

BASSETLAW LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUB-GROUP

11th September 2003

2.00pm – 5.00pm

CARLTON VILLAGE HALL, CARLTON

Attending:-

John Harrison	Chair of the Sub-Group, Bassetlaw District Council
Kus Amar	Community Legal Services Commission
Bill Barker	Community Learning Disability Team
Gillian Blenkinsop	Bassetlaw District Council
PC Bill Brown	Worksop Police Station
Fiona Brown	Greenacre Day Centre
Jackie Collins	Sure Start West Bassetlaw
Alison Gimingham	National Trust
Lisa Birch	Longhurst Housing Association
Carola Jones	Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council
Jo Lindley	Bassetlaw District Council
Richard Mervill	Bassetlaw District Council
Mick Moore	Manton Community Alliance
Frank Raspin	Nottinghamshire County Council
Vicky Rawson	Focus on Young People in Bassetlaw
Malcolm Robson	Bassetlaw District Council
Alistair Shaw	Manton Community Alliance

1. Apologies

Janice Booker, NNC; Steve Bradley, NCC; Steve Brown, BDC; Eddie Burgess, NCC Youth Service; Barbara Burton, Tuxford Comprehensive School, Tim Challans, NCC; Bernard Coleman, BDC; Margaret Dorman, Elizabethan High School; Dave Drury, Learning and Skills Council; Joy Ellis, Women's Resource Centre; Simon Fitch, East Midlands Art Board; Annie Fletcher, Bassetlaw HUG/ Centreplace; Tim Harris, Head of Arts Community Services, NCC; Christine Hopwood, Retford MTI Manager; Len Hull, BDC; Una Key, Newark & Sherwood District Council; Gail Maxfield, Age Concern; Richard Mervill, BDC; Neil Moore, Carr Hill Primary & Nursery School; Rob Packer, NCC Youth Services; Councillor D Pressley, BDC; Roger Ranson, BDC; Bill Robinson, King Edward VI School; Stephen Saddington, CAB; John Salmon, Harworth and Bircotes Parish Council; Freda Shaw, NALC; Nicola Simpson, NCC; Sharon Stoltz, Bassetlaw PCT; Andrew Tatham, Partnership Officer, BCVS; David Timcke, National Trust; Roy Tomlinson, Bassetlaw Tenants' and Residents' Association; Councillor C Troop, BDC; Bob Whatley, BDC; Jane Young, Guideline Careers.

2. Introductions and Welcome

John Harrison introduced Fiona Brown (Greenacre Day Centre) and Bill Barker (Community Learning Disability Team) who were attending to give the Sub-Group a presentation on Day Care Service Modernisation.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting – 9th July 2003

It was noted that there had been no application to SSP under the 'Skills for a Modern Economy' theme by the Integrated Safety Group, as EMDA had changed the criteria.

4. Feedback on Key Projects

(a) Debt Advice (Presented by Kus Amar, Legal Services Commission)

Posters and leaflets advertising the Capita advice line had been placed in the Council's Cash Halls, GP Surgeries, Dentists, Community Halls, CAB and other community venues.

Peter Davies from Worksop CAB had been working with Kus Amar to develop a programme for front line staff in local agencies dealing with debt. The emphasis was on awareness raising and knowing where to signpost the client rather than giving actual advice. Bassetlaw District Council Debt Recovery Unit had taken part in the pilot session on the 9th September. The course received a positive response. Additional courses would now run with Homestart being the next agency involved.

Similar work was now being developed in Ashfield, however they have funding in place to support their Debt Advice Programme.

(b) Diversity

On the 18th September BCVS are holding an Equal Opportunities Conference entitled "Learning from History". John Harrison will speak at the event, which is to be held at the Holocaust Centre. He will promote the Local Strategic Partnership work on equal opportunities.

(c) Youth Assembly

The Youth Assembly was now running. They held an Introduction Meeting on the 29th August and will hold their first official meeting on 30th September. At the Introduction meeting they took part in consultation on Town Planning for the Worksop Town Centre Masterplan, with Craig Jordan from BDC. The notes/ ideas gathered from the workshop on Town Planning will be passed on to Craig who will look at future involvement of the Youth Assembly in the exhibition to be presented by the Consultants involved in the Worksop Town Centre Masterplan project. Craig will also provide feedback to the Youth Assembly on their ideas.

At the next meeting they will receive a presentation from NCC Social Services - Children's Services, and discuss possible responses to the new Green Paper Every Child Matters.

They will meet 6-8 times during the year with 2 activity sessions.

(d) Manton Framework Agreement

This will be discussed at the end of the meeting when the Neighbourhood Pathfinder Bid is discussed.

(e) Supplementary Planning Guidance re public buildings and open space

It was agreed emphasis in the guidance needs to be placed on designing buildings for people not architects, and attractiveness for tourism, amongst other factors. There will be a presentation at the next meeting.

Bill Brown noted that there was direct conflict between the Crime & Disorder Partnership and Urban/ Village planning guidance from the ODPM.

(f) ICT support for Community Groups

Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council's (NRCC) Virtual Village Scheme provides equipment for community use. This scheme provides access to Council Services and the Internet. Bassetlaw District Council has also established 'Help Points' across the District using video-conferencing to allow rural residents to access key services. Certain 'Help Points' are also linked to NRCC's Virtual Village Scheme.

BCVS has a dedicated ICT & Information worker (Ian Bower) who provides ICT training for voluntary/ community groups. Training can be given to both the organisation and specific individuals. The training provided includes basic ICT, Website Development and Maintenance, Digital Photography, Graphics Manipulation, General Consultation Advice.

*Attached is a brief summary from Ian on the key outcomes which link to part of his funding.

(g) Child Care Facilities

This will be discussed at a future meeting, and the Sub-Group will need to form a task group to address this issue. Jackie Collins noted that Sure Start had moved into a new centre in Langold - School Lane.

5. **Nottinghamshire Cares Scheme – Ideas for projects**

Following the presentation by Business in the Community/ Nottingham Cares Scheme, it was suggested by Vicky Rawson and officers working in Manton that the scheme could support a Feasibility Study for a Motorcycle project in Manton. The idea behind the project was to create an area on the Manton Pit Wood site specifically for use by motorcycle users in an attempt to alleviate the problems for walkers and users of the area. Gill Blenkinsop reported that this project was not eligible. BCVS are publicising the scheme on the BCVS website and will be carrying out a mail-shot to all relevant groups on their database.

Vicky Rawson commented that Hartland School were currently working on a project to create a room, which could act as a quiet area for pupils. She queried whether they could provide support for redecorating projects. It was agreed this was an ideal project and would be put forward to Nottinghamshire Cares Scheme.

6. **Providing better opportunities for people with disabilities – Social Inclusion for Bassetlaw people who have a learning disability**

Presenters:

Fiona Brown	Greenacre Daycentre
Bill Barker	Community Learning Disability Team, part of the Social Services Team
Wendy Lipman	Day Service Modernisation (Unable to attend – key contact at Social Services)

A copy of the slide presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

Key points from the presentation

- 0.3 – 0.4 per 1,000 population have some form of learning disability (LD)
- Learning disabilities are classified differently by different organisations
- Services provided for people with LD must change. They must be more client focussed and be based on what users want – not what organisations think they need
- There should be more emphasis on provision of services alongside other parts of the community rather than in separate organisations. This will be more expensive but is the way forward.
- People with LD could support the delivery of the Community Strategy. They are part of the community and can make a valid contribution.
- Weekend care and support is needed. Greenacre Daycentre provides day care during weekdays.

Issues for further consideration

- Support for clients to remain in their own home – was there adequate support available – particularly in rural areas?
- Delivery of services close to home for clients – which may mean accessing services outside the District – can this be facilitated for the convenience of the client?
- Support for clients on work based placements – it is important that clients receive the support necessary to succeed and build confidence
- Taking on employment impacts upon benefits payments and for short periods of employment can be very disruptive for the client

How the LSP can Help?

- Lobby to improve transport infrastructure
- Look for ways to employ people with LD in their organisations
- Help to promote the interests of people with LD
- Improve access to sports and leisure activities
- Take part in befriending schemes where possible

Concrete Ideas to be followed up

- Re-develop redundant allotments sites for use as a Community Farm.
- **Richard Mervill from BDC to follow this up with Fiona Brown.**

Next Steps

- Fiona Brown will consider more practical ways that the LSP can support the modernisation of services for people with LD
- We are all asked to consider the 3 questions that feature as the last slide from the presentation.
- Fiona will return to a later meeting of the Social and Community Development Sub-Group when plans to modernise services are more advanced

7. Date of next meetings

The next meeting will be on 11th November, 2.30pm – 4.00pm at Barrowby House off Blyth Road, Worksop.

8. Future Agenda Items

The following will be discussed in future meetings:

- Ringmaster Scheme
- Arts and Culture – utilising the arts to promote quality of life and to help drive regeneration
- Equal Opportunities Draft Policy
- Outstanding actions from previous agendas
- Child Care Provision – a position statement
- Planning Workshop – to add to existing planning supplementary guidance on design and open space.

Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Bid

Bassetlaw District Council has been given the opportunity to show an expression of interest for Round 2 of the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Bid. Bassetlaw District Council has been short-listed along with 3 other authorities from the East Midlands. If we get past this initial stage down to the final 2, we will need to submit a detailed bid.

The group discussed where to set the boundaries for the area, which would be included in the bid. Boundary maps would be drawn up by Economic Development and emailed out to respective partners involved. It was also raised that consultation on proposals for any funding received should be across the community within shops and schools rather than limiting it to meetings with specific groups/ organisations as they may not be representative. In addition all agencies currently working in the area needed to be identified to establish their involvement in such a project. John Harrison stressed the fact that bids within this round need to show innovation and a different approach to the first round. The timing of consultation would be important and should not occur too early in the process and risk raising the expectations of the community unnecessarily.

Greg Morrell from GOEM joined the meeting to give an outline of what GOEM was expecting and to offer advice on how to submit the initial expression of interest. He had fought to ensure that at least one bid would be successful for the East Midlands. This meant that Bassetlaw had a 1 in 4 chance of success competing against:

N.E. Derbyshire
Newark & Sherwood
East Lindsey

The overall success of the bid would lie with being able to show how receiving the money would 'add value'. It was essential that proposals centred on how service provision could be improved. 'Added Value' should be more about influencing the way services are provided NOT money for capital projects i.e. Village Halls.

The bid proposal should be kept to 2-3 pages, using the proforma provided and additional information is only requested if you pass the initial stage.