

Willenhall Local Neighbourhood Partnership
18th April 2005

Partnership plan & Task Groups

1. Brief Summary of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform the LNP of the additions made to the draft Partnership Plan

2. Task Groups

The LNP have undertaken 2 task groups workshops, the first was held on 9th February. The workshop looked at the partnership plan and populated the table of priorities. Previous actions that were identified have been prioritised into long, medium and short term goals. The partnership plan has been updated accordingly to represent the discussions that took place at the workshops.

A further workshop was undertaken on the 4th April. The main issues discussed during this meeting was litter problems. Working with Streetpride was emphasised as they can assist in meeting the priorities around litter and grotspots.

Support officers have volunteered to support one theme each.

A further workshop will be arranged in due course.

The task groups are open to all members of the public and representatives from other organisations working within the LNP area.

3. Recommendations

- For LNP members to continue in attendance at the workshop meetings
- For individual LNP members to encourage wider participation from community members within the task groups
- That the revised priorities be endorsed for inclusion in the plan

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SECTION THREE: AREAS FOR ACTION

The LNP is intent on developing a vision for the area which rests on creating a better and exciting future for Willenhall by generating confidence in the town. It believes the LNP will be judged on the tangible benefits it delivers to the area and it needs to engage all members of the community in the debate to ensure the LNP makes a real difference to the lives of local people. The LNP has chosen 3 priorities on which to focus but will ensure both young people and access to services are adopted as overarching priorities.

Theme: **Ensure a clean and green borough**

Objective: **To improve the quality of life for local people**

There are a number of positive aspects to the area which need to be acknowledged and built upon. These have been identified as being: plans to refurbish or improve areas (particularly the schemes to be funded via Transforming your Space (noted below), work undertaken at Rough Wood and the canal to create paths and trails all of which have, or will, enhance the local environment. Additionally Willenhall town itself has the potential to be an attractive centre with historic buildings and attractions, whilst the Square at New Invention has been refurbished. The proposed metro link from Willenhall to parts of the borough will bring more opportunities for travel around the area. Action has also been taken to deal with anti social behaviour from young people which has included general tidy ups and removal of graffiti.

The issues which have been identified as in need of action are as follows

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Establish a plan to revitalise the local area. Make it an ever more attractive place to live and work		Cllr A.Underhill	Area more attractive	Gold Standard Cleansing Programme to be implemented to clean grot spots. 09/03/05 7-9 Planters to be placed in the town centre	
Celebrate the heritage of the area and ensure public places are free from litter					

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Problems with rubbish/litter	End Of Feb	Cllr Shires	'Litter grotspots identified'	Grot spots have been identified and plotted onto a map.	
The Canal Needs drudging to improve navigation, should be an attraction rather than a problem.					
Insufficient disabled parking is also a concern.					
Field Road Car parking areas in need of repair.					

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Fibbersley Generally poor condition of roads i.e. pot holes etc					
Nose Lane Location of new school in inappropriate place – dangerous.					
Castle Drive Shops Private sector refurbishment has stalled.				Cllr Shires informed work has now started again as a new developer has taken over	
Off street parking across the LNP area					
Pool Hayes Community School – needs new building					

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Spring Bank Relocate industries from inappropriate central areas.					
Coppice Farm Green	End of March	Rupy Pandaal	Cross border group set up i.e. ASBO team, Wolverhampton council, Environmental regen team	Rupy needs assistance in setting this up as it is major action and requires more than one person to action.	
St. Giles Refurbishment					

Sub Action Plan relating to Transforming your Space projects

A report was presented to the LNP, by officers of the Council, at its meeting of 18th October 2004. The following “Transforming your Space” schemes were recommended to be noted in the Local Plan for the LNP area. TYS schemes will play a part in improving the local environment as indicated below

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
<p>The existing play area at Harlech Road will be improved through the installation of new play equipment and safety surfacing. In addition to this, new multi-use goal ends will be installed on a resurfaced tarmac area on the location of the existing 'hard' court, adjacent to the existing play area.</p>	<p>The schemes outlined above are anticipated to be on site in June 2005 and complete in approximately September 2005.</p>				
<p>Hartill Street Open Space</p> <p>New play equipment, fencing and safety surfacing will be installed on the site to replace the old facilities.</p>	<p>The schemes outlined above are anticipated to be on site in June 2005 and complete in approximately September 2005.</p>				

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
<p>Manor Farm Open Space</p> <p>The scheme will install new 1.2m rebound fencing and a gate around the existing football facility. Multi-use goal units were installed on the open space as part of the first phase of improvements for Manor Farm.</p>	<p>The schemes outlined above are anticipated to be on site in June 2005 and complete in approximately September 2005.</p>				
<p>Willenhall Memorial Park, Play and Youth Proposals</p> <p>Some of the worn items of equipment within the existing play facility will be replaced and safety surfacing will be included. In addition to this, several youth focused items, including a youth shelter, will also be installed.</p>	<p>The schemes outlined above are anticipated to be on site in June 2005 and complete in approximately September 2005.</p>				

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
<p><u>Gomer Street</u></p> <p>South Willenhall representatives on the strand 1 TYS steering group have identified the vacant land adjacent to the CHART building to benefit from TYS funding. However, as the site is currently in private ownership the implementation of the identified scheme is subject to the Council gaining ownership of the site and its use as a leisure facility being agreed. If so, the proposed scheme will provide a new sports facility and small play area. However, if the preferred site is not available, the TYS strand 1 group have identified the Willenhall Memorial Park as the beneficiary of the TYS funding.</p>	<p>Work will begin on site in July 2005 and be complete in October 2005</p>				

Theme: **Strengthen the local economy**

Objective: To support local companies and industries to create greater employment opportunities for local people

It is recognised that the structure of the local economy has changed markedly in recent times; skills have become outdated whilst industries have closed down or moved out of the area.

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Create training programmes which provide access to new skills and future job opportunities					
Support the Business Infrastructure by creating business parks or sustainable business centres in appropriate locations					
Protect the environment by creating green shields around industrial bases					
Support childcare initiatives which enable people to return to work					

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Community enterprises					
Su8tainable business centres					
Mapping of local economy					

Theme: Lifelong learning

Objective: To create wider opportunities for the local adult population

The changing nature of the local economy has meant there is an urgent need to offer retraining opportunities to local people, particularly those who feel they have little to offer the labour market. It is felt raising aspirations amongst local people is vital.

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Develop localised learning hubs to attract learners					
Ensure training programmes accredit existing skills and link to future employment opportunities					
Support people who have retired to reuse or recycle their skills for the benefit of others.					
Formation of early years learning centres					
Centres of excellence					

Action	Target & Timescale	Champion	Outcome	Progress so far	Themed Strategic Link
Mapping of lifelong learning facilities					

Crime related priorities:

- Anti social behaviour issues in: Coppice farm, Rough Wood, Wood Lane Estate, Calves Croft, Brakendale, Forest Gate Open Space, Pimbury/Trinity Road, Walkway through to Coltham Road.
- Willenhall Police Station – not open 24 hours, police in general – public perception
- Wood lane Estate – Drug problems
- CCTV – Concern that this is not properly monitored in the town centre
- Town Centre – lack of wardens

Other priorities identified:

- Wolverhampton Road – concern over the 24 hours shop
- Lane Head – Threat of transport being withdrawn easy access busses taken off on Sundays. Needs to be developed as a major focal point as a resource centre, health etc
- GP's – Shortage of GP's
- Improve Public transport links – Bus station improvements required, need for a train station
- Hawthorn Road Open Space – lack of facilities

Key:



10th Feb Workshop (Pool Hayes School)



4th April Workshop (Council House)