

NOTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY THURSDAY 14 JANUARY 2010

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

PRESENT:

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors C J Evans and J E Fearon

Chief Superintendent J Busuttil	South Notting	hamshire	Crime ar	nd Disorder
	Reduction Partnership			
T Francis	Community	Sports	Trust	Manager,
	Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club			

OFFICERS PRESENT:

- N Carter Partnerships and Projects Manager
- S Griffiths Deputy Chief Executive (SG)
- D Hayden Community Safety Manager/LSP Co-ordinator
- C McGraw Head of Community Shaping
- V Nightingale Senior Member Support Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors T D S Barlow and Mrs M Stockwood

27. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs C E M Jeffreys and Councillor N C Lawrence declared a personal but non prejudicial interest in Item 4 – Update on Partnership with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club.

28. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4 November 2009 were accepted as a true record.

With regard to the presentation by Parkwood Leisure Ltd it was noted that the number of activities and the number of children involved in the holiday playschemes needed to be included in their report in 2010. The Deputy Chief Executive (SG) agreed to request this information from Parkwood and to circulate it.

29. Update on Partnership with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club

Tracey Francis gave Members a presentation on the work undertaken by the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club on the delivery of the Rushcliffe

Community Milestones. She stated that a partnership with the Borough Council and other organisation had been entered into in 2008 to deliver a range of community initiatives to enable young people to access cricket whilst also benefiting the community. She reminded Members that the partnership had been honoured at the Local Government Chronicle and Municipal Journal Award celebrations.

She was pleased to announce that Nottinghamshire was the first County Cricket Club to be awarded foundation funding, and that during 2009 the ground had hosted the ICC Twenty20 competition. This competition had enabled the Club to host events such as an International Festival of Sport, a coaching master class by the Bangladesh Cricket Club for a local school and for local cricket club juniors to become match day mascots. As a result of this competition being held in Nottinghamshire it had been calculated that there had been an economic impact for the area of over £6.5 million, with over £12.5 million in total added value. She also related how the competition had positively affected some of the young people involved.

Ms Francis explained how the Club was interacting with local schools with 10 schools receiving community coaching which equated to approximately 300 children. This had led to 32 teams entering the ASDA Kwik Cricket Festival. This was linked to an 8% increase in cricket participation and 3% increase in club membership during 2009. She outlined a national initiative 'playing for success' which was a 10 week programme of both cricket coaching and lessons, thus enabling children to learn about mathematics, history, geography etc based on a cricket theme.

Members were informed of the support that was given to affiliated cricket clubs and how 26 clubs had achieved Clubmark accreditation. This enabled the clubs to access funding opportunities. With regard to the cricket clubs 11 boys had been selected as 'emerging players' and were enrolled into the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club's Academy programme.

One area that was recognised as under developed was girls cricket; Ms Francis explained how the Club was focussing on promoting this area as only 8 out of 168 clubs had girl's teams. She informed the Group of a girl's cricket festival where 106 girls played in a 'Hit4six' competition and of a 16+ girl's cricket programme run in conjunction with South Nottingham College for Further Education.

One area of partnership working was the 'Positive Futures' initiative. This was funded through the Home Office via the Football Foundation funding and was for a 3 year programme. This was a social inclusion project working with young people who were at risk of either offending or being a victim of crime or were socially excluded. Through a selection process 20 young people were selected each year although it was recognised that the initiative needed to engage with other members of the community included peer groups. During 2009 157 young people had been engaged with. Feedback from the initiative was encouraging and crime statistics were falling. One area that needed further consideration was activities for girls.

Ms Francis explained that in 2010 it was their intention to

- recruit a part time youth worker
- work with the University of Central Lancashire to conduct research and evaluation
- work with families
- deliver coaching provision for the young people of Cotgrave and surrounding areas
- continue with the Sports Leadership and Coaching Education Programme
- develop the Cotgrave Positive Futures Apprenticeship scheme
- prioritise cricket for girls and the disabled, and to tackle childhood obesity
- assist clubs through grant aid and funding, including the machinery fund
- work with clubs to rationalise the competition framework, expand Clubmark and on projects such as Safeguarding and CricketForce

Members of the Group agreed that the project in Cotgrave was having a very positive effect on the town and the young people. However they felt that other areas, such as Trent Bridge ward, would also benefit from a similar project. Ms Francis explained that the funding was very specific and an area had to meet the Home Office's criteria. Officers explained that there were no plans at present to increase the project however, officers could look at other areas and consider whether funding could be applied for. It was also noted that the Trent Bridge ward was being targeted for diversionary activity which included a 10 week programme of football in conjunction with Nottingham Forest Football Club and Nottinghamshire County Council's Youth Services.

Regarding a question about the identification of the young people involved Members were informed that a management committee, which consisted of representatives from most services in Cotgrave including the police, probation services, town council and social services proposed 40 young people and these were then evaluated until the final 20 were chosen. It was acknowledged that young people or parents could also nominate a candidate. Members were concerned that this could be perceived as a reward for bad behaviour and that society never recognised the good.

With regard to the small village clubs Ms Francis explained that funding was governed by the parameters set by the English Cricket Board and Sport England. It was acknowledged that the Clubmark clubs were running out of capacity and the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club had started to develop Emerging Clubs, clubs that would be working towards achieving Clubmark accreditation. This provided flexibility with funding opportunities. With regard to volunteers and the need to meet legislation the County Cricket Club were trying to simplify this and were investing £6,000 towards training. Members were concerned that an individual was subject to a CRB (criminal records bureau) check for each sport they were involved in, instead of the check covering the person for all activities.

Following a question the Group was informed that it was hoped to recruit an apprentice from Cotgrave and to train them to the level of an assistant sports development officer.

In respect of the loan arrangements Ms Francis stated that the Club had entered into a 10 year loan with a commitment for 5 years of community development. She explained that the Club had added additional services to their previous community engagement to fulfil their obligations. The Group were informed that the English Cricket Board monitored participation levels and that Nottinghamshire had exceeded all of its targets. With regard to the Positive Futures project there was a national reporting scheme with performance measures, called Catch 22, which looked at the impact on the local area and also the legacy the project would bequeath.

The Chairman thanked Ms Francis for attending the meeting, her excellent presentation and for answering Members' questions.

It was AGREED that the partnership work undertaken by Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club over the past year be acknowledged and they be congratulated on their work in the community.

30. South Nottinghamshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Update by Chief Superintendent John Busuttil

The Group received a presentation from Chief Superintendent Busuttil on the work of the South Nottinghamshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. He informed Members that there had been 3 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, 1 in Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe, which had been felt to be inefficient. These had been merged into the Community Safety Partnership and were now considered to be far more resilient. The Partnership was complemented nationally as it was felt that it had good structures and working practices in place. It was also in a strong position to attract funding to support initiatives in the area.

The Group discussed the structure of the Partnership and were informed that it was split into 3 levels, the Strategic Group, the Business Group and local delivery task groups. Members were informed that it was now felt that all partners were involved at all levels and that the appropriate person from each organisation attended at the appropriate level. Following questions Chief Superintendent Busuttil explained that as a consequence of a better use of resources the Partnership now employed an analyst who prioritised initiatives. There was now a shared admin resource and learning, as well as better resilience with officers. It was also noted that the merged Partnership had better buying powers.

Whilst considering the crime trends for South Nottinghamshire Chief Superintendent Busuttil explained that there had been a 3 year reduction in criminality over the whole of the South Nottinghamshire area with Rushcliffe having the least crime. Following a question regarding the partnership work in tackling violence Chief Superintendent Busuttil highlighted the work of the police and APAS on reducing crime as a result of drugs or alcohol. Members were concerned that the number of offences for drug related crimes was rising and enquired what measures could be put in place. They were informed that this was a crime where normally the victim was also the offender and there was a need to tackle the serous offenders. It was explained that the Drug & Alcohol Action Team and the Primary Care Trust provided support for people who wanted to quit. With regard to a query regarding alcohol Chief Superintendent Busuttil informed Members that the 'Challenge 21' scheme was one method of reducing anti-social behaviour and that the Police had supported the Borough Council when it had made a designated public place order banning alcohol consumption on the streets in parts of West Bridgford. Officers explained that another order was being considered for parts of Radcliffe on Trent.

The Group were concerned that 'most serious violence' was increasing. Chief Superintendent Busuttil explained that the definition had been changed over the last few years and that although it was increasing it was still very low and much less than public perception. He highlighted the many initiatives that the Partnership had introduced to combat this issue including the 'integrated offender management' project and the extension of the 'prolific and priority offenders' project.

With regard to domestic violence it was noted that 45% of all violence occurred in the home. It was explained that although the crime appeared to be rising this was a positive move as it actually meant that the crime was actually being reported. Officers explained that to help tackle this issue the Borough Council had a domestic violence co-ordinator who worked with other officers from both Gedling and Broxtowe Borough Councils. Members wished to find out the trends for both domestic violence and child abuse.

Members queried if the rise in fraud and forgery could be linked to the recession. Officers stated that this could not be proved however, they were working with businesses to reduce this type of crime, which was normally someone leaving without paying, known as 'bilking'.

The Group were concerned with the statistics for autocrime. It was noted that these were predominantly in West Bridgford and not in the Council owned car parks. In response Chief Superintendent Busuttil stated that there had been partnership working with the Borough Council to achieve Safer Car Park awards for the car parks in West Bridgford, however the main problem was from on street parking. There had been work carried out to identify the offenders and to put them into programmes. The Head of Community Shaping explained that the Borough Council was developing an 'eyes and ears' approach so that staff in the community could report back on suspicious activity. Officers stated that the Partnership had used a variety of methods to put across safety messages to drivers and also visited areas where any trends were emerging.

Councillor Jones was concerned about crime figures in the Rushcliffe Leisure Centre as these were perceived to be greater than all the other leisure centres combined. He was particular concerned that some remedial work to the car park had not been approved by the Borough Council. Chief Superintendent Busuttil explained that he had received a letter from the Manager but understood that there were problems associated with ownership, and that the cost of the work was approximately £200,000 which had meant that the Borough Council had needed to consider the best use of its resources. He gave Members the crime figures comparing Rushcliffe Leisure Centre with Bingham Leisure Centre. These were:

	All Crime		Auto Crime	
	Rushcliffe	Bingham	Rushcliffe	Bingham
	Leisure	Leisure Centre	Leisure	Leisure
	Centre		Centre	Centre
2007/08	57	21	18	2
2008/09	40	16	16	5
2009/10 to date	24	21	6	0
2009/10	32	28	8	0
projected				

Officers informed the Group that the Crime Reduction Team had made a number of recommendations and the Partnership were looking at ways to help that were of minimum cost, including signage. Also the Borough Council was undertaking some work on the foliage in the car park in order to make areas more visible. The Chairman stated that there were many problems associated with joint use sites and he was pleased to note that some work was being undertaken.

With regard to anti-social behaviour Members were informed that there had not been a significant increase and the Partnership were involved in such projects as the 'General Offender Management' programme and the 'Positive Futures' programme as described in the previous agenda item. Specific Partnership work was the police looking at Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, although there were very few in place; engaging with young people concerning drink through the Local Strategic Partnership; schools' officers carrying out truancy patrols and engaging with young people through the youth services. It was recognised that the youth services were under resourced but it was felt that they were vital to the diversionary work undertaken to stop young people offending or becoming victims. In addition, the police had 'operation broadside' where they ensured that there was a high visibility of officers at known peak times.

Members queried the number of anti-social behaviour incidents in the Borough reported for the week ending 9 January. Officers explained that this information was provided by the Police Co-ordinator and extrapolated by the Community Safety Assistant. It was agreed that these figures would be checked.

In response to a question regarding the community pay back scheme the Group was informed that this was a probation office scheme for offenders to work in the local area and that they were used effectively in the Council's weeks of action.

Members queried if, in his opinion, Chief Superintendent Busuttil felt that the partnership was working well. He assured Members that it was and that there was a good working relationship with the Borough. He complimented the Council on the various distraction activities that were organised. However, he had hoped for a better contribution from the County Council's Youth Services.

Members queried if CCTV was an effective policing tool. Chief Superintendent Busuttil explained that it made the community feel safer but was very costly and unless staffed was not always useful. He had received a request that West Bridgford Town Centre should have CCTV but although this was desirable it was not essential. He would prefer to either have a better Plan or a Town Manager for West Bridgford, although he acknowledged all the support given by the Borough Council.

It was AGREED that the improvements in performance made by the South Nottinghamshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership over the past year be acknowledged and that the partnership be congratulated for the effective work that had taken place to tackle crime and disorder across South Nottinghamshire.

In conclusion the Chairman thanked Chief Superintendent Busuttil for his excellent presentation on behalf of the Partnership.

31. Work Programme

The Group discussed its work programme and were informed of the decisions reached at the last meeting of the Chairmen and Vice Chairmens' meeting. It was noted that, as yet, there was nothing on the Customer Services Centre, however it was envisaged that following more information being presented to Cabinet it could be referred to this Group as appropriate. The Deputy Chief Executive (SG), as project sponsor, informed the Group that the costings were being finalised ready for the Cabinet meeting in February and that these figures would be robust.

Councillor Jones asked about the provision of public toilets in central West Bridgford as this issue had been linked to the previous Community Hub project. The Deputy Chief Executive (SG) explained that plans were being considered at present and a decision made in 2010.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Action Sheet PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY - THURSDAY 14 JANUARY 2010

Minute Number		Actions	Officer Responsible
28.	Notes of the Previous Meeting	Parkwood Leisure Ltd be requested to include all data regarding the holiday activities in their 2010 presentation	Deputy Chief Executive (SG)
29.	Update on Partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council	Officers to work with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club to consider the expansion of the Positive Futures programme to other areas of the Borough	Head of Community Shaping
30.	South Nottinghamshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Update by Chief Superintendent John Busuttil	Information on the trends in both domestic violence and child abuse be circulated. The number of anti-social behaviour incidents in the Borough reported for the week ending 9 January would be re-checked.	Community Safety Manager/LSP Co-ordinator