

PHEASEY AND PADDOCK LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

**Tuesday, 17th January, 2006 at 6.15 p.m.
(meeting scheduled to commence at 6.00 pm, delayed to ensure a quorum)**

at Pheasey Park Farm Community Association, Hillingford Avenue

Present

Councillor Chris Towe (Chairman)
Mr. Fred Bell
Councillor Mike Bird
Sergeant Martin Brown
Mr. Frank Foster
Ms. Sharon Froggatt
Councillor Rose Martin
Mr. John Punch
Councillor Zahid Ali

86/06 Introductions

Members of the Partnership and officers introduced themselves.

87/06 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Adrian Andrew, Mr. Gary Brookes, Mr. Pete Griffin, Mr. Stuart Holtam, Mrs. Barbara Manison, Councillor Barry Sanders, Ms. Yvette Sheward and Ms. Jeet Sohal.

88/06 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October, 2005, a copy having previously been circulated to each Member of the Partnership, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

89/06 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

90/06

Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

91/06

Public Forum

Community Empowerment Network

Mr. Alan Crundon, a local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, addressed the Partnership. He questioned the link between the Community Empowerment Network and the Local Neighbourhood Partnership in that no CEN representative attends or reports to LNP meetings. The Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer, Julie Ball, commented that the Neighbourhood Partnerships Team had shared the same concerns and said this would be addressed through the Borough Strategic Partnership.

Resolved

That the concerns raised be forwarded to the Community Empowerment Network.

92/06

Presentations

Gateway features

Bruno Edwards gave a presentation showing the proposed gateway boundary features. These included photographic representations of the area which the Partnership commented upon. A number of suggestions were made in respect of the representations which Mr. Edwards took on board.

During the discussion, Mr. Edwards responded to questions from Members in respect of the intention not to illuminate the features at night due to prohibitive costs. Members suggested that officers look into the possibility of illuminating the features by way of solar panels. The Council's External Funding Manager, Andrew Rainsford, commented that there may be some external funding available for this which he would investigate.

The Partnership thanked Mr. Edwards for the presentation, following which, it was:-

Resolved

That the features presented be approved in principle, subject to the amendments discussed, and that officers pursue the possible illumination of the gateway features at night by way of solar panels.

At this point in the meeting, the time being 7.00 p.m., Councillor Bird left the meeting. This resulted in the meeting becoming inquorate. The Chairman used his discretion in accordance with Article 10 of the Council's Constitution and said that the Partnership would continue to discuss the remainder of the items on the agenda on an informal basis.

Local Area Agreements

Ross Bell, the Assistant Director for the Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership, gave a presentation explaining the role that Local Area Agreements would play in attracting funding for local areas. He also explained the implications and future proposals for the Local Neighbourhood Partnership. A short discussion then took place on the proposals, during which time, it was noted that Local Area Agreements would become effective from 1st April but that the LNPs will remain Council Committees until dis-established by the Council. A report was due to be considered by the Council to this effect at its March meeting.

93/06

Partnership plan and feedback from Task Groups

A report was submitted informing the LNP of the progress of the various Task Groups:-

(see annexed)

It was noted that the results of the workshop which undertook the Partnership Plan review was not yet available but would be circulated to Members of the LNP in due course.

Councillor Towe then welcomed Kirsty Mohan and Daniel Hodgkiss, of Youth Opinions Unite, who gave a short presentation to Partnership Members showing the results of an information gathering exercise from youth organisations within the area and identifying the priorities which young people had highlighted.

It was apparent from the exercise that the majority of young people would like more facilities for physical activities and sport such as rugby, swimming, cricket, a young person's gym and facilities for quad biking. Although young people recognised that these facilities were available within the Borough, they would want to see its provision within the locality free of charge.

A short discussion took place on the suggestions, following which, Councillor Towe mentioned that the Partnership would be holding a Task Group on 20th March and invited the representatives of Youth Opinions Unite and Ross Bell to attend so that the suggestions could be discussed in more detail.

Councillor Towe thanked Kirsty for her presentation.

Funding priorities for action

A report informing the LNP of the progress of projects the LNP have agreed to fund to date was submitted:-

(see annexed)

A short discussion took place on the report, during which time, Councillor Rose Martin referred to the Doe Bank Skate Park and to the statement that the Friends Group was currently dormant. She confirmed that as Chairman of the Parks Group, the Friends Group had continued to meet.

With regard to other potential projects, the Members of the Partnership supported the location of a universal bin located at Gillity Shopping Centre at a cost of in the region of £250, this to be confirmed at the next meeting.

Termination of Meeting

The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.

Chairman

Date