

AGENDA ITEM 11

Pelsall & Rushall LNP – 4th April 2005 **Training and Development for LNP and Task group members**

1. Brief Summary of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform the LNP of the progress in the Training and Development Plan.

2. Work to date

- Currently identifying training courses
- Place Check briefing session has been held on 25th February 2005
- Analysing information on nomination forms to identify key skills and knowledge of LNP members and areas for further development.
- Identified funding as an area for development
 - Circulated information in regards to a funding seminar and will continue to do so in the future.
 - Developing links with external funding unit

3. Recommendations

- To note the actions for implementation in the Place Check report
- For the task groups to move forward the proposals recommended in the Place Check report

CONTACT OFFICER

Parveen Sangha

Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer

Tel: 01922 654701

sanghap@walsall.gov.uk

Pelsall & Rushall LNP Placecheck workshop 25/2/2005

Note: The views of 2 distinct discussion groups have been drawn together to form the basis of the steps indicated below

It is important to state a key issue was felt to be that of marketing the LNP and raising its profile with local people. It was also stated that residents would welcome being consulted on local issues.

Issues to be considered via using the Placecheck approach

- Rushall Playing Fields/Park, Rowley Place
- High Heath Park (note resources may be available via Transforming Your Space)
- A461 Corridor through the ward it will improve the image of the area
- Rushall Centre – including around the library

Note: Thought that the view in Pelsall would be to gather the views of local people prior to focussing on any specific issues.

Who should be involved in Placecheck (whose comments/views must we obtain)

The views of specific interest groups:

older people (particularly those in the sheltered accommodation),
young people football teams which use the park
scouts Manor Farm Youth Club.
the Annual Fun day organiser (council officer?)
Business Community via Chamber of Commerce

Note: existing information which could be used as part of the “base information” of Placecheck includes questionnaires issued to residents by local councillors

What might be a framework for Placecheck look like?

1. Gain the views of specific interest groups by going “to them” and asking for views on issues via using Placecheck questions.
2. LNP to host 2 public meetings one in each part of the LNP area – suggested venues included Manor Farm C.A and Pelsall Activity Centre.

Suggested agenda for the evening:

What is the LNP? (stress we are here to listen to you)

What is going on in the area? (What are groups doing currently? – how can we assist in your activities)

What are the issues and concerns of local people? (LNP to commit to investigating what has been said)

Identified issues from the LNP – (perhaps 10/15 issues which have been raised/detailed in the LNP Draft Plan for discussion – e.g. suggested in Rushall that lack of play areas for children is a concern plus parks etc above)

3. Groups identified as part of the mapping exercise above should be invited to attend, by letter from the LNP. Additional specific interest groups should be contacted via agencies in the area to ensure their views are sought or they attend the meeting.
4. The public meetings should be publicised, as widely as possible, in the LNP area. Suggestions included leaflet drops, (schools and houses) advertising in local evening papers, local radio, posters in local shops etc.
5. Following the 2 public meetings in each “local” centre – one joint meeting should be held to provide feedback on agreed issues and the way forward for the area. At this stage Placecheck could be used as a way to concentrate on more specific localities/issues

How can we develop a Placecheck approach?

1. Map the local groups in the area which may have activities to support the LNP. Invite them to the public meeting, by personal invite from the LNP to share information/aspirations.

Local useful agencies could provide connections to specific interest groups such as young people, mothers and elderly people. Suggestions included Manor Farm C.A., Surestart and local day centres.

2. Circulate businesses in the area and invite them to a meeting.

3. People who can help:

Young people: give them cameras; get them to do a survey of the Parks via Citizenship Award, involve schools in surveys and questionnaires.

What are the resource implications of using Placecheck?

Costs associated with:

Cameras for young people, developing photographs, displaying them on exhibition boards

Hire of suitable venues

Leaflets to local businesses

Advertising events in local media – press/radio etc.

Costs of the events themselves – refreshments/stationery (e.g. postcards etc.)

Action needed to begin using the Placecheck approach

1. Decide on venues/potential dates for public events (possible May/June); hire venues as appropriate
2. Identify the local groups in the area.
3. Contact groups by letter, invite them to attend, or if they are unable to, ask for comments to be returned on issues to be addressed etc.
4. Organise photographic survey by young people of local parks
5. Devise Placecheck questionnaire for use with specific groups, visit them to gain views
6. Decide on format for the public events