



Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th December 2010

Present:

Cllr Carole Gandy (Chair)	Redditch Borough Council
Cllr Mike Braley	Redditch Borough Council
Cllr Graham Vickery	Redditch Borough Council
Sue Hanley	Redditch Borough Council/Chair RCSP
Hugh Bennett	Redditch Borough Council
Angie Heighway	Redditch Borough Council
Liz Williams	Redditch Borough Council
Helen Broughton	Redditch Borough Council
Cllr Barry Gandy	Worcestershire County Council
Maggie Bryan	Worcestershire County Council
Ian Joseph	West Mercia Police Authority
John Callaghan	NEW College
Peter Fryers	Worcestershire PCT
Lee MacKenzie	Community Forum

In attendance: Susan Tasker, Duncan Berry (YMCA)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cllr Carole Gandy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted for Kevin Dicks, Gary Woodman, Ann Sowton, Des Sutton

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

As requested at the previous meeting, it was reported that a letter had been sent to all schools informing them of the availability of Partnership Board organisations to help fill any vacant Community Governor positions.

Hugh informed the Board that he and Ruth had met about the Church Hill Centre redevelopment and related issues regarding the bus lanes. A further meeting would be held to progress this.

ACTION: HUGH, ANGIE AND RUTH

Ian reported that the bandstand issue appeared to have resolved itself following monitoring.

3. YMCA – OVERVIEW OF THEIR WORK – WINYATES AND CHURCH HILL

Duncan Berry, Chief Executive of YMCA Redditch attended the meeting to give some background to the YMCA. He explained that the YMCA began in Redditch in 1975 with fundraising efforts taking place the following year which led to housing being built in Church Hill. The YMCA then became a PLC in the 1980s. The vision of the organisation was '*transforming communities so that all young people truly belong, contribute and thrive*'. The YMCA in Redditch included community buildings with a nursery, linked to two Surestart centres. Duncan informed the Board that YMCA had worked in partnership with a number of organisations to deliver a number of schemes across the town including mentoring schemes and schools with an accredited centre. In line with RBC priorities, YMCA had been supporting enterprise working with the College and schools and individually with young people. They had also worked with the prison services and prisoners' children. They had also been looking at projects to improve the environment, particularly those that could encourage children to become more interested in such causes.

Duncan reported that there were approximately 40 projects in Church Hill. One success story from one of the projects included a young resident who was awarded the Young Volunteer for West Midlands and who had gone on to secure a work placement with a local school. Duncan reported that they were currently working on securing the old church in Winyates in order to be able to develop a new community / youth centre. A further 20 projects were also planned in and around Winyates.

Hugh asked about physical regeneration in Church Hill and asked Duncan his views on aspects of the social regeneration of the area. Duncan felt that there were opportunities to make the area more vibrant. He explained that the existing St John Fisher site was the only place where a Children's Centre was not attached to a school but was a community centre. He felt that this was a good model for encouraging community cohesion and engagement. He noted that the more that could be encompassed through one hub the more likely that silos could be broken down.

Graham asked if the Christian tag had prevented some groups from participating in YMCA activities. Duncan explained that it had not and that they were genuinely 'open to all'.

Barry mentioned the integration of Surestart into schools and the possible pros and cons. Angie explained that there had been an evaluation of Surestart and suggested that Judith Willis, Children's Centre Programme Manager attend a future meeting to give a presentation about this issue.

ACTION: AGENDA

4. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY UPDATE

The Board was informed that the Strategy was in the process of being updated and would be brought to the next meeting in January. It would then be considered by Councillors at Redditch Borough Council through February and March. A launch event would then follow in April. The 25 page document would be summarised on 2 pages to be contained as part of the Worcestershire Sustainable Community Strategy. It was reported that Worcestershire Partnership was currently undergoing an exercise to map all of the priorities from the District LSPs to enable them to come up with a list of definitive priorities for the new Worcestershire SCS. There was some similarity of priorities across the District LSPs so it was hoped this would be achievable. Maggie

reiterated that the Redditch SCS was part of the wider Worcestershire SCS and should be seen as providing direction for the way in which the Worcestershire SCS would be delivered in Redditch. It was noted that some LSPs had decided not to write their own separate SCS.

ACTION: AGENDA

5. HEALTH ACTION PLAN

Peter provided an update on the Health Action Plan.

He explained that the Plan was now complete. It was felt that the composition of the current Health and Well Being Subgroup was no longer appropriate to deliver this Action Plan and so the Group had been dissolved. Peter suggested that the Board needed to decide on the best mechanism for delivering the Plan and if the Health and Well Being Subgroup was to be re-established, who should be on it.

It was suggested that representatives on any new Group would need to have the authority to commit resources and be involved in the delivery of the areas covered by the Action Plan. Membership could be time limited and should be subject to regular review. Additional people could be co-opted for specific projects if needed.

Peter suggested that he should continue to chair the group and along with Helen would provide the linkage to the Partnership Board. It was suggested that representation against the priorities should be as follows:

- Obesity / Healthy Eating – Redditch Borough Council Leisure Services and Regulatory Services, voluntary sector representation.
- Smoking – a health practitioner working in this specialism, voluntary sector, Federation of Small Businesses.
- Alcohol – DAAT, voluntary sector representation.

Maggie suggested that an Area of Highest Need project representative should attend the meetings.

It was suggested that Ann from BARN should be approached regarding advising about the voluntary sector representation on the Group. It was agreed that it might be more suitable to co-opt a representative from the sector rather than approaching individuals.

Hugh supported the proposal and suggested that he, Angie and Sue could nominate appropriate officers. Carole agreed it needed to be a 'doing' committee. Sue stated that in terms of supporting the Group 4 or 5 RBC Heads of Service could be potentially involved. She suggested that it might be more constructive if Heads of Service only attended when there was an item of relevance to them for that meeting. Angie suggested that Redditch Borough Council Housing Services needed to also be represented.

ACTION: HUGH, ANGIE, SUE

Peter asked for views regarding Member representation. Mike suggest Cllr Juliet Brunner as she was the relevant Portfolio Holder for Licensing for Redditch Borough Council and she was also the Chair of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Peter explained that the focus of membership was on Health, Council, Voluntary Sector and Federation of Small Businesses but all partners may have an interest and it would not preclude them from having an opportunity to contribute to the work of the Group. Angie said she has close links with police so could attend for them.

The timing of the meetings was questioned, whether they should take place before Partnership Board meetings or afterwards. It was agreed that they should take place before Board meetings.

With regards to the Action Plan, Hugh suggested that as the National Indicators would be disappearing reference to them should be removed. The Chair thanked Peter for his hard work in producing the document.

6. WINYATES – AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED UPDATE PRESENTATION

Liz provided a presentation to the Board regarding the work currently taking place on the project.

Liz asked for snappy names to brand the project (instead of Winyates of Areas Highest Need). Liz explained she had been using Winning Winyates but wanted to give the opportunity to the Board to come up with something different.

ACTION: ALL

7. THEME GROUP UPDATES

Local Children's Partnership

The Group had met with John Edwards from WCC, and he agreed he would update the Education Action Plan to reflect the discussions held at the previous meeting of the LCP. Once finalised it would be brought back to a future Board meeting.

Community Forum

An awayday had taken place with representatives from Partner organisations and the voluntary sector. Unfortunately there had been only a small number of the public/residents, possibly due to bad weather that day. Discussion focussed on: the possibility of holding future meetings in different parts of the town: what types of events they could organise to encourage the public to participate; the need for the use of simple terminology in their work (not council jargon); and how to improve publicity about the meetings and events in local press and in communities in general.

Carole explained that she had discussed with people why more residents had not attended meetings in the past. It was felt that more needed to be done with the format of the meetings to encourage more people to attend. It was felt that the language used could be intimidating to people. Graham suggested targeting people who might already be active and interested and then try to encourage them to bring other people with them. Hugh suggested that rotating the meeting venue may cause issues of continuity.

Community Safety

Sue informed the Board that at a county level 'interim arrangements' were in place as it was not known about future funding and performance regimes. Funding for Community Safety was not yet known. Tasking arrangements were being reviewed but it was envisaged that tasking groups would meet less frequently and be more topic based to ensure that the right people were attending each meeting.

It was reported that the possibility of combining the Community Safety Partnership across the whole of North Worcestershire was being considered.

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSULTATION

Hugh referred to the database of Consultation and Events. The idea of the database was to keep a record of upcoming consultation and events opportunities by partners. Barry said the We Are Redditch event in January included all partners whereas at the Morton Stanley Park event each partner had their own separate stand. It was agreed that in the future it would be more effective if all partners were clearly badged under the Partnership.

Hugh asked that if there was any good news or information from partners at each meeting that this be used to publicise locally.

ACTION: HUGH & HELEN

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

John informed the Board that NEW College had opened their new Higher Education and Business Centre at Osprey House. This would enable the College to offer University level courses. From 2012/13 the number of students taking higher education and apprenticeships could double. This would enable people living locally to train to Levels 4 and 5. It was agreed that this was exciting news and showed true collaboration and partnership working.