

**BLSP Learning and Skills Sub-Group
21 May 2007
4.00pm – 6.00 pm
North Nottinghamshire College
MINUTES**

Attending:

Fran Walker (Chair)	North Nottinghamshire College
Nicky Corbett	North Nottinghamshire College
Julie Dallinson (Minutes)	North Nottinghamshire College
Pete Davies	Enable (On behalf of Don Hayes)
Jean Heywood	LSC
Shona Neill	Connexions
Steve Walker	Valley School
Bob Wallace	Notts County Council
Jo Wilson	Bassetlaw District Council

1 Introductions and Welcome

Fran Walker welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

2 Apologies

Lynn Barlow, Enable; Chris Carrington, LSC; Jackie Collins, Sure Start; Don Hayes, Enable; Malcolm Kesterton, NCC Education; Glenn Mears, Notts Fire & Rescue; Cllr Mike Pugsley, BDC; Nicola Simpson, NCC Community Development; Linda Turner, NCC Libraries; Ann Vallance, NNC.

3 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

3.1 Re 3.1 Post 16 Developments:

FW had been invited to join the Employer Engagement sub-group of the ASG. The handover of the Retford Post 16 Centre was on schedule for 13 August. Both Centres would be opening in September 07.

3.2 Re 3.2 Centre for Sport and Learning:

The Big Lotteries bid for the building had been submitted.

- 3.3 Re 3.4 Idle Valley:
NC provided an update on progress. Phase one of the building works had been completed on time, which included the road, car park and building platform. Works would recommence on site on 1 September. Additional funding was being sought for the project via a low carbon building bid.

The first group of trainees had visited the site at the beginning of May and a training plan had been produced by NWT to enable the students to put their skills in to practice. NVQs in Environmental Conservation were being developed, which would be undertaken on site.

- 3.4 Re 4 Brazil Exchange Project:
The Brazilian students were due to visit in 3 weeks time, however the planned fundraising event would now not take place due to changes in the management of the project. Staff involved in the project had been requested to go to Brazil in October to work with the Brazilian government on Child Protections issues. Students from Bassetlaw schools would visit Brazil the following June to progress the cultural agenda.

- 3.5 Re 5 Wednesday Women Report:
Thanks were expressed to Lynn Willoughby for her involvement in the project. An Introduction to Community Development and Health course, currently running as a pilot at WB Children's Centre had received praise for the high quality of teaching and learning during a recent inspection. It was planned to roll out to other Children's Centres and regeneration areas in the near future.

- 3.6 Re 7.3 ESF Funding:
NC informed the group that a draft framework was out for consultation, which would run from May to July.

- 3.7 Re 7.4 Manton Project:
NC reported difficulties in producing positive outcomes, however the project had now been extended to include Children's Centres.

4 Presentation on current projects through the ASG and new approach to work experience opportunities

This item was deferred to the next meeting. SN provided an update on the work of Neba including the Business Ambassador scheme and Specialist Diplomas.

Agenda item at next meeting.

5 Report on the findings of the Skills and Worklessness Working Group

The group had been established to tackle one of the 3 priority areas identified by the LSP Board. A research report had been developed by the group including recommendations. JW informed members of a meeting of the worklessness element of the LAA, which was due to take place on 5 July and would involve all the districts plus Job Centre Plus.

6 Community Strategy 2007-2009 Action Plan

Outstanding information was requested from members of the group.
NC to provide info on Idle Valley/Centre for Sport & Learning
SW to provide info on Brazil project.

7 Report on Development of Children's Centres

There were now 5 Children's Centres up and running across Bassetlaw. Referring to the recent visit to Kilton CC by Tony Blair, FW stated this endorsed the hard work and effort put in by everyone involved.

8 Any Other Business

8.1 A gap in the market in higher-level qualifications within Community Development learning had been identified.
NC to explore further and feedback to JW.

8.2 It was hoped to run an Aim Higher Roadshow at the Post 16 Centres in February 2008.

8.3 PD informed the group of £50,000 of SSP funding for Bassetlaw through the Making the Connections project.

8.4 The LSP would be represented at various events over the summer in order to promote the work of the partnership.

8.5 Concerns were raised regarding support for Polish residents in the area. FW suggested an update to a future meeting.

8.6 The Bassetlaw Play Partnership, established to co-ordinate Big Lottery bids, would meet w/c 28 May.
Update to next meeting.

8.7 FW had attended the publication event of Ronnie Moore's book of poems.

9 Meeting Dates for 2007

Monday 9 July

Monday 15 October

Times and venues to be confirmed.