



MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP
TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2017

Held at 7pm in Council Chamber B, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors T Combellack (Chairman), M Buckle, B Buschman, M J Edwards,
J E Greenwood (substitute for F A Purdue-Horan), R A Inglis, G R Mallender
(substitute for K A Khan), J E Thurman, J G A Wheeler

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

P Berrill	Nottinghamshire County Council
M Clifford	Trent Bridge Community Trust
T Eatherington	Trent Bridge Community Trust
M Haw	Via East Midlands Ltd

OFFICERS PRESENT:

D Hayden	Principal Community Development Officer
D Mitchell	Executive Manager – Communities
P Phillips	Environmental Sustainability Officer
L Webb	Constitutional Services Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors K A Khan and F A Purdue-Horan

11. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

12. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Group held on Tuesday 22 August 2017 were approved as a true record.

13. Review and Future of YouNG

Pursuant to Community Development Group Minute No.8 (2017/18) the Principal Community Development Officer presented the report of the Chief Executive to update the Group on the work that had been carried out regarding the options for the future delivery of, and for a proposed delivery model to ensure a sustainable future for YouNG.

Mr Tim Eatherington and Mr Mark Clifford of the Trent Bridge Community Trust attended the meeting and made a presentation on a potential partnership arrangement between YouNG and the Trust. It was noted that the Trent Bridge Community Trust was a registered charity and aimed to increase community participation through the provision of facilities and to advance the education and opportunity for young people. Mr Eatherington advised the Group of a proposed partnership between the Trent Bridge Community Trust which would

aim to maximise the positive outcomes of the resources available to YouNG by enabling more young people to access the opportunities provided and to increase YouNG's engagement with local businesses in order to access more work experience placements. Mr Clifford advised that the Trust would also provide an accreditation for businesses, and provide them with a resource pack if they provided work experience placements through their business. It was also noted that it was important that a wide range of work experience placements were provided to meet participant's individual needs and that these could range from an extended business insight placement to a one-week placement. It was also noted that the Trent Bridge Community Trust would give the YouNG Ambassadors the opportunity to become accredited as peer mentors.

It was anticipated that as part of the proposed partnership that the Trent Bridge Community Trust would undertake the day to day management of the YouNG ambassadors and interns, and that the Trent Bridge Community Trust would also promote the service through their large network of social media channels. It was envisioned that the Trent Bridge Community Trust projects of Positive Futures, Ready 4 Work as well as potentially in the future, YouNG, would be viewed together and recognised as high quality programmes of support for young people in Rushcliffe.

Mr Eatherington provided information on the proposed governance of the Trent Bridge Community Trust in relation to the partnership with YouNG. It was proposed that there would be a strategic group comprised of representatives of schools, businesses, the Trent Bridge Community Trust and Rushcliffe Borough Council who would agree and determine the objectives that the Trent Bridge Community Trust needed to achieve in the delivery of YouNG. It was noted that the projects would be led by Mr Clifford with the help of the interns, ambassadors and apprentices. It was also noted that the Trent Bridge Community Trust would commit to recruit and develop the YouNG interns and ambassadors with the current financial investment of £82,000 per annum. The Trent Bridge Community Trust would also look into suitable income streams in the long term.

Members of the Group asked several specific questions about the details of the proposed partnership and received verbal responses.

The Chairman suggested that alumni records be kept in order to track the progress of those who had been involved with the YouNG project. The Principal Community Development Officer advised that this was important as it was the alumni programme which would ultimately be used to measure the success of the project. Members of the Group also suggested that the young people who had participated in YouNG could use the alumni scheme in order to re-enter the project if, for example they wanted to gain work experience after leaving education.

Members of the Group were reassured that the partnership between YouNG and the Trust would increase the amount of work experience placements available to young people by utilising the Trust's extensive business contacts. It was also confirmed that the YouNG Ambassadors would promote the opportunities of YouNG in all secondary schools which would ensure a universal provision throughout the Borough.

The Principal Community Development Officer informed the Group that the current £82,000 budget for YouNG covered the cost of employing the YouNG interns, ambassadors and dedicated management time whilst also including a £7,500 operational budget for the programme. Mr Clifford noted that the selection process for YouNG Ambassadors would remain largely unchanged to the current arrangements.

The Executive Manager – Communities advised that if the proposed partnership were agreed, the service level agreement would outline targets for the number of young people involved with the project. The Executive Manager also informed the Group that the Council would no longer employ the interns and the ambassadors directly, but would still provide governance over the project whilst also ensuring that the interns and ambassadors also received support from the Council.

It was noted that if the proposed partnership between YouNG and the Trust was supported by the Community Development Group a report would be taken to Cabinet in January 2018 to seek approval for its implementation. Members of the groups agreed to support the proposed delivery model if the Trent Bridge Community Trust could commit to work predominantly with Rushcliffe businesses, provide quantitative targets in terms of number of work experience placements provided and the number of young people involved with the project, and for transitional support to be provided for the Council to continue to work alongside the Trent Bridge Community Trust whilst they delivered the YouNG Project.

The Chairman and members of the Group thanked Mr Eatherington and Mr Clifford for attending and answering their questions.

It was RESOLVED that:

- a) the progress to date regarding discussions that have taken place with Trent Bridge Community Trust be noted.
- b) that the proposed delivery model of a partnership between YouNG and the Trent Bridge Community Trust be supported.
- c) a report be submitted to Cabinet in January 2018 seeking approval of for the proposed delivery model of a partnership between YouNG and the Trent Bridge Community Trust.

14. Update on the delivery of Rural Broadband in Rushcliffe

The Executive Manager – Communities submitted a report to provide a progress report to the on the delivery of Nottinghamshire County Council's programme to provide 98% of Nottinghamshire with a fibre broadband network, capable of delivering superfast broadband by 2018. Mr Philip Berrill – Broadband Programme Manager at Nottinghamshire County Council attended the meeting to provide an update to the Group on how this programme was being implemented with regard to the delivery of Rural Broadband in Rushcliffe.

Mr Berrill advised that 95.4% of Rushcliffe households had access to super-fast broadband speeds of over 24 megabytes per second and that Nottinghamshire County Council had announced a £6.3m deal (Contract 2) with BT Openreach to extend the reach of fibre broadband further. This further rollout would increase coverage to 98% of homes and businesses across the Borough by autumn 2018.

Mr Berrill noted that currently there were approximately between 1800 and 1900 properties in Rushcliffe which did not have access to the high speed network and that any underspent money in the current contract with BT Openreach would be used to ensure that those properties gained access to high-speed broadband. It was noted that residents could also potentially gain access to broadband at speeds greater than 24 megabytes per second by the BT programme "G Fast", which had been designed to produce more speed from cabinets and BT's fibre on demand product which was normally only offered to businesses. In addition to this work Virgin Media were currently rolling out their network further in order to compete with companies such as BT. Mr Berrill noted that Nottinghamshire County Council were working on a mapping solution that would highlight areas and properties that did not have access to high speed broadband.

Members of the Group asked several specific questions about access to high speed broad band in rural areas of the Borough. Members of the Group asked how close a property needed to be to a cabinet to receive high speed broadband. Mr Berrill advised that even though a property was situated near a cabinet it did not necessarily mean that the property was served by that cabinet. Mr Berrill also noted that there were broadband vouchers available for residents in rural areas which were promoted through the Nottinghamshire County Council website and through the Town and Parish Forums.

Members of the Group expressed concern that there were difficulties in accessing broadband on new housing developments The Executive Manager – Communities advised that access to broadband was not a statutory requirement for new developments, however, the Council did ensure that broadband access was discussed with developers at an early stage of the application process. Members of the Group also raised concerns that some residents were now being encouraged to engage with services online such as booking GP appointments which were not currently possible to complete if they did not have sufficient broadband speed.

Members of the Group asked where Nottinghamshire County Council would be focussing its efforts in future to roll out access to high speed broad band in rural areas. Mr Berrill advised that future efforts would be focussed on deployment across the Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood areas as those areas had the majority of unserved properties across the County. It was noted however that the contract would retain the capability to include further deployment across Rushcliffe should further funding be made available.

The Chairman and members of the Group thanked Mr Berrill for attending and answering their questions.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report of the Executive Manager – Communities, be noted.

15. **Options for Tree Protection and Promotion in Rushcliffe**

Pursuant to Community Development Group Minute No.9 (2017/18) the Environmental Sustainability Officer presented the report of the Executive Manager – Communities to provide a progress report on tree protection and promotion, and to provide options for consideration as to how trees could be further protected and promoted within the Borough.

Mr Monty Haw, Forestry Officer at Via East Midlands, the provider of highway management services for Nottinghamshire County Council, and who were also responsible for roadside verges and forestry, attended the meeting to provide information on tree protection and promotion in relation to highways matters. It was noted that if a tree was removed from a road side verge during works it was always replaced, with 45 trees being replaced during 2017. Mr Haw advised that absent trees were currently replanted as close to the site of the absent tree as possible if it were not possible to replant in the exact same location. It was also explained that the role of Via East Midlands was replacing absent trees and not necessarily planting new ones.

A list of potential options for tree protection and promotion was attached as an appendix to the officer's report for members of the group to consider. Members of the Group were particularly in favour of the Tree Warden Scheme, co-ordinated by The Tree Council, which was a national initiative to enable people to play an active role in conserving and enhancing their local trees and woods. It was noted that the scheme could also be promoted through the Town and Parish Councils as well as the numerous 'Friends of' groups which operated in parks across the Borough. Members of the Group were also supportive of the 'free tree scheme' which was currently operating in North West Leicestershire where residents were supplied with trees to plant and discussed the possibility of charging a small fee for a tree in order to increase revenue. The Environmental Sustainability Officer advised that the scheme may not be popular if residents were asked to pay and consequently would not provide the increased levels of tree planting desired.

Members of the group also enquired how long it currently took for an absent tree to be replaced. The Environmental Sustainability Officer advised that he did not know the current timescale but would find this information and ensure that it was circulated to members of the Group.

It was recommended by the Executive Manager – Communities that the Group support all of the options for tree protection and promotion as outlined at appendix one of the officer's report, apart from the last option of 'adopt a tree', which could create a significant and ongoing financial impact for the Council in the purchase of land to enable the operation of the initiative. Members of the Group agreed that it be proposed to Cabinet a budget of £50,000 for the protection and promotion of trees over for a period of three years be considered

The Chairman and members of the Group thanked Mr Haw for attending and answering their questions.

It was RESOLVED that:

- a) the report of the Executive Manager – Communities be noted.
- b) that the options for tree protection and promotion, as detailed at appendix 1 of the officer’s report, with the exception of the option to “adopt a tree”, be supported and referred to Cabinet for approval with the recommendation that a £50,000 budget, over three years, be allocated for their implementation.
- c) members of the Group be provided with additional information on absent trees in the Borough, including the length of time that it takes absent trees to be replaced.

16. Work Programme

The Group considered their Work Programme.

The Executive Manager – Communities advised that a representative from Nottinghamshire County Council would be attending the February 2018 meeting of the Community Development Group to discuss rural transport within the Borough. The Chairman expressed concern that some residents who lived in rural areas were not able to access health and other essential services due to the lack of rural public transport provision within the villages and asked that Councillors not on the Group were contacted for their experiences of this issue in their own communities.

Members of the group also suggested that Diversity within the Borough could possibly be considered for consideration at a future meeting of the Group and that the issue of anti-social behaviour could be discussed under the item on the review of the Public Spaces Protection Order.

It was RESOLVED that the Work Programme be noted.

Date of Meeting	Item
20 February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Transport• Car Parking Strategy• Review of the Public Spaces Protection Order• Work Programme

The meeting closed at 8.57pm.

Action Sheet**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP - TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2017**

Minute Number	Actions	Officer Responsible
13	A report be presented to Cabinet in January 2018 asking for approval of the emerging delivery model of a partnership between YouNG and the Trent Bridge Community Trust.	Executive Manager – Communities
15	<p>That the options for tree protection and promotion, as detailed at appendix 1 of the officer's report, with the exception of the option to "adopt a tree", be supported and referred to Cabinet for approval with the recommendation that a £50,000 budget, over three years, be allocated for their implementation.</p> <p>Members of the Group be provided with additional information on absent trees in the Borough, including the length of time that it takes absent trees to be replaced.</p>	Executive Manager – Communities Executive Manager – Communities
16	<p>Members of the Group to be asked if they have any questions for the topic of rural transport to be discussed at the next Community Development meeting in February.</p> <p>That diversity in the Borough be considered for inclusion in the Group's work programme.</p>	Constitutional Services Executive Manager – Communities.