



**NOTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP
THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2011**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors N C Lawrence (Chairman) R L Butler, B G Dale,
Mrs C E M Jeffreys, R M Jones, B A Nicholls, Mrs M Stockwood, H Tipton
(substitute for Councillor L B Cooper), T Vennett-Smith

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

R Melaphany Area Commander, Notts Fire and Rescue Service

OFFICERS PRESENT:

C Bullett Deputy Chief Executive (CB)
N Carter Partnerships and Projects Manager
D Hayden Community Partnerships Team Leader
J King Community Partnership Assistant
C McGraw Head of Community Shaping
V Nightingale Senior Member Support Officer

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor L B Cooper

23. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

24. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on Thursday 13 January 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Outstanding Actions

Minute Number	Actions	Action Taken
14. Notes of the Previous Meeting	Officers to provide a briefing note following the production of a draft of the Greater Nottinghamshire housing needs.	Letter sent informing Members that this should be completed in April 2011.
15. Leisure Centre Contract – Annual Report by Parkwood Leisure	Parkwood Management agreed to encourage their staff to be extra vigilant and to challenge customers regarding the wearing of overshoes whilst poolside. Parkwood agreed to provide the attendance figures for the aiming high initiative by the next meeting of the Group	Briefing notes had been distributed informing Members of the Aiming High figures, Parkwood's progress on Family Night and Parkwood's actions regarding overshoes.

	Parkwood agreed to investigate the viability of repackaging family night at Rushcliffe LC by April 2011.	
16. Annual Review of First Lets and Options for the Future	Officers agreed to undertake further investigations in relation to advertising private rented properties in conjunction with the Choice Based Lettings scheme. Officers to investigate the potential of including the Good Tenant's Scheme within Choice Based Lettings.	Members received a letter updating them that First Lets had been incorporated into Choice Based Lettings, including all of the current initiatives
17. Rolling 2 Year Work Programme	To remove the Police Partnership and the review of the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club from the January agenda a	The programme had been altered

It was agreed that at the Group's meeting on 20 June 2011 there should be an update on the Aiming High Figures and Parkwood's progress in respect of Family Night.

25. Update on West Bridgford Fire Station

Mr Melaphany gave a presentation in respect of the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and how they linked into the Community Safety Partnership. He explained how the three districts in the South Group, Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe Borough Councils, interacted and also highlighted how the different risk factors were assessed. These factors included age of population, life expectancy, deprivation, violent crime, road incidents, housing, physical activity and deaths due to alcohol, diabetes or smoking. In Rushcliffe there was a reduction in operational activity however there was an increase in deliberate fire setting.

Members were informed of the improved performance monitoring that was undertaken and how the information had been used to undertake a Fire Cover Review to ensure that resources are deployed appropriately. Mr Melaphany explained that 85% of the incidents dealt with by the West Bridgford Fire Station were outside this area, mainly in the City. Following this analysis it was proposed to leave only one fire engine in West Bridgford.

Mr Melaphany explained to Members that a large part of his job was education, in the home, school and businesses.

Following a question regarding the number of properties that were proposed in the Borough Mr Melaphany explained that modern buildings were constructed with fire safety measures.

In respect of the closure of the West Bridgford Fire Station Members were informed that the Fire Cover Review was a document of evidence for the Fire Authority, who would make the decision. However, the closure would generate £1.5 million for the Authority, who had to find £6.9 million without adversely affecting coverage.

Members queried the future of the Bingham and East Leake stations and were informed that if these stations were not included in the Fire Cover Review then there would be no change. Mr Melaphany also explained the difference in the manned stations and those covered by retained firefighters.. He also added that it was increasingly difficult to attract retained firefighters.

The Chairman thanked Mr Melaphany for his interesting presentation and for answering Members questions.

26. **Progress Report on the Rushcliffe Sustainable Community Strategy Action Plans**

The Head of Community Shaping gave a presentation outlining the work of the Community Partnership. She gave a brief history of the Partnership and explained that the Partnership had undertaken two peer challenges and that following these their recommendations had been incorporated into an Improvement Plan. This had led to a strengthened structure with a more dynamic board and active themed groups. Members were reminded of the £349,000 Local Area Agreement Reward Grant that had been received and were informed of the projects that had received funding to date.

The Partnership had six themed delivery groups and Members were informed of the work undertaken by these groups, highlights were:

- Environmental Partnership – Rushcliffe Climate Change Action Plan, Rushcliffe Solar Group, Greening campaigns which had received national acclaim, Warm Front National Pilot scheme and the Community Food and Biodiversity Management Grants.
- Children and Young Peoples Partnership – Bridgfest, Notts Zone website, Urban Roadshows, Play Builder projects, Wheels to Work scheme and youth issues projects in hotspot areas
- Health Issue Group – health activator post, alcohol intervention, stop smoking and obesity groups, guided health walks, Perkins Family academy, Friary One to One Advice and mental health and well being partnership
- Rushcliffe Stronger Communities Partnership – Rushcliffe 50+ Forum, RACA Carers event, Village plans, Rushcliffe Advice Network and training, Volunteering and Beyond and Community Cohesion conference
- Rushcliffe Business Partnership – monthly meetings, re-launched website, annual business conference, start up business advisor within the Council, and links to South Notts Bizz Ex events
- Community Safety Partnership – Trent Bridge and Cotgrave weeks of action, home security events, youth diversionary projects, targeted hotspot patrols, business crime and home security grants, and website launched

The Head of Community Shaping informed the Group of the events held by the Community Partnership including the Town and Parish Conference, the Community Awards, Implementation of the Local Area Agreement reward grant and the Board/Executive Forward Planning Days. She also highlighted the many projects that had been supported through the Partnership. Finally she outlined the Partnership's plans for 2011/12, including the removal of Local Area Agreements, refreshing the Sustainable Communities Strategy, the County Council engagement in partnership working, the role of GP consortia/Principia and the Decentralisation and Localism Bill.

Members were concerned that the County Council were not giving the Partnership the same level of support as in previous years. Officers explained that although the County Council would not be represented on the Executive or the Board it was still an active party in the theme groups. It was also noted the input of Local Area Agreement reward grant had helped to invigorate some of the themed groups.

With regard to the work with children and young people officers stated that the Partnership focussed on safe guarding and strived to be proactive rather than reactive. Officers also explained that there was to be a restructure of Nottinghamshire County Council's Youth Services section. Members recognised the importance of working with the schools and felt that the Partnership should encourage schools to stay involved.

Whilst considering further information provided Members felt that it would have been more beneficial if the information had been provided before the meeting thereby allowing Members time to read it. Officers agreed that in future all information would be provided at an appropriate time.

In respect of advice centres Members were informed that following contact by the Council's internal recession team it had been recognised that there was no common infrastructure and very little training. These centres were run by volunteers and funding had been obtained to ensure that all advice centres had a consistent standard. Members felt that if this would be very beneficial if it led to a similar standard as operated by Citizens Advice Bureaus. Officers agreed to provide further information on the funding and how it was being utilised.

Members felt that there had been a significant improvement over the past year and hoped that this would continue. The Chairman asked for a further presentation in twelve months.

It was AGREED that the work of the Rushcliffe Sustainable Community Strategy Action Plans be endorsed.

27. Annual Review of Work Programme 2010/11

The Chairman presented the Group's annual report explaining that this would be included within the annual report of scrutiny which would be submitted to the Council meeting in June.

Councillor Jones raised two issues. He felt that the number of affordable homes was not high and was unsatisfactory, even though it exceeded the target. With regard to the partnership with Parkwood Leisure he queried the statement that the partnership was working well. He believed that there had been a discussion on the decline of family activities, community involvement and usage by voluntary groups. He explained that, in his opinion, groups were being asked to leave the centre for commercial reasons.

The Chairman noted that Councillor Jones had raised these issues but felt that the Group had agreed that the partnership was working well. With regard to current trends in leisure it had been stated that nationally team sports were declining and that people's preferences were to exercise alone. The Chairman agreed to add in that the Group felt that Parkwood should encourage community and voluntary participation. The Chairman agreed that there was room for doubt over these issues, and promised that, if he detected a possibility of disagreement in future meetings, he would endeavour to ensure the views of the Group as a whole were properly determined, and would take a vote if appropriate.

In respect of the current meeting the Chairman stated that the report would include the discussions that had occurred.

It was AGREED that the report be approved and forwarded on to Council for consideration.

28. Rolling 2 Year Work Programme

The Group considered the work programme for the next two years. The Chairman pointed out that, for the benefit of new Members, the meeting in June would include a presentation on the role and remit of the Group and an updated list of the Council's partners.

Following a discussion on the new Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre and the partnership with the Police it was agreed that, at present, a Working Group were overseeing the project and that this would be considered at a future meeting. It was noted that Councillor Jones had concerns regarding the sharing of information between the Police and the Council and that he felt the relevant protocols should be scrutinised. It was felt that residents should be assured that the data would not be shared and that Members should know that all the relevant arrangements were in place. However, when the Working Group's remit was completed it was agreed that the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen's Group would consider the appropriate forum for this issue.

The Partnerships and Projects Manager stated that Members' remarks that there should only be one large item on each agenda. It was noted that extra meetings could be arranged if necessary.

The proposed work programme for 2010/11 was AGREED.

29. Chairman's Remarks

As this was the last meeting before the Borough elections the Chairman thanked the Group for their co-operation and work over the last four years and wished good luck to those Members who were standing again.

Councillor Mrs Jeffreys informed the Group that she was not seeking re-election and stated that she felt the Group had worked well as Members had been able to scrutinise issues thoroughly and had been given the opportunity to make some serious decisions.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Action Sheet

PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP - THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2011

Minute Number	Actions	Officer Responsible
24. Notes of the previous meeting??	It was agreed that at the Group's meeting on 20 June 2011 there should be an update on the Aiming High Figures and Parkwood' progress in respect of Family Night.	Leisure Contracts Manager
25. Progress Report on the Rushcliffe Sustainable Community Strategy Action Plans	a) officers to provide further information on the funding for advice centres and how it has been utilised. b) A further report be given in twelve months time	Head of Community Shaping Head of Community Shaping
28. Rolling 2 Year Work Programme	The Group to consider whether the Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre should be included in the Group's work programme	Partnerships and Projects Manager