



Walsall Council

**Report to Blakenall &
Bloxwich LNP
23rd October 2006**

Masterplan for the Regeneration of the Goscote Lane Corridor: Progress Report

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out progress on the above project and to seek further guidance from the LNP on the composition of the Project Reference Group.

2.0 Recommendations

The LNP is recommended :

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to agree to two additional resident representatives from Goscote estate and the Rivers estate to join the project reference group.

3.0 Background

3.1 The LNP will recall that at the last meeting on 6th September 2006, it received a report setting out a proposal to commission a masterplan for the regeneration of the Goscote Lane Corridor and seeking the assistance of the LNP in establishing a project reference group to engage the local community and help steer the project.

3.2. It was resolved that the following be nominated to sit on the Project Reference Group to oversee the Goscote Lane Corridor Masterplan: -

The 3 Blakenall Ward Councillors (Robinson, Robertson & Young), one Bloxwich East Ward Councillor (K Phillips), Trish Skitt (Walsall Teaching Primary Care Trust), plus representatives from Goscote Resource Centre, Harden Residents Association, Harden Close Residents Association, Blakenall Community Association and Harden Alliance.

4.0 Project Reference Group

4.1 Since that decision of the LNP, the project reference group has met on two occasions, 12th and 28th September 2006.

4.2 At the initial meeting, Cllr Robinson was appointed as Chair of the group. Attendees were briefed on the project and the role of the group was explained, in terms of managing the masterplanning and community engagement process.

4.3 At its first full meeting on 28th September, discussion took place on whether some groups of residents within the area were adequately

represented within the project reference group. After discussion, the Chair agreed to request the LNP to extend the membership of the project reference group to include a resident representative from the Goscote estate and a representative from the Rivers estate.

4.4 The reference group received a presentation by the consultants, Entec UK setting out the baseline information on the area. The boundary of the study area was discussed and the view was expressed that the area to the east of the railway formation and Rough Brook, which is within the Pelsall Rushall LNP area, should be excluded. A revised boundary was agreed excluding this area, but it was agreed that this community should be involved if there were proposals developed as part of the masterplan which directly affected them.

4.5 Discussion also took place about the proposed timetable for the study, and it was agreed that there was a need for full and effective consultation within the communities affected which would not duplicate previous work in the area. It was also agreed that the former Harden Neighbourhood Office, Goldsmith Road, Goscote Resource Centre, and Blakenall Community Centre would be investigated for basing three consultation events to give maximum coverage for the communities.

4.6 Members of the reference group were asked to consider the baseline information assembled by the consultants for their individual areas. It is intended that the next meeting of the reference group will consider initial options for the masterplan and proposals for the consultation events to consider these options.

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