

St Matthews Birchills Leamore Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 31st July 2006

LNP Funding

Portfolio: Safer Stronger Communities, Partnerships and Vision 2021

Service Area: Neighbourhood Services

Wards: St Matthews Ward
Birchills Leamore Ward

1. Purpose of the Report

This report seeks to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of the funding criteria for the 2006-2007 LNP funding and to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of progress to date with regards to the funding priorities 2005-2006.

2. Recommendations

The LNP is asked to:

- (a) Note the progress on funding priorities 2005-2006
- (b) Note current spend.
- (c) Note the criteria for the allocated funding 2006-2007

3. Progress funding priorities 2005-2006

Project Description	Allocated	Spent	Project Status
Social Cohesion Project	£2,000	-	See below
Rat on a Rat Campaign	£1,500	-	See below
Alleyways/ Gating	£8,000	-	See below

Total Funding spent to date **£ 2,000**
Total allocated but not yet spent **£ 9,500 (earmarked)**
Total Remaining **£10,500**

Below is a progress report for each project identified to date during 2005/06

Funding Priority Identified through Workshop	Service Area	Feedback from Service Area	What Happens Next?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Cohesion Programme – Currently with Croft and Beechdale schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Croft Community Primary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNP allocated £2,000 towards this project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will now continue with Saint Patrick's Catholic primary school as Beechdale School is closing. Project lead will now be Mr Rod Dickson • See Appendix 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rat on a Rat' campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWBP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for a pilot in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further update will be given at the LNP meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caldmore Green Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Arts Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project will need further development and most probably further funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Agenda item 9 for an update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alleyways / Gating - Mary Street - Lewis Street - Croft Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Walsall Borough Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Street, Croft Street and Lewis Street, Stafford Street and Green Lane have been put forward for improvements under 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update will be given at LNP meeting

Funding Priority Identified through Workshop	Service Area	Feedback from Service Area	What Happens Next?
		the Improving Security in Neighbourhoods Programme this financial year.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birchills Playing Field 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Agenda Item 14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Agenda Item 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beechdale Bayou Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding required to undertake feasibility study. Funding required £6,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project has been deferred as other match funding is being sourced (£200K) and a community organisation who will take on this site for a minimum of 21 years (conditions set by Football foundation)

4. Criteria LNP funding 2006-2007

The St Matthews Birchills Leamore LNP has been allocated a further £10,000.

The focus of the 2006-2007 allocation of funding will have to be on developing safer and stronger communities, in particular:

- One of the council pledges for 2006-2007 is the delivery of 3 environmental projects in each LNP area. Therefore an emphasis should be placed on delivering the 3 environmental projects in the St Matthews Birchills Leamore LNP area. The LNP should aim to fund initiatives that will have the greatest environmental impact across their area.
- There needs to be a focus on hotspots/areas of greatest need, as identified by community intelligence and local stats. Therefore funding should not be split by ward but by areas of greatest need.
- The activities/actions need to have a direct impact on Local Area Agreement indicators.
- The funding will need to link in to the Pledges developed by the Local Neighbourhood Partnership.

To support the LNP in distributing their funding within the criteria a menu/basket of measures will be developed through Safer Walsall Borough Partnership, Environmental Regeneration and Street Pride which the LNP would be able to “purchase” from their £10,000 allocation to assist in developing safer and stronger communities. The menu drawn up by these services will bear in mind the Local Neighbourhood Partnership pledges as well as the Local Area Agreement Indicators.

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Appendix 1



Social Cohesion Project 2006

The original cohesion project planned for a residential visit with Beechdale Primary School to an outdoor pursuits centre. The project was timetabled for the summer term 2006 but due to the uncertainty over the future of Beechdale Primary School nothing was ever formalised regarding a set date.

If a suitable venue and date can be found before the end of the summer term then Croft Community and Beechdale will still be accompanying each other on an activity visit. The same project was funded the previous year by the EMAG team at Walsall LEA and proved very successful in terms of our children forming new relationships, breaking down cultural barriers and making positive contributions. It was with much excitement that we learned of our successful bid from Walsall LNP to sustain the project.

However, it may be difficult to secure a venue and suitable date for both schools so Croft primary has investigated other potential avenues. If the visit must happen in the autumn term i.e. early September then collaboration will occur with Saint Patrick's Catholic primary school, a school very similar to Beechdale primary in terms of heritage and much more local. It is also hoped that the funding can be extended to incorporate Birchills primary school in what would be an extremely useful alliance between neighbouring areas that have encountered lots of social problems.

The days itself is about children being put in new situations away from the comfort zone of their locality. They will see each other in a completely different context when they are encouraged to work as a team to achieve success. They will learn to rely on each other and trust one another to be an effective member of the group. The day commences with a wide range of initiative exercises that rely on team work. Teams must work together to earn points which are exchanged for raft components in the afternoon. Each team will have their own trained instructor to assist and encourage them throughout the day. The more points the team has then the more parts they can have to build their raft with. Each team is then involved in a raft race, again relying on each other to power and steer their craft effectively without falling in!

The last day was a fantastic success with children making new friends and happily arranging to meet up at secondary school in the coming September. Barriers were truly broken down. It is hoped that this will be repeated and sustained over years to come.

Mr Rod Dickson