

## **BLAKENALL AND BLOXWICH LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

**Monday, 5 February 2007 at 6.00 p.m.**

**at Sneyd Community School, Vernon Way, Bloxwich, Walsall**

### **Present**

Councillor Rob Robinson (Chairman)  
Trish Skitt (Vice-Chairman)  
Fred Westley  
Inspector Greg Bates  
Peter Brown  
Caroline Crolley  
Gail Gregory  
Councillor Louise Harrison  
Councillor Des Pitt  
Councillor Bill Tweddle  
Kenneth Worley  
Councillor Patricia Young

### **Implementation Team**

Julie Ball  
Debbie Parkes  
David Hancock

#### **158/07 Introductions**

Members of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership (LNP) introduced themselves to the meeting.

#### **159/07 Selection Panel**

A report was tabled:-

(see annexed)

The LNP received a report from the Senior Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer which detailed the outcome of the Blakenall and Bloxwich LNP Selection Panel held on 30 January 2007. The report informed the LNP that there were 4 vacancies for the position of LAP on the LNP and that 3 applications to this position were considered at that meeting.

At the Selection Panel meeting it was recommended that the LNP approve 2 out of the 3 applications to be appointed LAPs on the LNP.

### **Resolved**

That it be recommended that Dennis Latham and Nicole Bullingham be appointed as LAPs on the Blakenall and Bloxwich LNP; their term of office running until April 2008.

(This item was brought forward on the agenda so that the above-named newly appointed LAPs could join the LNP and consider the remainder of the business on the agenda).

### **160/07 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Leslie Beeley Councillor Kath Phillips, Councillor Melvin Pitt, Councillor Ian Robertson and Mr. Alan Venables.

### **161/07 Minutes**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2006, a copy having been previously circulated to each Member of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership be approved as a correct record.

### **162/06 Matters arising from the minutes**

Further to minute no. 153/06 (Master Plan for the Goscote Lane Corridor), Councillor Robinson reported that he intended to include an item on the agenda for the April meeting of the LNP with regard to the latest position on the regeneration at the Goscote Lane Corridor.

In relation to minute no. 157/06 (Public Forum), Councillor Des Pitt reported that he had taken up the issue regarding ASB on the Mossley Estate with relevant Officers and had also responded directly to the questioner (Mrs. Cavalier).

### **163/07 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**164/07 Petitions**

There were no petitions received.

**165/07 Bloxwich Cemetery**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The LNP received a report from the Bereavement Services Manager.

The report updated the LNP regarding the reduced vehicular access policy at Bloxwich Cemetery and, in particular, how the scheme had been operated during the festive period.

In relation to the raise arm barrier that the LNP had approved funding for, Steve Billings reported that the barrier should be installed within the current financial year.

Caroline Crolley expressed her disappointment that members of staff had experienced abuse from members of the public during the festive period.

Various Members of the LNP commended Steve Billings and his staff for the good work they had demonstrated since this sensitive issue first came to light in December 2004.

**Resolved**

That the report be noted and a further update report be brought back to a future meeting of the LNP upon the completion of the installation of the raise arm barrier.

**166/07 Bloxwich Library Community Space**

A presentation was delivered by the Library Services Manager:-

(see annexed)

Jen Beardsmore and Dina Teppin were in attendance to inform the LNP that a Big Lottery bid had been placed to help improve the Bloxwich Library building and the services it provided to the community. The presentation highlighted various proposals and it was reported that this issue would be considered at the next relevant CAG meeting as part of a wider consultation.

Several Members of the LNP conveyed their individual views to the Officers present for them to note as part of the consultation process.

## **Resolved**

That the LNP welcomes and wholeheartedly supports the Big Lottery bid which endeavours to bring about real investment into the community in the form of community cohesion and education which the LNP believes will have a positive effect on the surrounding community of Blakenall and Bloxwich and that this support be communicated to Heads of Department and the Big Lottery Fund.

### **167/07 Draft Mossley Plans**

The LNP noted the presentation which was delivered by the Interim Assistant Director for Adult Services:-

(see annexed)

Karen Riley and Andrew Flood were in attendance and delivered the presentation.

The presentation set out draft plans for the Mossley Estate which had been discussed and developed in conjunction with Housing 21 and Planning Officers, for the provision of an Adult Care Centre. Various floor plans and photographs were provided to illustrate how the site could look once the development had been completed.

Members of the LNP again expressed their disappointment that the LNP had not been listened to. Whilst the LNP was not against the proposal before them and felt that it would benefit the area, the LNP expressed its concern that there were no community facilities in the plans. Various Members of the LNP, for many meetings now, had expressed that there was a desperate requirement for a community facility on the Mossley Estate. The LNP felt that they had not been listened to and that they had not been consulted on the proposals before them. Members also felt that the draft plans had come to them at a very late stage where most of the detailed work had already been undertaken and decisions already made by Officers, whereas this consultation should have come to the LNP in the first instance for its views. Members again expressed their concern at the lack of consultation and re-iterated the need for a community facility to be provided on the Mossley Estate.

## **Resolved**

That Officers note and take on board issues and concerns in relation to the need for a community facility and an appropriate exit strategy for the Mossley Estate as raised by LNP Members at the meeting.

#### 168/07 **Foundation Trust**

The LNP received a presentation on the establishment of a Foundation Trust which was delivered by Sarah-Jane Marsh and Bernard Chalk from the PCT:-

(see annexed)

Members of the LNP and the public who were present were urged to fill in and return the questionnaires provided by PCT representatives on the proposals for the Foundation Trust.

#### **Resolved**

That the presentation be noted.

#### 169/07 **Funding Report**

The report of the Senior Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Julie Ball, Head of Neighbourhood Partnerships and Programmes, introduced the report and explained the salient points contained therein.

#### **Resolved**

That the progress on the projects identified within the report be noted.

#### 170/07 **CAG Report**

The report of the Senior Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Julie Ball, Head of Neighbourhood Partnerships and Programmes, introduced the report and highlighted the salient points contained therein.

Arising from discussions, Councillor Robinson requested that the presentation on ASB which had recently been delivered to the CAG meeting, be considered at the next meeting of the LNP in April.

Councillor Young referred to temporary Dispersal Orders that were solving the problems in the short-term in North Walsall. She had been asked to request, via the LNP, that a multi-agency meeting be arranged to discuss what long-term options were available when the temporary Dispersal Orders in North Walsall cease.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That LNP Members continue in attendance at the Community Action Group meetings;
- (2) That the LNP notes the progress of the Community Action Groups;
- (3) That the resolution put forward by the Safer and Stronger CAG, as detailed in the report be noted,
- (4) That a presentation on the Youth Service be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the LNP;
- (5) That the presentation from the Anti Social Behaviour Unit regarding statistics on ASB, as delivered to the Safer and Stronger CAG, be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the LNP;
- (6) That a multi agency meeting be arranged, via a CAG meeting, to discuss what long-term options are available when the temporary Dispersal Orders in North Walsall cease.

### **171/07 Public Forum**

No issues were raised.

### **172/07 Selection Panel**

Please refer to minute no. 159/07 on pages 1-2 of these minutes.

### **Termination of Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 7.50 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....