

**CHARLESTOWN AND LOWER KERSAL  
NEW DEAL FOR COMMUNITIES**

**Minutes of**

**NDC PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**Held at**

**St Sebastian's Community Centre 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

Ann-Marie Pickup (Chair)	Community Representative
Steve Bailey	GMP
Keith Barnes	University of Salford
Linda Carr	Community Representative
Kevin Coakley	Community Representative
Councillor Peter Connor	Local Councillor
Lee Craven	Voluntary Sector
Harry Davies	Community Representative
James Eagle	Merlyn Electronics
Stella Elliot	Community Representative
Janice Lowndes	PCT
Councillor Matt Mold	Local Councillor
Brenda Moore	Community Representative
Ann Olnier	Community Representative
Les Smith	Community Representative

**SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

Alison Burnett	NDC
Bernadette Elder	NDC
Brian Enright	NDC
Tim Field	NDC
Anne Lythgoe	NDC
Rob Pickering	Salford City Council
Eddie Sawford	Salix Homes
Dave Bird	NDC (minutes)

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Anne Godding, Dot Jones, Ian Marshall, Councillor John Merry and Paul Walker.

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

The following Board Members made Declarations of interest under Item 4 Councillor Peter Connor (Lower Kersal Centre), Harry Davies (St Sebastian's), Ann-Marie Pickup (GEARS+), Linda Carr (Lower Kersal Centre), Kevin Coakley (St Sebastian's), James Eagle (GEARS+), Les Smith (Oliver's Youth Club) and Brenda Moore (Lower Kersal Centre).

Stella Elliot (Charlestown Riverside) and Les Smith (Charlestown Riverside) both declared an interest in Item 6.

It was agreed that Item 3 (where applicable), Item 4 (Appendix 1 Finance sub-committee minutes) and Item 6 on the agenda were to be marked Part 2 – (not for publication or discussion outside the meeting). Notes from these items are contained within Part 2 of these minutes.

## **3. Minutes of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

### Winster Avenue

Brian Enright reported that although the target cost for the refurbishment of the properties on Winster Avenue is still to be confirmed, it is anticipated work will commence on site in February. Eddie Sawford reported that the work to the properties will be split between Jackson Lloyd and B 4 Box, a social enterprise which provides construction skill training and employment skills support. Eddie agreed to provide further details about B 4 Box to a future Board meeting and Councillor Connor suggested they could be invited to give a presentation to the Partnership Board.

### Poets Development

Councillor Connor reported that he had made enquiries into the Council Choice Based Lettings Policy in relation to the Duchy House Scheme and Rob Pickering agreed to investigate the issue further and report back to the Board.

### Development Framework Review

Brian Enright reported that representations had been made on behalf of the Partnership Board to planners about the Council's Draft Core Strategy particularly in relation to the amount of proposed new build houses for the NDC area. He went on to explain that the consultation was not yet complete and the Partnership's views would be considered alongside other responses.

### A.O.B

Lee Craven expressed disappointment that no NDC staff attended the Board Christmas lunch. Tim Field apologised for the confusion as it was assumed the Christmas lunch had been for Board Members only.

Brian Enright reported that Urban Vision had been made aware of the Board's concerns in relation to the change of use at Cromwell Court to accommodate undergraduates. He went on to report that this issue will be taken to January's Community Committee. Steve Bailey confirmed that the concerns of Greater Manchester Police have also been recorded.

Brian Enright reported that planning application for a waste transport site on land adjacent to the former Hercules site had been withdrawn. He agreed to find out why this had happened and went on to report that Councillors in Pendlebury had been informed of the application.

#### **4. Programme Update**

Anne Lythgoe presented a report which stated that Government had confirmed a revised funding allocation in 2009 -10 by reducing it by £1.2 million. She went on to explain that the allocation for 201011 is indicative whether all of the £1.2 million will be slipped into the final years allocation.

As a result of the revision to the grant allocation in 2009 -10, Anne reported that expenditure is now on target. She went on to explain that Urban Vision is currently investigating the financial implications of the recent bad weather on projects, and that update reports are provided to Finance sub-committee on a monthly basis.

Anne went on to draw Board members' attention to the minutes of the Finance sub-committee meeting in December 2009 and it was agreed that these should be marked as Part 2 and not for publication or discussion outside the meeting.

James Eagle provided an update on behalf of January's meeting of Finance sub-committee and noted that flexibility within the capital strategy includes provision for the construction of the Lower Kersal Centre in 2009-10, with repayment of capital by the City Council in 2010 – 11, as well as making an assumption that the full £1.2 million slippage will be confirmed.

Anne reported that with regard to the Draft Delivery Plan it had been prepared to take into include a number of contingency actions in order to manage the risks associated with the delivery of the plan. She went on to confirm that it had been assumed when preparing the Delivery Plan that the full £1.2 million slippage in the capital programme would be approved. She explained that there had been some minor amendments to the previous version of the delivery plan, which were proposed in order to balance the programme. It was noted that the key drivers for the financial strategy will be ensuring that committed projects are completed in the Delivery Plan and that sound foundations are laid for the post NDC period in accordance with the Draft Succession Strategy.

In a response to a query from Board regarding financial provision for training, Tim Field explained that the Board has previously agreed to a move away from providing generic training, and instead prepare individual training plans

for Board Members to help address their needs. Bernadette Elder noted that it had been agreed by the Development Framework Group that they would assess their own needs in terms of individual capacity to take forward the Group's agenda enabling additional training be bought in for members of the group. Rob Pickering agreed to speak to the City's Organisational Development Team to see if relevant training could be sought through the City Council.

After a query from Councillor Connor in relation to the possible acquisition of St Sebastian's diocese building reported in the Finance sub-committee minutes Ann-Marie Pickup confirmed that the purchase had been mentioned as a contingency action before Government had approved the slippage.

Anne Lythgoe then outlined the next steps, which include the final delivery plan being brought back to the Board in February 2010, before going to Government Office North West and the Council Cabinet. Anne reported that Government Office North West were happy to receive the draft plan once it had been approved by Board.

### **The Partnership Board**

- **Noted the current levels of expenditure.**
- **Noted the financial strategy.**
- **Noted the minutes from the December meeting of Finance sub-committee.**
- **Approved the Draft Delivery Plan for 2010-11.**

**Councillor Mold left the meeting at this point**

### **5. Succession Strategy**

Tim Field provided an update on the recent progress made towards the NDC Succession Strategy. He reported that discussions had been held with the Development Trust Association and a Local Improvement Advisor who have each submitted a report on the draft strategy to Government. Tim explained that confirmation is now awaited as to when the draft strategy will be considered by an assessment panel. He then went on to suggest there might be a need for representation from NDC on the panel.

Tim reported that proposal for the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan had been considered in relation to the overall structures within East Salford. Tim explained that the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan would be a jigsaw linking in with the existing structures and initiatives and would include the Development Framework Group and forums.

Ann-Marie Pickup provided an update on the neighbourhood forums and the Development Framework Group reminding members that the next meeting of the latter was scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>. Councillor Connor commented on

the good structure and attendance at the neighbourhood forums and confirmed that he would be joining the Development Framework Group. Ann-Marie highlighted the importance of local residents driving forward the Development Framework Group and the need for the group to have the skills necessary to take forward its agreed remit and agenda.

It was noted that minutes from the Development Framework Group need to be circulated to all members of the group in good time and that a schedule of future meetings should be agreed. Tim Field recommended that the Development Framework Group define their ongoing support needs as a matter of urgency, in order that this can be factored into the discussions on the proposed annuity arrangement.

Harry Davies reported that the Chairs of Lower Kersal Forum and Charlestown Forum had agreed to attend each others meetings in the future.

In order to update the Partnership Board on other local activities, Tim confirmed that Anne Godding had started a secondment as the Children's Centre Manager in Lower Kersal. Alison Burnett then reported that the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group has recently been formed through the merger of the NDC Health Task Group and Health Action Partnership in East Salford. Kevin Coakley noted good partnership working at a recent meeting of this new group.

Alison Burnett reported that within the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan other citywide initiatives are being linked as part of an overall action plan including Working Neighbourhoods Team Pilot. As an example of joined up services, local agencies such as Salix Homes and Working Neighbourhoods Teams had been involved in undertaking outreach work on the London Street Estate.

Bernadette Elder reported that Board Members had attended the Beacon Centre Advisory Group meeting. She went on to report that a couple of young people had also attended the meeting, the Centre is well used and that a Centre Manager has been recruited. Bernadette went on to report that the next meeting would take place in February.

Alison Burnett circulated the latest offer from Salford Community Leisure for free community use at the Sports Village. She highlighted how the offer included 175 free hours per annum for meeting rooms and 100 free hours per annum on the hard surface multi use area in addition to a commitment from Salford Community Leisure to work closely with groups to develop a pilot scheme exploring opportunities for utilising use during downtime.

The Board went on to discuss the offer in relation to the viability of the building, the limited availability of community space across Salford and how there maybe competition for the free space provided which could impact on surrounding community facilities. It was also noted that new groups starting up who may not be constituted and able to bid for funding could utilise the free space.

Following this discussion the Board agreed to the proposed offer for use of the Sports Village and recommended that use of the space be monitored and reviewed regularly through the neighbourhood forums

Kevin Coakley suggested that Salford Community Leisure could take responsibility for overseeing the management of lighting for the multi-use games area at Riverbank Park. The Board discussed energy efficient ways for lighting the park.

### **Keith Barnes left the meeting at this point**

Tim Field reported that the City Council has confirmed that the conditions for the community use of the designated space at the Innovation Forum will be transferred over to Manchester Science Parks who are the proposed new management agents.

Tim Field reported that PULSE had been undertaking support work with a range of social enterprises and the Lower Kersal and St Sebastian's Community Hubs. This will include an assessment of their capacity to deliver elements of the NDC Succession strategy.

Tim then introduced discussion around the occupancy of the community space within the Innovation Forum. Alison Burnett reported that Peoples Voice Media had submitted a proposal for free use of the space from April 2010 to the Finance sub-committee but that further information of a Business Plan had been requested. She went on to explain that the Finance Sub-committee are also awaiting an options appraisal report in February from PULSE for the use of the community space at the Innovation Forum.

Councillor Connor expressed concern over the apparent differences in the approaches being adopted for different buildings including Brunswick House, Oliver's Gym (St Sebastian's Hub) and the Innovation Forum. Tim Field reminded the Board that St Sebastian's hub would be funded as part of the gap funding for the Charlestown Riverside development rather than grant funding. Tim agreed to provide a note to the Board on it's different levels of commercial interest in Brunswick House, St Sebastian's Hub and the Innovation Forum.

### **Eddie Sawford left the meeting at this point**

Rob Pickering advised Board members that a report on the revenue implications of the NDC Succession Strategy had been submitted to the Council's Budget and Efficiency Cabinet Working Group on the 18<sup>th</sup> January. He went on to report that a task and finish group had been established to develop a proposal for annuity arrangements to support the Development Framework Group.

Tim Field highlighted the changing roles within the NDC staff team and the changing role of Board Members particularly the Chair in the final year of the

programme. He then went on to explain that the next steps would see the final submission of the strategy to Board in March 2010 and following this an implementation workshop in June. Tim reminded the Board that the timetable is subject to change and could slip.

### **The Partnership Board**

- **Noted Progress made with issues raised in section 3 of the report.**
- **Noted the timetable estimated for approval of the final strategy.**

### **7. Climate Change Action Plan**

Bernadette Elder presented a report on the proposal for a Community Climate Change Action Plan to be delivered by the NDC Community Team which would provide work for a community development worker post in addition to that which has been agreed through the staff review. Bernadette noted that the full report is available to Board Members on request.

The Board requested that as the project covers areas outside the NDC boundary it should be made clear that the post is funded through the Environment Agency.

### **The Partnership Board**

- **Approved the proposal to deliver the Community Climate Change Action Plan.**
- **Approved the proposal to extend the size of the community team to include a community development worker post until March 2011 funded with Environment Agency grant through the Climate Change Action Plan Project**

### **8. A.O.B**

Ann-Marie Pickup reported that the next NDC Chairs and Chief Executives meeting would be taking place on 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> March and that there are two additional places. It was agreed that Lee Craven and Linda Carr should attend.

Councillor Connor thanked Bernadette Elder for her contribution at the Lower Kersal Activity Centre.