

**Social & Community Development Sub-Group
19 July 2006
3.15pm – 5.15pm
Council Chamber, Retford Town Hall**

MINUTES

Attending:

Steve Brown (Vice-Chair)	BDC Customer Services
Jackie Collins	Sure Start West Bassetlaw
Jonathan Dawson	NRCC/ BDC
Cllr Liz Jeffries	NALC
Frank Raspin	NCC Community Development
Vicky Rawson	FOYPIB
Malcolm Robson	BDC Planning
Liz Whittles	BDC Policy
Jo Wilson	BDC Policy

1. Introductions and Welcome

SB welcomed everyone to the meeting, and explained that he would be Chairing on behalf of Pauline Elliott as she had been unable to attend due to urgent Council business. Members introduced themselves, and apologies were noted.

2. Apologies

Bernard Coleman, A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd.; Richard Edwards, MCA; Pauline Elliott (Chair), BDC; Annie Fletcher, Centre Place; Sue Gill, Bassetlaw PCT; Alison Gimingham, National Trust; Kath Hobart, Tuxford MOI; Rob Packer, NCC Youth Services; Stephen Saddington, Bassetlaw CAB; Chris Salter; Age Concern Notts; Nicola Simpson, NCC Community Development; Kay Sutton, NN CLSP; Andrew Tatham, BCVS; Bob Wallace, NCC Communities & Partnerships; Bob Whatley, BDC; Tony Wright, BDC.

3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. BDC Draft Debt Strategy - Consultation

SB noted the draft Strategy and requested that members read and respond. EW noted that it was essential that the Strategy incorporated a focus on work related to Financial Inclusion, not just addressing the issue of debt. JD reminded members of the Debt Awareness Training that was run during 2005, which could be repeated, support material was also available.

5. Progress on Key Projects in 2005-2006 Work Plan

Arts

VR noted that following discussions within the task group it had been agreed that an Arts Worker was needed to move forward "A commitment to Arts and Culture". RR was producing a Briefing Paper to Cabinet in August. BDC are also using a self-assessment tool to gauge their position within Arts service delivery.

There had been a good response to the Community Cinema, but not all areas could be covered at present – Harworth in particular need a venue. The Cinema costs £70 to hire the unit (for which a license is needed), with a £3.50 admission charge.

It was acknowledged that The Circle is moving forward in regenerating the services/ activities offered at the venue, and an Autumn programme had been planned.

Access

MR had spoken to other LA's and received good reports about DisabledGO. However, he was not certain how many people actually used the sites. SB agreed to assess if some e-government money could be used as part of any potential BDC contribution.

Action: (1) MR/JW to produce list of venues and circulate.

(2) SB to raise at CMT, and MR to check possibility of linking with Newark & Sherwood.

(3) JD to contact BCVS, as a VCS organisation to see if they had any money they could contribute. FR to check if NCC could contribute.

(4) Issues around parent and child access to be passed to Sue Gill.

Older People

JD noted that engagement with older people was included within the SLA outcomes for Bassetlaw Befriending Scheme.

It was agreed to try and source additional information from Lynn Tupling who had completed some work on behalf of the Health Sub-group. It was agreed that we need a better approach to this policy area across the BLSP.

To be discussed further at the next meeting.

Action: Partners involved in the projects to keep members informed of progress and provide an update at the next meeting.

6. Rural Excellence Mentoring Scheme

SB gave a brief recap of the scheme and explained progress so far, and outlined the discussions, which had taken place at the meeting earlier that day. The main outcome of the meeting that had taken place was the formation of draft Action Plans for each of the two issues – Young People and Transport/ Access.

The program will run for a year and the aim is to produce tangible outcomes. The Council are currently looking for partners to be involved with the project. All partners with an interest in being involved should contact Steve directly on 01777 713767.

7. New Community Strategy April 2007 onwards – Discussion of potential new Priorities/ Outcomes

JW again raised the issue of the new Sustainable Community Strategy, which needs to be in place by April 2007. Members present discussed potential new priorities for the group within the Strategy.

Following discussions at the May and July meetings of the Sub-Group the following new priorities were identified. These will be discussed further at the September meeting and be put forward at the BLSP Evaluation & Development Day October 2006.

Proposed New Priorities:

Priority 1: Community Engagement/ Consultation (Incorporates NLAA Outcomes)

Priority 2: Equal Access to Services

Priority 3: Community Leadership and local community planning (Incorporates NLAA Outcomes)

Priority 4: Active Citizenship (Incorporates NLAA Outcomes)

Priority 5: Housing/ Homelessness

8. Update for the next Board Meeting – 20th July 2006

A copy of the update produced for the Board meeting was circulated to members for information only.

9. A.O.B.

JW notified members present of the planned date for the next BLSP Conference/ Development Day to be held in the autumn – 12th October. The aim of the day is to evaluate the outcomes from the current Community Strategy and agree priorities/ outcomes etc. for the new Strategy to commence April 2007.

Members are asked to think about potential priorities for the new Strategy based on their knowledge of issues within Bassetlaw arising from day-to-day service delivery. These could be priorities within the current Strategy, or a more recent issue.

10. Dates for 2006 meetings

20th September, 2pm-4pm, venue TBC

22nd November 2pm-4pm, venue TBC