



Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th November 2010

Present:

Cllr Carole Gandy (Chair)	Redditch Borough Council
Cllr Mike Braley	Redditch Borough Council
Kevin Dicks	Redditch Borough Council
Angie Heighway	Redditch Borough Council
Hugh Bennett	Redditch Borough Council
Ruth Bamford	Redditch Borough Council
Helen Broughton	Redditch Borough Council
John Gallagher	NEW College
Peter Fryers	Worcestershire Health Authority
Cllr Barry Gandy	Worcestershire County Council
Maggie Bryan	Worcestershire County Council
Ann Sowton	Redditch and Bromsgrove Network (BARN)
Gary Woodman	Chamber of Commerce
Lee MacKenzie	Community Forum

In attendance: Susan Tasker (minutes), Cllr W Norton & Jess Bayley (item three)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cllr Carole Gandy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted from Des Sutton, Ian Joseph, Cllr Graham Vickery and Sue Hanley. It was also reported that Tim Rice had suggested that his colleague Neil Anderson should attend future meetings instead of him, although neither could attend this meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record. The following matters arising were noted:

School Governors - Helen provided an update on making available a list of Governor positions. She had contacted Worcestershire County Council and had asked for a list but had been told that there was not the time and capacity to provide this information. It had been suggested that a note could be included on the regular bulletin sent to schools in Redditch which could explain about the Partnership work to promote School Governor positions and to contact Helen if interested. There was a discussion about whether this was an appropriate response from the County. Barry suggested an e-mail could be sent directly from the Partnership to individual schools. It was agreed that Helen and Barry would follow this up.

ACTION: BARRY AND HELEN

Worcestershire Partnership Changes – It was reported that concerns had been raised by the Third Sector regarding the new structure of the Worcestershire Partnership. It was noted

that it was important that those organisations no longer sitting on the new Worcestershire Partnership were kept informed of the work of Worcestershire Partnership.

Communications - It was reported that a template had been circulated to the Partnership Board which requested information about forthcoming consultations and events. It was agreed that this would be brought back to the next meeting.

ACTION: AGENDA

Morton Stanley Festival – The Chair informed the Board that the weekend had gone well, despite the weather on the Saturday, and it had been an excellent opportunity to consult with the public. Surprisingly, many people did not know that Redditch had lower educational achievement. Special thanks was made to Des Sutton who had spent a whole day on the LSP stall.

3. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY LSP TASK AND FINISH GROUP FINAL REPORT

Cllr W Norton from RBC attended the meeting following presentations at earlier meetings regarding the work of the LSP Task and Finish Group. William took the Board through a presentation.

Kevin questioned the accountability of other Partner organisations and how they feed back information about the Partnership formally to their organisations. William explained that the Task and Finish Group could not really make any recommendations regarding this but that it was for the Partners to pick up on this issue. Carole suggested this issue should be given further consideration and questioned if one way of doing this was to undertake an annual 'state of the nation' statement. Kevin felt some of the accountability could be taken at the county level and that Worcestershire Partnership could go back to partner organisations for endorsement.

Kevin questioned the Worcestershire Partnership and the intention to review the role of district LSPs. Views differed considerably, but with the red flag issues in Redditch there was a strong argument for the need to continue the LSP in Redditch. The Task and Finish Group report supported that viewpoint. Maggie explained that in the future the LSP would need to be more focused. Mike suggested that a brief annual report be written detailing what had been undertaken by the LSP. Peter questioned whether that would perpetuate organisations concentrating on what they do and whether instead a more themed report focusing on the priorities and identifying where work would provide added value would be more effective. Hugh added that this report could include what had not been working. Carole agreed that a joint document was required to show what is being done collectively, identify the gaps and then what the Partnership Board would do to address that. Hugh explained that he and Helen had started to look at the timetable for the production of the new Sustainable Community Strategy. Carole suggested that an LSP event was to be planned for March planning for this should be looked at at the next meeting.

**ACTION: HUGH & HELEN
AGENDA**

4. CHURCH HILL REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Hugh explained that although it is not as deprived as Winyates, Church Hill was still a health hot spot and featured in the top 10% of deprived areas in the country. Church Hill was picked as the first centre to be redeveloped by the Council as it was 'easiest' in the sense it was mainly in the ownership of one retailer, there was a lot of surrounding vacant land and there was no housing within the centre.

There was a multi-agency partnership in place which was co-ordinating the development of around new 50 units of social housing, retail centre and surgery. The cost of the project was £500K and the work would commence at the beginning of 2011 due to complete in 2012.

YMCA was already within the site and they run Church Hill Community Centre.

Hugh explained that a new centre might not necessarily improve the prospects of an area so the physical and social aspects needed to be addressed together. It was questioned what other services already existed in the area and what else needed to be provided to help people. Carole suggested that it was important to include the PCT in the development as they had a presence at John Fisher, in addition to the surgery. Carole also reiterated the level of involvement the YMCA had in the centre i.e. in providing housing and community work. Carole and Kevin had met with Duncan Berry recently and he had been asked to attend the next meeting as was important to understand the level of work undertaken by YMCA. Hugh said that would be helpful for him, Carole, Helen to meet Duncan before the next meeting.

Peter explained that it was important to look at what the draw was to get people in to help local services add value. Ann explained that there was a Community Assets Programme that they will be bidding for soon.

Carole encouraged Board Members to visit the area now so that they could see it in its current state and then compare this once the work was done.

Hugh raised the issue of consultation in Church Hill. Carole explained that she understood there had been consultation early on in the planning of the centre but agreed more needed to be done on the social aspects.

Kevin stressed the need for joined up thinking by Partners.

Ruth said it would be useful to understand interrelated issues, for example, the bus lanes. It was agreed that Hugh, Angie H and Ruth would work to the first instance to move this agenda ahead.

ACTION: HUGH, ANGIE H, RUTH

5. CORE STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Ruth explained that this linked to Cllr Norton's presentation and demonstrated the 'golden thread' running through all the strategies. Ruth referred to the briefing note distributed at the meeting. The core strategy (planning document) needed to reflect local needs and priorities and there needed to be a longer term vision. It was the physical realisation of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The current plan was to run up to 2026. In addition to planning, if there were skills gap the planners could seek money from developers to address this.

Ruth advised the Board that they needed to approve the document. Council Members were scheduled to consider the document in December with 10 weeks public consultation then commencing until the end of February. Partners could comment as part of that consultation process or feed their comments directly to Ruth.

It was confirmed the document (page one) was the revised vision, and Kevin asked Board Members whether they were happy with that. It was questioned whether it needed to be closer to the new priorities of the Partnership. Angie H explained that this document was looking further ahead, to 2026, and priorities would change and by then it was possible that health issues should have been addressed. The Chair explained that she wouldn't want to change the vision although the wording around the priorities could be looked at. Ruth agreed that she could tweak this prior to the Executive Committee meeting in December. Ruth said

some objectives were easily addressed but others less so and questioned whether there was a need to look at how the S106 monies are spent.

The Chair suggested that the title needed to more clearly state what the document was ie 'RBC Town Plan'.

6. DRAFT HEALTH ACTION PLAN

Peter referred to the paper circulated and said there were some gaps but that it was a good starting point following the away day in Winyates. The indicators used in the plan were the best available.

Key actions:

Health eating – the first action related to the impact assessment of partners policies and strategies. The first one to be looked at was the Core Strategy.

It was reported that an award scheme for healthy eating would be introduced which would include looking at employers with on site food available. Des Sutton was thought to be a good link on this. Other aspects included in this action might be encouraging walk to work schemes etc. It was agreed that this could focus on Winyates and Church Hill. Ruth suggested utilising the existing Schools 'Healthy Eating' schemes. Peter said it would be tailored to employers. Kevin referred to 'over abundance of takeaways'. It was explained that this would be picked up in the Core Strategy.

Stop smoking – there were a range of projects but it was important not to duplicate or go against what is already happening elsewhere. Hugh said if there is a commitment to run a campaign before Christmas then work needed to commence as soon as possible. Peter would be looking at whether this is the best time to run the campaign.

Alcohol – This was deemed a more complex area. Ann suggested learning from the Bromsgrove Alcohol sub groups. Angie H agreed to take this away, work up and bring back to a future meeting.

Carole asked that at the January meeting the Board receive a report on one area/project that had already started.

ACTION: AGENDA

7. WINYATES – AREA OF HIGHEST NEED UPDATE

Angie referred to the AOHN Project Monitoring Report which summarised progress. There would be a presentation at the next meeting about progress of the project. The Board agreed the report was in a useful format for quarterly monitoring. Kevin asked Maggie to consider the monitoring / reporting route for this to the Worcestershire Partnership. Maggie would report back but explained that it still needed to be considered by the Partnership Board to ensure local ownership. It was emphasised that the form used for monitoring should fulfil the needs of both Redditch Partnership and Worcestershire Partnership to avoid Liz completing two forms.

ACTION: AGENDA

8. THEME GROUP UPDATES

Local Children's Partnership

A copy of the Raising Educational Achievement and Aspirations Action Plan was circulated.

Cllr Gandy explained the Careers Fair was concentrating on careers, not jobs, to help pupils to understand opportunities and what would be required of them in work. It was ideally aimed at middle school pupils before they were to reach the point where they were choosing options. It was agreed that New College should be represented on the steering group for this project.

Kevin was concerned that 12 months on, the schools were saying 'mentoring is too difficult', despite previously saying it was important. Hugh assured the Board that John Edwards had taken this on and could report back to a future meeting. Carole suggested it might be a way forward to run a pilot in a small area ie a specific pyramid (Winyates or Church Hill) at first. Ann explained that Barn had also looked at training volunteers in mentoring and befriending.

Carole informed the Board that John Edwards had sent Ofsted results to her – most of the schools are only adequate and two within special measures so overall it was not a good picture.

Town Centre Partnership

Work was continuing around the Town Centre development by the railway and also programme of events to increase footfall in the market and Church Green traders over Christmas. This needed to be communicated to the public.

Community Forum

There was an away day planned for December to look at how to attract and retain members of the public, as it is mainly voluntary sector members attending at present.

Community Safety Partnership

A review had been undertaken looking at how the Partnership worked. Carole said at the Town Centre Partnership there had been concern about the level of drinking (around the band stand) and the low level anti-social behaviour which had been impacting on Town Centre businesses. Ruth explained that there needed to be an interface between Police and the local businesses. Angie H said it would be raised at the tasking group.

ACTION: ANGIE H

Health and Wellbeing

At its next meeting the membership would be discussed to ensure the form follows the function of the action plan discussed earlier on the agenda.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 16th December 2010.

Dates for 2011 would be circulated.