

**BLSP Economic Regeneration Sub-Group
12 September 2007
3pm – 5pm
Post 16 Centre, Retford**

MINUTES

Attending:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| R. Wilkinson (Chair) | Bassetlaw District Council (EDU) |
| P. Altham | Notts RCC |
| J. Connelly | North Notts College |
| P. Haigh | Nottingham Business Ventures |
| D. Hurst | Retford Chamber of Trade |
| J. Rose | Bassetlaw District Council (EDU) |
| R. Slater | Bassetlaw District Council (EDU) |
| D. Watson | Bassetlaw District Council (EDU) |
| F. Walker | North Notts College |
| J. Wilson | Bassetlaw District Council (Policy) |

1. Welcome and Apologies

RW welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from:

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|---------------|----------------------------------|
| S. Oakton | Job Centre Plus |
| L. Willoughby | North Notts College |
| S. Withington | Bassetlaw District Council (EDU) |

2. Minutes of Last Meeting Held on 11th July 2007 and Matters Arising

Agreed as a true record. Matters arising to be discussed as part of the agenda.

Business Survey – R. Wilkinson informed the meeting of the Environment Workshop at the Turbine.

Resource Packs – F. Walker confirmed that she had handed some packs out to schools in the area.

Ask the Experts Event – P. Haigh confirmed that this event will take place on 26th September 2007.

Idle Valley Site – J. Connelly confirmed that a drainage system has just been designed and that the group are asking for the project to be re-appraised as the drainage and footpaths have incurred extra costs. J. Wilson stated that there is another funding deadline coming up shortly.

3. Skills and Worklessness Update

J. Wilson explained the priorities of the Skills and Worklessness Group and pointed out that there is quite a large cross-over with other groups and therefore, to become more effective, it is aimed to merge the Economic Regeneration and Skills and Worklessness groups together. It was decided to have joint meetings rather than a merger.

R. Wilkinson confirmed that he hopes to bring some feedback to the next meeting, especially around the surveys being carried out.

It had been suggested at previous meetings that a conference to discuss skills and worklessness in Bassetlaw be held and F. Walker asked if anything had progressed. J. Wilson confirmed that nothing had been set but suggested that Spring may be a good time for such an event. She informed the meeting that the County are in the process of carrying out a peer review of the LSP. This is not a statutory requirement but is a good benchmarking tool. The reviews will be complete by Christmas with Bassetlaw's taking place at the beginning of December. J. Wilson explained the procedures and the possible outcomes and stated that people may be called upon for their opinions.

F. Walker suggested that J. Wilson circulate a resume of this item.

4. Sheffield City Region Update

R. Wilkinson issued a set of notes/resume from the Sheffield City Region Meeting.

F. Walker informed the group that there is a Stakeholder Event on 8th October 2007 and confirmed that she is to attend from an education point of view. She is to send details to R. Wilkinson.

5. Market Towns Initiative

R. Wilkinson confirmed that, since the last meeting, he has sent all Councillors information on what the scheme is about, however, he has had little response. He confirmed that he has still not received the application for CCTV at Tuxford but an application has been received for the Heritage Trail at Retford.

R. Wilkinson stated that he was initially looking at a capital scheme to improve the Town Hall yard and asked for opinions of the Group. He did, however, indicate that they were struggling to get match funding. He stated that he would like to put forward an application for doing a development plan for the whole of the market square which he thinks he would be better placed to secure funding for. P. Altham confirmed that funding is mainly capital.

The second project is some further works in terms of extending the heritage trail, i.e. signage etc. and the third project is to pay for additional Christmas lighting in Retford Market Square. P. Altham confirmed that we may struggle with this but R. Slater feels that he could get match funding.

P. Altham indicated that she would like to see outside areas getting some funding for projects as previously Tuxford had complained that all the money had gone to Retford. R. Wilkinson confirmed that he would trawl around Parish Councils again for schemes requiring funding.

P. Altham confirmed that the absolute deadline is the end of September and she would like Bassetlaw to secure some money.

6. Any Other Business

J. Wilson explained that Policy is currently looking to update the Community Strategy Action Plan to ensure that partners keep everyone informed on any changes to their projects. The Groups are in the process of going through their terms of reference. Any information/update will be published in one complete document.

7. Dates of 2007 meetings

Wednesday 14th November 2007, venue
TBC

Agenda TBC