should then be looking at addressing the gaps.

JW reported that she had made contact with DAAT and is in the process of explaining progress on the top 3 priorities to the LSP Sub-Groups.

NC suggested that many of the issues that the S&W group will be looking to address are linked with adult learning, and what assistance is available to people to access adult learning.

RR reported that a separate meeting with JC+ had been scheduled for 12 January to establish areas of work and responsibility, support programmes available, and to establish the baseline statistics.

6. Any Other Business

JW brought to the attention of the group the work the MNMPP is undertaking. Manton has been successful in bidding to host a National Action Learning Set commissioned by Central Government (DCLG) on the subject of 'Neighbourhood Social Capital'.

This is an opportunity for you as a partner of the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder to Participate in and be Associated with the National Learning Set and its published output in spring of 2007.

The aim of the learning set is to explore what 'social capital' means and the role that neighbourhood management can play in promoting its development in deprived areas. The action learning set will draw on the experiences of the participating Pathfinder and wider evidence and seek to identify and discuss the key issues.

Current activity involving 'Community Conversations' is looking at what the perceptions of Manton are, outside of the pathfinder area. This Conversation asks people to say three things they like about Manton and one thing they would like to see changed. All partners are welcome to support this and any comments gathered from 'Community Conversations you have with colleagues should be forwarded on as soon as possible. Any partners wishing to support this piece of work can contact Alister Shaw on 01909 535193.

RW reported that funding for the business survey had been agreed. It is anticipated that it will be undertaken in mid – February.

NC reported that Tarmac had relocated their regional HQ to their site at Lound.

RR suggested that for future Sub-Group meetings it would be good to cover specific topics. Suggestions were:

- The Lound project;
- Town centres;
- Business innovation;
- Business engagement results.

RW took the opportunity to thank Roger Ranson for all his hard work and the contribution that he has made to the group over the years.

7. Dates of 2007 meetings

Wednesday 14 th March 2007, venue TBC	Agenda TBC
Wednesday 16 th May 2007, venue TBC	Agenda TBC
Wednesday 11 th July 2007, venue TBC	Agenda TBC
Wednesday 12 th September 2007, venue TBC	Agenda TBC
Wednesday 14 th November 2007, venue TBC	Agenda TBC