

Social & Community Development Sub-Group

Bassetlaw Local Strategic Partnership

12 May 2004

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Manton Youth & Community Centre (MCI)

Attending:

Pauline Elliott (Chair)	Bassetlaw District Council
Jackie Collins	Sure Start West Bassetlaw
Debbie Crisp	NCC Youth Engagement Team
Annie Fletcher	Centreplace/ Bassetlaw HUG
Kath Hobart	Tuxford Mine of Information
Jo Lindley	Bassetlaw District Council
Frank Raspin	NCC
Vicky Rawson	Focus on Young People in Bassetlaw
Malcolm Robson	Bassetlaw District Council
Andrew Tatham	BCVS

21 Apologies

Steve Brown, BDC; Gillian Blenkinsop, BDC; Eddie Burgess, NCC; Alison Gimingham, National Trust; Christine Hopwood, Retford MTI Manager; Stephen Saddington, Bassetlaw CAB; Nicola Simpson, NCC; Sharon Stoltz, Bassetlaw PCT; Andrew Tatham, BCVS; David Timcke, National Trust; Cllr Troop, BDC; Bob Whatley, BDC; Elizabeth Whittles, BDC.

22 Introduction and Welcome

Pauline Elliott welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that everyone introduce themselves for the benefit of new members and guests.

23 Minutes of last meeting held 24 March 2004

The following amendments were noted.

Minute 19(c)

Jackie Collins confirmed that Jane Healey was the advice worker based in Mansfield, not Sarah Lloyd. Jane was based at the Unemployed Workers Centre.

Minute 19(d)

Vicky Rawson asked that the Young People's Information Event be recorded as a Partnership Event for Young People's Services. Although the event did receive considerable support from Focus on Young People in Bassetlaw it was agreed that other agencies had been involved and therefore the title of 'Partnership Event' was more appropriate.

24 Project/ Group Feedback

(a) Youth Assembly

Debbie Crisp from Notts County Council Youth Engagement Team gave a brief verbal presentation to members present on Bassetlaw District Youth Assembly. She also provided handouts for members detailing the work for the Assembly and key issues/ work areas that could be improved. She also confirmed age ranges for the Youth Engagement Team projects:

Youth Bank	12-25
Member of Youth Parliament	11-18
Youth Assemblies	12-25

(b) Debt Advice

Jo Lindley confirmed that the Training Programme for front line staff in local agencies was now continuing. BDC staff had recently been involved including:

- Homelessness Officer
- 2 Senior Housing Managers
- One Stop Shop Staff
- Front line Customer Service Staff

The course is being delivered through a designated worker from Bassetlaw CAB. Further courses and additional projects are being planned/ discussed.

(c) Board Meeting April 2004

Pauline Elliott and Andrew Tatham gave a brief update on key items discussed at the April meeting.

SSP Presentation – the North Derbyshire & North Nottinghamshire SSP was now fully staffed and attended to give a presentation on the current structure/ staff and new projects. It was noted that the Board had agreed that it was important to have a SSP rep. on the LSP Board. This would be looked in to further.

ALMO – a similar presentation was given to that at the last Sub-Group meeting. It was announced to the group that the ALMO bid had been successful and there was a potential £62m available to the ALMO. A recent tenants ballot showed tenants voting 85% in favour of an ALMO, and there was a 58% turnout.

NCC Best Value Review Independence of Older People – An update was given by NCC as to work progressing from the findings of the Best Value Review. Andrew noted that many voluntary sector organisations needed better facilities in order to maximise the impact they had. Bassetlaw District Council has recently supported two groups with access to former BDC premises:

- Bassetlaw Live at Home Scheme have moved to what was Dadley Road Community Centre
- Alzheimer's Disease Society have moved to what was Cosgrove Community Centre.

(d) Young People's Partnership Event – 28th April

The event went very well with 85 organisations attending out of the 88 confirmed. Publicity had been carried out through local press, TRAX and the BCVS website. All Primary and Junior schools received letters for every pupil to take home, and 10,000 flyers were distributed. Portland School brought a group of Year 7 pupils, and a number of young people attended during the

afternoon session, however Vicky felt that actual attendance by young people could have been higher, based on the publicity given. A piece on the vent was reported in the Worksop Guardian on the following Friday. The event was supported by:

Health Sub-Group/ Bassetlaw PCT
Focus on Young People in Bassetlaw
Connexions
Bassetlaw District Council
NCC Young People's Division
TalkZone
Black and Minority Ethnic Group
BCVS

(e) Manton Pathfinder

Pauline Elliott noted that a Shadow Board had now formed – the Chair was Bill Ball, Head of New Manton Primary School. A Neighbourhood Manager had also now been appointed – Richard Edwards, with a background in Housing Services from Birmingham.

25 Community Engagement in Bassetlaw

Jo Lindley gave a presentation to members present on Community Engagement, and how we could develop this further in Bassetlaw through the BLSP. Handouts of the Power Point presentation were circulated to all present, and copies would be sent out with the minutes. Unfortunately representatives who work on similar projects in Rotherham were unable to attend.

Following the presentation members present discussed current ways of engaging and the initiatives and communication mechanisms already in place to assess if we could be more efficient. The idea of a Community Engagement Network for the Voluntary and Community Sector in the District was put to the group. The 'network' could meet twice a year for business discussion and networking opportunities to allow greater involvement of the sector in the BLSP and create stronger communication links. The option of having a 'true' community rep. on the BLSP Board was also put forward. It was agreed that we needed a wider debate and should look to organise a large meeting of partners from across the 6 Sub-Groups to ensure we addressed the issue from all perspectives.

Comments from Group Discussion:

- Make use of Parish Council Liaison Panel – Use as a basis to form 'community areas'
- Common attitude is we get nothing anyway, "why should we get involved – it won't gain us anything".
- Poorest communities don't always get recognised through current profiling
- Some organisations have a PO box address in Manton so they can access more funding
- Pensioner poverty is not identified effectively at present
- Use BLSP/ Community Strategy Roadshows – piggyback on to other events with a standard 'stand' that would be an information point.
- We already have a number of 'regeneration' partnerships/ initiatives operating in Bassetlaw:
TRIP – Tuxford Regenerating in Partnership

Tuxford Market Towns Initiative
Retford Market Towns Initiative
Harworth & Bircotes Market Towns Initiative
NRCC Virtual Villages 'community'
BISCUIT 'communities'
Manton Neighbourhood Pathfinder
Manton Community Alliance
Business Sector 'community' – many local companies have community reps.
Local Church network – extensively use local magazines/ newsletters to engage.
Sure Start West Bassetlaw
Misterton Area Partnership

It was agreed these initiatives could be more effectively linked to the BLSP and consequently the Community Strategy.

The idea of a BLSP newsletter was also discussed as many communications links of this type are already in existence, for example School newsletters, Bassetlaw News, Church Newsletters. The Notts Newsletter Association would have a complete list. It was also agreed that Councillors should be more engaged with the BLSP and would be ideally placed to be community champions encouraging local residents to get their 'voice' heard.

All members are asked to contact Jo Lindley with a list of any regeneration partnerships or national initiatives, or any similar community associations operating in their immediate locality – see list above for examples. This list will form the basis of the mapping exercise. Contact Jo on 01909 533189 or joanne.lindley@bassetlaw.gov.uk

26 Any Other Business

Debbie Crisp informed the group of scheme operating in Mansfield. Jerry Reagen, one of their Community Development workers was leading on a project bringing together 'Old' people and 'Young' people. Both groups were asked to photograph the local places that were important to them – the aim was to show similarities/ differences to assess the true 'difference' between the viewpoints of the two groups.

Frank Raspin informed the group that Priory Gate House was available for take-over by a new 'resident'. A Community Group or local agency would be ideal and funding was accessible to do the necessary repair works. Then building is Grade I listed. Enquires to be made to jason.mordan@nottscc.gov.uk

27 Dates and times of future meetings

21 July 2004, 2pm – 4pm, BCVS Meeting Room, Dukeries Centre, Worksop

22 September 2004, 2pm – 4pm, Assembly Room, Worksop Town Hall

24 November 2004, 2pm – 4pm, Council Chamber, Retford Town Hall