

WILLENHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday 25 July 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

at New Invention Junior School, Cannock Road, New Invention, Willenhall

Present

Councillor Ian Shires (Chairman)
Susan Peters (Vice-Chairman - LAPs)
Councillor Sean Coughlan
Wendy Evans
Mr. R. Pandaal
Councillor Mrs. Eileen Pitt
Councillor Mrs. Doreen Shires
Mr. Stanley Taylor
Councillor Angela Underhill
Station Officer Nigel Walker – West Midlands Fire Service
Councillor Val Woodruff
Sgt. Garry Ashby – Beat Manager – Willenhall North – West Midlands Police
Sgt. Theresa Hinsley – Willenhall Town - West Midlands Police

ACTION

94/06 Appointment of Chairman

Resolved

That Councillor Ian Shires be appointed Chairman of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.

COUNCILLOR SHIRES IN THE CHAIR

95/06 Appointment of Vice-Chairmen (2)

The Partnership was advised that named representatives were still awaited from some of the WBSP Nominated Partners and the Partnership might consider deferring this to the next meeting.

The membership agreed that the nomination of the Vice-Chairmen should be determined at this meeting.

		ACTION
96/06	<p>Appointment of Vice-Chairmen from the WBSP Nominated Partners</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Walsall Housing Group representative be appointed as Vice-Chairman, representing the WBSP Nominated Partners for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.</p>	Glenys Ensor to inform
97/06	<p>Appointment of Vice-Chairman for Locally Appointed Partners</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That Sue Peters be appointed Vice-Chairman representing the Locally Appointed Partners for the 2006/07 Municipal Year.</p>	Glenys Ensor to inform
98/06	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Creaney.</p>	
99/06	<p>Introductions</p> <p>Members introduced themselves at the meeting.</p>	
100/06	<p>Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2006, were submitted:-</p> <p>(see annexed)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2006, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Mr. Pandaal's apologies.</p>	

101/06 **Matters Arising**

The Chairman referred to outstanding items from the last meeting as follows:-

(a) Minute no. 89/06(2) – An Affordable Warmth Strategy for Walsall

Affordable Warmth would move to the Health Community Action Group.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

(b) Advertising on Street Lighting Columns

This matter should be monitored via the Safety Community Action Group.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

(c) Funding Update

The issues relating to Tenbury Close and the Neighbourhood Park would be monitored through the Community Action Group.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

(d) Health Link to the LNP

The Chairman indicated that this would be presented to the next meeting of the Partnership to be held on 18 September 2006.

The Community Action Group to be held on 10 August 2006 would be used as a scoping meeting to consider the issues for discussion and the process for handling those over the next twelve months.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

(e) Partnership Plan

The neighbourhood policing process would need to be monitored through the Safer and Stronger Communities Community Action Group.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

Resolved

That the information outlined above be noted.

102/06 Terms of Reference

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnerships Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Mrs. Goalby advised the Partnership that the attached Terms of Reference had not yet been agreed by the Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership, but the amendments included in the attached report were minor and it was expected that these would be agreed at the WBSP meeting in September. The changes related to:-

- include a representative from Accord Housing with effect from September 2006
- that not all terms of office for Locally Appointed Partners cease at the end of each year, that one third of the Locally Appointed Partners would stand down in order to ensure continuity on the Partnership
- the other changes were minor and related to the way the Partnership worked in the past

Mr. Pandaal referred to the work undertaken in setting up Community Forums during the last eighteen months and questioned why there had been no mention of them in the Terms of Reference.

Mrs. Goalby confirmed that this would be taken on board and included under the geographic networks.

The Chairman referred to the importance of the Community Forums developing the community aspect. He was concerned that the Partnership could become stereotyped, although the remit of the Community Action Groups could be sufficient to include the work already undertaken in the Working Groups.

With regard to the appointment of Vice-Chairs, the Chairman indicated that they should be involved in all briefing sessions, agenda meetings and, if established, the Chairs Forum to ensure continuity.

ACTION

With regard to public forum issues, the Chairman suggested that, at approximately thirty minutes prior to the meeting, the Partners provide a stand where members of the public could obtain information from them about the services they offer. He also suggested "letter boxes" in public places where members of the public could forward any comments or suggestions as well as providing a web site and e-mail address for public access.

Mrs. Goalby confirmed that some of the issues raised relating to access to the LNP by members of the public were already being looked into. It was anticipated that the Chairs meetings should commence in September.

Resolved

- (1) That the revised Terms of Reference to be approved by the WBSP in September as attached as an appendix be noted;
- (2) That the Partnership adopt and sign up to the Terms of Reference.

103/06 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

104/06 **Petitions**

There were no petitions submitted.

105/06 **Urban Design Framework for the A454 and A461**

The report of the Principal Regeneration Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Ms. Shine gave a brief presentation to the Partnership:-

(see annexed)

ACTION

and drew attention to the Vision, the Urban Design Framework, the 3 themes as well as the character stretches, including the Black Country Gateway, Keyway and Black Country Route.

The presentation also gave details of various art scapes that could be introduced as well as lighting to enhance some of the existing features.

The Partnership was of the view that exits from the Keyway should be interesting and encourage people into Willenhall, this would assist with the regeneration of the Town Centre.

**Cherry Shine/
Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

Resolved

That the report and presentation be received and the issues raised be included in the Cabinet report for submission on 18 October 2006, and that regular updates be provided to the appropriate Community Action Group.

106/06 Community Action Groups

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnerships Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

It was indicated that the work of the Community Action Groups should be determined at the scoping meeting on 10 August and the appointment of the Chairs would be considered at the meeting of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership meeting to be held on 18 September 2006.

Members expressed concern at some of the dates of the meeting proposed and requested that further consideration be given to the proposed dates in consultation with the Chairman.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

Resolved

- (1) That the Partnership note the move from Task Groups to Community Action Groups;
- (2) That the Terms of Reference for the Community Action Groups as annexed be noted;

ACTION

- (3) That the dates for the Community Action Groups for the Municipal Year 2006/07 as included in the report be revised in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership;
- (4) That the Chairs for the Community Action Groups be appointed at the next meeting of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership to be held on 18 September 2006.

107/06 Local Neighbourhood Agreements

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the current developments around the Neighbourhood Agreement be noted;
- (2) That the finalised pledges be noted;
- (3) That progress on the pledges be monitored through the appropriate Community Action Group.

**Parpinder Singh
Randawa**

108/06 LNP Funding

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnerships Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Partnership was advised that the purchase of Christmas lights had been completed and Councillor Underhill gave feed-back. It was proposed to put eight Christmas trees on the top of a number of buildings so that they would be out of reach, the cost for those would be £1,410 and would include two festoon strings high above the balcony on each side of The Square, New Invention. Walsall Housing Group had been contacted for permission as part of The Square was in their ownership and a response was awaited. Walsall Housing Group had also been requested to cover the fixing costs.

ACTION

The major recurring costs related to the installation and dismantling of displays and the costs for Lane Head, New Invention and Willenhall was £2,700 per annum. The majority of lights in Willenhall Town Centre were paid for by the Council and it would be necessary for the costs to be found for any extra lights and switch-on events, but the Traders Association had usually covered the switch on event.

Lane Head and New Invention incurred costs of £900 each per annum, plus maintenance and electricity costs.

It was questioned whether the Local Authority could find the revenue costs for the future.

It was important to get traders involved and the Local Neighbourhood Partnership could hold a competition and award a small plaque to the best dressed window in each of the three centres. The Partnership was informed that Willenhall Traders Association was already involved in this.

High Road would have the same decorations as last year attached to the lampposts.

The Partnership was informed that a switch-on event would require a licence as they were regarded as entertainment, the cost for the licence would be £100 and the processing could take some time.

Gary Ashby, West Midlands Police, requested that they be advised of any switch-on event in order that a contingency plan for recourses could be set up as this was a crime prevention matter.

With regard to the Kick-Start Community Safety, the Chairman indicated that this would be scoped out on 10 August 2006.

Louise Worton of Greenspaces requested that the Local Neighbourhood Partnership consider contributing towards the cost of programmes for Summer bandstand concerts at Willenhall Memorial Park. The Partnership was informed that, in the past, the Council had paid for this but, following restructuring, the funding was no longer available. Councillor Coughlan urged the Local Neighbourhood Partnership to support this as the Friends of the Park had funded the fun day.

ACTION

After consideration it was:-

Resolved

- (1) That the Partnership note the progress on funding priorities 2005/06;
- (2) That the criteria for the allocation of funding in 2006/07 be noted;
- (3) That the request for funding in respect of the Willenhall Memorial Park Summer bandstand concert programme 2006 be referred to the Community Action Group meeting to be held on 10 August 2006, for consideration.

**Parpinder Singh
Randhawa**

109/06 Removal of Public Call Boxes

The report of the Head of Neighbourhood Partnerships and Programmes was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the report be noted.

110/06 Re-selection of Locally Appointed Partners

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnerships Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the changes in the selection process of Locally Appointed Partners be noted;
- (2) That the existing Locally Appointed Partners remain on the Partnership for a further 12 months;

**Parprinder Singh
Randhawa**

ACTION

- (3) That this matter be included as a standing item on the agenda for future meetings in order that the Partnership can discuss the matter further with regard to the mechanism for the appointment of Locally Appointed Partners for 2007/08;
- (4) That the findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment on the Membership of. Local Neighbourhood Partnerships be noted.

111/06 **Sponsorship of Traffic Islands**

Mr. S. Chapman, Performance Manager – Street Pride, gave a brief presentation to Members regarding the sponsorship of traffic islands within the Partnership area:-

(see annexed)

Members were concerned that the sponsorship signs on the island could cause a distraction to motorists.

Resolved

That the list of islands in the Partnership area be circulated to Members and that this matter be discussed further at the Community Action Group meeting to be held on 10 August 2006, and any suggestions on appropriate names be submitted to Mr. Chapman, Performance Manager – Street Pride.

**Glenys Ensor/
Parpinder Singh
Randhawa/
Steve Chapman**

112/06 **West Midlands LTP Settlement and Transport Capital Programme 2006/08**

The Partnership was informed that there was no one present to address the Partnership.

Resolved

That this item stand deferred.

Paul Smith

ACTION

113/06 Public Forum

There were no members of the public present to address the meeting in the Public Forum.

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 8.25 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: