

# **ALDRIDGE SOUTH AND STREETLY LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

**Tuesday 14 June 2005 at 7.00 p.m.**

**at the Aldridge School, A Science College, Tynings Lane, Aldridge**

## **Present**

Councillor Brian Douglas-Maul  
Mr. Robert Gilham  
Mr. Tony Harrison  
Mrs Jenny Henney  
Councillor Eddie Hughes  
Councillor John O'Hare  
Mr. Dusan Popratnjak  
Mr. Peter Roberts  
Councillor John Rochelle

## **In attendance**

Mr. Andy Burns  
Mr. Frazer Powell  
Ms. Parveen Sangha

43/05. **Appointment of LNP Chairman for the municipal year 2005/06**

## **Resolved**

That Councillor John O'Hare be appointed as the Chairman of Aldridge South and Streetly LNP for the municipal year 2005/06.

## **Councillor John O'Hare in the Chair**

44/05. **Introductions**

Each member of the Partnership and the officers present introduced themselves and explained in brief the organisation they represented.

45/05. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor Tom Ansell, Councillor Garry Clarke, Mr. Phil Griffin, Mr. Michael Harrison, Mrs Pauline Heydon, Mr. Ron Perks and Mrs Jan Taylor.

46/05. **Minutes**

Referring to the minutes of the meeting of the LNP held on 9 March 2005, Councillor John O'Hare referred to minute no. 38/05 in respect of the membership of the Health and Young Peoples Task Group and advised the Partnership that he would be unable to attend Task Group meetings due to his other Council commitments and asked whether any other member would be available to be on the Task Group. No member indicated that they would be available.

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership held on 9 March 2005, a copy having previously being circulated to each member of the Partnership be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

47/05. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

48/05. **Petitions**

There were no petitions submitted for consideration at this meeting.

49/05. **Public forum**

At this point in the meeting the Chairman advised that the public forum item had been placed at the end of the agenda and that given the number of members of the public present at the meeting he proposed that this item be considered as the next item of business on the agenda.

**Resolved**

That public forum be considered as the next item of business on the agenda.

50/05. **Public Forum - Anti-social behaviour - Hundred Acre Play Group site**

A resident of Bankside Crescent, Streetly expressed concern regarding the anti-social activity of teenagers using the Hundred acre play group site. The resident advised the Partnership that the site was constantly being vandalised and teenagers were consuming alcohol and drugs at the venue. The lady confirmed that the local Police had been informed of a number of anti-social incidents at the site.

A number of residents who lived adjacent to the Hundred acre play group area said that a metal fence was required to improve security at the site and that the constant vandalism and anti social behaviour of youths was making the life of residents a misery.

Mr. Nash of Valley Road, Streetly expressed his concern that the site in Blackwood Road, Streetly was receiving funding for refurbishment but the Hundred acre Play Group site was not being refurbished.

The meeting was advised that it was planned to improve the existing play area at the Goodwood Drive open space site and that the work would begin sometime in December, 2005.

Councillor Hughes advised the meeting that he was the Council's Cabinet Portfolio holder for childrens services and that he would be pleased to visit the Hundred acre Play Group site on the morning of Wednesday 15 June 2005 to meet residents and discuss their concerns. Councillor Hughes said that any solution at the site would require a number of agencies to contribute to it.

Councillor Brian Douglas-Maul said that he supported the comments of Councillor Hughes and that all Ward members would work to remedy the problems at the site.

Residents requested that in an addition to Councillor Hughes' morning visit, that Ward members visit the site in the early evening to witness the anti-social behaviour taking place.

**Resolved**

- (1) That Councillor Eddie Hughes meet with employees from the play group and local residents at the Hundred acre play group site on the morning of Wednesday 15 June 2005, to view its condition;
- (2) That Councillors for the Streetly Ward meet with local residents at the Hundred acre play group site in the early evening on a mutually convenient date to view the condition of the site and discuss possible solutions to reduce the anti social behaviour and vandalism in the area.

51/05. **Bridle Path, Lindrose Road, Streetly**

Mr. Ron Ursell of 56 Lindrosa Road, Streetly advised the Partnership of his support of the efforts of Mr. Peter Roberts to prevent the misuse by youths on bikes of the bridle path in the Lindrosa Road area.

52/05. **Redhouse estate EQUALS project**

The Partnership received a presentation from Mrs Kathy Nelson, the Vice-Chairman of the Redhouse Tenants and Residents Association on work undertaken relating to the Redhouse Estate EQUALS project.

The Chairman on behalf of the LNP thanked Kathy Nelson for the presentation and expressed his support for the work undertaken to obtain the £250,000 which had lead to the work on the estate and the improvements which had been made over the last year.

A resident of 146 Bonner Grove, Aldridge expressed her support for the work undertaken by both the Redhouse Tenants and Residents Association and the Council relating to the Redhouse Estate EQUALS project.

**Resolved**

That the content of the presentation be noted and that the success of the EQUALS project had come through the work of the LNP.

53/05. **Partnership plan feedback from task group meetings**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

- (1) That the LNP endorse the changes and additions to the Partnership plan and it be agreed that in future additions and changes to the plan will be highlighted in order make them more easily identifiable to members;
- (2) That the LNP members continue to attend future workshop meetings;
- (3) That LNP members continue to encourage wider participation by the public at Task Group meetings.

54/05. **Funding priorities for action**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The LNP was advised of the feedback from the funding workshop meeting held on 2 June 2005, and how the project ideas could be progressed.

A detailed discussion took place regarding the four projects identified for support at the funding workshop meeting. The LNP was advised that on the basis of the information contained in the report that elected members only could vote on the findings of the funding workshop held on 2 June 2005.

**Resolved**

That project number 1 (additional funding for summer play schemes go ahead and projects 2, 3 and 4 as detailed in the report now submitted go ahead in principle and that the LNP receive a feedback report to its September 2005, meeting so that projects 2, 3 and 4 can be actioned.

55/05. **Childrens centres and extended schools**

The LNP received a presentation from Mr. Tim German of Education Walsall on proposals relating to childrens centres and extended schools.

The Partnership was advised that the childrens centre concept was based on the following principles:-

- Childrens centres will serve children and families;
- They will provide integrated care and education for young children, health services, family support and a base for childminders;
- The integrated approach by childrens centres will provide holistic support for childrens development, support to families with young children and will facilitate the return to work of those parents who are currently unemployed.

The Partnership then received the second part of the presentation relating to extended schools and were advised of the following core issues:-

- Childrens' attainment cannot solely rest on work in school or in the classroom;
- Health, diet and emotional well being are crucial factors;
- A positive environment to learning is needed in the family and wider community;
- Access to support and facilities – ICT, culture and sport;

- Opportunities for services with an interest in childrens' well being to work together.

The Chairman, on behalf of the LNP, thanked Mr. Tim German of Education Walsall for the presentation.

### **Resolved**

That the content of the presentation on childrens centres and extended schools be noted.

56/05.

### **Community safety update bulletin: Crime figures and rates 2002-2005**

A report, together with a supplementary report, were submitted:-

(see annexed)

Inspector Gwyn Bevan, of Walsall Borough Partnership Team, presented the community safety update bulletin statistics in respect of crime figures and rates 2002/05. The Partnership was advised that the issues raised by members of the public regarding the anti-social behaviour and vandalism at the Hundred acre play group site would be investigated by the local Police.

Inspector Bevan said that crime in the Aldridge South and Streetly area was lower than in other parts of the Borough on average and was also below the national average crime figures.

Councillor Douglas-Maul commented that recently Police officers had been available to provide advice to members of the public on a Saturday morning at Councillors surgeries and this had been a useful facility and asked that it continue. Inspector Bevan gave an undertaking that he would contact Councillor Douglas-Maul and would provide further information on this facility.

Mr. Tony Harrison said that he would like to receive a further breakdown of the crime statistics by school age and also in relation to school closure time. Inspector Bevan said that if Mr. Harrison gave him the detail of his request, he would see if it was possible to provide the relevant information.

### **Resolved**

That the content of the paper on the crime figures and rates 2002/05 together with the supplementary papers on this matter and the community safety update presentation be noted.

57/05. **Statement of community involvement**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Mr. John Lord, Sustainable communities officer, Environmental Regeneration advised the Partnership that the purpose of his report and presentation was to provide information to the LNP on the Council's statement of community involvement and its role in involving communities and key partners in town planning decisions.

Members were advised that each planning authority had a statutory duty to produce a statement of community involvement detailing how and when it would involve the local community in both plan making and planning application decisions.

Mr. Lord confirmed that a draft statement of community involvement was currently being produced and that it would be subject to a statutory consultation period of 6 weeks between mid June and the end of July 2005, and that the Council would be seeking the views of the community and key partners on the draft statement.

**Resolved**

That the LNP note the contents of the presentation and report which introduced the statement of community involvement.

58/05. **Involving young people**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

- (1) That the LNP note the work carried out to date in respect of involving young people in the work of the Partnership;
- (2) That Councillor Eddie Hughes be nominated by the Partnership to undertake the role of "young peoples representative";
- (3) That the LNP agree that young people be invited to observe the partnership meetings in September and December 2005.
- (4) That the LNP recognise that the mechanisms for involving young people in the work of the Partnership is an ongoing process and wishes it to be recorded that young people should be involved in its meetings and work to the maximum extent possible.

59/05. **Extension of meeting duration beyond 3 hours**

**Resolved**

That in accordance with Paragraph 9 of Part 4 (Rules of Procedure) as set out in the Council's Constitution, the LNP agreed to continue this meeting beyond 3 hours.

60/05. **Gateways project**

The LNP received a presentation from Mr. Bruno Edwards of the Community Arts Section of Leisure Services.

The LNP was advised that the Gateway Project was part of Walsall's Strategic Corridors and Gateways Regeneration Initiative, the aims of which are to:-

- Improve the visual quality of the main gateway entry points to the Borough;
- Development of distinctive "brand" for Walsall which promotes the Borough's major assets;
- Creation of quality environments in key locations that support existing business and residential communities and attract people into the Borough of Walsall;
- Development of local district themes, which help to strengthen local identity and have strong local support.

The Partnership and members of the public present at the meeting were advised that the themes for gateways would be developed with local communities on which they impact and would be reflective of Walsall's strengths and would echo communities aspirations for the Borough's future.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the content of the presentation on the Gateways project be noted;
- (2) That consideration of the Gateways project be delegated to the Transport and Access to Services Task Group.

61/05. **Dates, times and venues for future LNP meetings**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)



**Resolved**

- (1) That the meetings of the Aldridge South and Streetly Local Neighbourhood Partnership alternate between the two venues as stated below:-

Tuesday 6 September 2005 - The Streetly Association,  
Foley Road East,  
Streetly

Tuesday 6 December 2005 - Aldridge School,  
A Science College,  
Tynings Lane, Aldridge

Thursday 2 March 2006 - The Streetly Association,  
Foley Road East, Streetly

- (2) That the start time for meetings of the Aldridge South and Streetly LNP for the remainder of the municipal year 2005/2006 be 7.00 p.m.

62/05. **Termination of meeting**

The meeting terminated at 10.20 pm.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....