

**Stronger Communities Group  
9th March 2011  
10.30 am – 12.30 pm  
Portland School, Worksop**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Geraldine Pearce (Chair)	Director, BCVS
Joanne Wilson	Bassetlaw District Council
Jo Down	Nottinghamshire County Council (replacement for Eddie Burgess)
Jackie Collins	
Richard Edwards	Manton Community Alliance
Elaine Hamilton	Head Portland School
Bev McKay	
Lindsay Ogden	North Notts College
Carol Parker	
Frank Raspin	Nottinghamshire County Council
Steve Saddington	CAB
Nicola Simpson	Valley School
Beverley Taylor	
Kelly White	

**1. Introductions and Welcome**

GP welcomed people to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

**2. Apologies**

Yvette Bowskill	Connexions
PC Dave Case	Nottinghamshire Police
Anne Cater	BCVS Partnership Officer
Gillian Collins	NCC County Contact
Joe Davies	Bassetlaw District Council
Emma Ducker	NHS Bassetlaw
Adele McCarthy	Bassetlaw District Council
Vicky Rawson	FOYPIB
Councillor Kath Sutton	Bassetlaw District Council
Karen Turburton	Rural Officer
Charles Warner	Bassetlaw District Council
Liz Whittles	Bassetlaw District Council

**3. Minutes and matter arising**

JW to send email re cuts to Travelling Together. Annette Warren also facing redundancy.

Page 2 – ESOL Bursary – surplus funding used on new starters. LO to send JW a form.

### Calendar of Events

Page 5 – NNC Citizenship Day on 8th March 2011, rearranged due to weather.

Laura Davies not currently worked in Valley yet.

Page 4 – Amend Notts Healthcare Trust. Funding Noelle Barron and Marek involved in supporting. G Painter still involved.

BT decommissioned from 30th April. Group is capacity built – aiming to get constituted.

**Action: BT to get new contact, names to JW**

#### **4. Presentation on the Family Intervention Project**

Main team in Ashfield and Mansfield expanded in to Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood.

Support for entire family rather than individual child.

Voluntary take-up by family.

Referral criteria is quite strict – must be ASB/nuisance involved and possible risk to tenancy etc.

Main thing is ability to spend time with families so low caseload – can be there on a daily basis.

Review every 4-6 weeks, jointly agreed 'contract'.

Use a carrot and stick approach with clear rewards and consequences.

Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving Meeting used. G Connor chairs the Group. Background checks following referral.

30 + days to complete family assessment.

Post – Closure contact 6, 12, 18 months.

#### **5. Presentation on Manton Community Alliance**

Future  
Current work  
Spring carnival

#### What Manton Community Alliance does

Challenging traditional views/approaches. Supports development of localism.

Most don't understand localism or appreciate possible benefits.

Criticised for being too conceptual but if wrong approach used, engagement won't be successful.

Spent six years developing tools that can be used elsewhere.

Map showing all households who have 'taken part' – active involvement.

MCA is an approach not about staff and board. Joint responsibility between residents and agencies. Projects don't tackle deprivation alone. Need relationship in place to enable residents to feel empowered etc.

Lead agency for LSP for Localism

BDC  
BCVS  
NNC  
NHS Bassetlaw  
Police

Manton, Sandy Lane, Carlton, Langold, Retford using an ASSET approach – not a skills audit.

Not identifying problems through stats etc and doing things to residents.  
Trying to include local skills, talents assets to help turnaround area.  
Helps to challenge pre-conceived ideas.

3 top interests in Manton:  
Cooking and Baking  
Listening to music  
Reading books

Volunteering:  
68 hours helping others.

Your Square Mile (symbolic) and Your Local Budget (Participatory Budgetting)

Working with Big Society Network

Barriers to involvement

Spring Carnival, 16th April, 1-4 Shrewsbury Road Centre – was Easter Fun Day. Focus on making assets to real life ie top 3 interests.

Spur Crescent allotment – full capacity plus waiting list. Encouraging resident involvement.

EH Horticulture Course from September to run on land near new school Ryton Park.

**Action: JW to send EH internal contacts**

Event to happen re Community Garden area on Spur Crescent.

Focusing on Arts and Culture, different types of music. Young potential groups.

**6. Update from Members**

**7. Report from Task Groups/Presentations**

Art event oversubscribed.

Send out Arts Grants forms to all.

NS and GP – Query over Rampton’s inclusion pass back to SC and CG.

## **8 Update on Action Plan and Amendments/New Project Ideas**

SS, GP, KT, EH, RE

2011/12

RE - need greater than ever as public sector shrinks.

BT – Cohesion, working across communities, partnership working.

EH – Publicising community events to engage school is building a salon to run a Hair & Beauty Course.

LO- ESOL likely to go full cost approximately £500.

SS – Group needs to go with transition that is experienced by others currently.

**Action: circulate contact list**

JW important for VCS to have strategic discussions re maintaining services, possible mergers.

## **9. Update from the Independent Advisory Group**

Delete from agenda.

## **11. Report from the Board/Executive Group Meeting**

Feb Board – too silo. What is impact on customer.

ie What will happen to those not getting EMA.

## **12. AOB/Update from Members**

BT – Team is going exit strategies are being put in place.

RE - National org 'Take Part' running an event at Creswell Crags. Open invite to attend.

KW – Newsletter – last edition lots of positive feedback on articles. Consider using newsletters.

KH – We can have some spares in reception.

LO – Looking to maintain ESOL Adult Literacy and Numeracy – forward plan.

SS – CAB to maintain for 12 months - working with other partners to look at sustainability.

NS – Moving to Academy Status. Changing school and curriculum. Will be job losses. Standards and aspirations should be raised.

FR – Lots of work in Sandy Lane area. Very positive.

Full NCC update in June. Lots of structural change.

EH – Going to academy status. Want to progress to ‘outstanding’.

Some new jobs, some staff cuts.

Will involve voluntary and compulsory redundancy.

JD in middle of restructure. All affected are voluntary redundancy or got another job in structure.

Looking to a locality approach and integrated working across teams.

New buildings at Worksop and Retford, place within Worksop Library. New mobile provision.

Exceeding number of contacts.

GP Lost 30k from 50k  
Next year 40k from 50k

Looking at collaboration/mergers.

Fund raising event on 23rd March.

### **13. Date and time of next meeting**

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011, 10am-12noon, Portland School