

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

Minutes of

NDC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

**Held at
Salford Sports Village 29th June 2009**

IN ATTENDANCE

PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Ann-Marie Pickup (Chair)	Community Representative
Kevin Coakley	Community Representative
Steve Bailey	GMP
James Eagle	Merlyn Electronics
Harry Davies	Community Representative
Les Smith	Community Representative
Linda Carr	Community Representative
Dot Jones	Voluntary Sector
Lee Craven	Voluntary Sector
Stella Elliot	Community Representative
Ann Olnier	Community Representative
James Powell	University of Salford
Steve Aveyard	Albion High School
Cllr Peter Connor	Ward Councillor

SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Tim Field	NDC
Alison Burnett	NDC
Brian Enright	NDC
Anne Lythgoe	NDC
Anne Godding	East Salford Neighbourhood Management Team
Dave Bird	NDC (minutes)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Merry, Paul Walker, Phil Geller, Ian Marshall, Rob Pickering, Janice Lowndes Pam Flynn and Bernadette Elder.

Ann-Marie Pickup informed the Board the John Merry had been awarded a CBE.

During the meeting Ann-Marie Pickup thanked James Powell for all his support to the Board. This was echoed by the Board who went on to thank James for also supporting the community in the NDC area. It was noted that James is taking a year's sabbatical from the university and this will be his final meeting of the Partnership Board.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were made by Les Smith (Item 5: Oliver's Youth Club), Kevin Coakley (Item 5: St Sebastian's), Peter Connor (Item 5: Lead Member for Housing) and Ann Olnier (Item 8: Brunswick House).

3. Minutes 18th May 2009

Noted and agreed as a true record.

Tim Field reminded the Board that meetings are held in private with minutes and reports being publicly available unless specifically identified as not for publication. Ann-Marie Pickup highlighted items on the minutes of 18th of May and on the current agenda which were marked as not for publication. James Powell proposed that these were the correct items not to be published, this was seconded by James Eagle and the Board agreed.

4. Programme Update

Tim Field presented a report which:

- Provided information on expenditure to date for 2009/10
- Provided information about the 2009/10 Programme Implementation Plan
- Provided an update from Finance sub-committee
- Outlined the next steps for the development of the Succession Strategy.

Tim explained how expenditure to the end of May 2009 is low but this is to be expected due to the programme only being in the first 2 months of the financial year, with many projects submitting invoices on a quarterly basis.

Tim explained how the Programme Implementation Plan is produced following an assessment of the risks in the delivery of projects for the programme. He went on to explain that there are considerable levels of risk in some areas of the programme and how the over programming of 8% in the Delivery Plan can be compared to what is currently anticipated to be a 5% under spend.

It was then noted Finance sub-committee had approved the following steps to help manage the programme and any under spend:

- Reserve projects in the Delivery Plan will now be developed and brought forward for consideration by Task Groups and Finance sub-committee.
- Programme managers have been asked to accelerate projects where feasible.
- Ongoing flexibilities will be discussed with the City Council.

Tim then went on to remind the Board of the decisions made in relation to the future options for a successor vehicle at the special meeting of the Partnership Board on 10th June 2009:

- No new independent constituted successor body in the form of a Community Interest Company or other social enterprise will be created to follow on from the NDC Partnership.
- A Local Neighbourhood Action Plan for Charlestown and Lower Kersal will be developed based on broad themes and local need similar to the NDC delivery plan.
- The Local Neighbourhood Action plan should enable continued community empowerment and influence over services delivery and the plan should prioritise key local issues, including the realisation of the Masterplan for Charlestown Riverside.

Tim went on to explain that the Board needed a credible and approved Succession Strategy by 30th October 2009. He went on to propose that to take forward the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan a steering group could be formed including Board Members and other potential stakeholders. He recommended that Board Members discuss and nominate representatives to participate in the steering group.

The Board recommended that the steering group should be a task and finish group and noted that considerable time would be required from members over the coming months. Linda Carr, James Eagle, Harry Davies, Kevin Coakley and Ann-Marie Pickup all agreed to take part in the steering group and Councillor Connor nominated Councillor Merry to be part of the group.

Tim then raised the issue of the future of assets that have been funded by NDC grants. He explained that the benefit and any income from these assets needs to be locked in for the continued benefit of the Charlestown and Lower Kersal community. He outlined the two approaches as:

Option A: That the Partnership relinquishes any future claim on all or some of the assets purchased by NDC grant, in return for a guaranteed income towards the delivery of the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan for an agreed period of time.

Option B: The partnership secures future benefit from those assets through transfer to community centres or local community enterprise, as part of the broader succession strategy.

The Board supported Option A but noted concern that income from the assets should include capital for future works as well as revenue. Tim informed the Board they may want to take independent advice from surveyors regarding the current value of the assets.

The Board went on to raise concern about the current value of assets due to the credit crunch. Tim suggested that the value of the assets would become realisable over time and recommended that a stepped approach could be used to release funds, with a mechanism for regular reviews.

The Board also recommended that any figure should be inflation proof. Tim explained that the figure would be calculated on a net basis. James Eagle suggested that the assets could be split into assets and future assets before enquiring who would manage the money in coming years. The Board went on to discuss the possibility of a constituted legally regulated group. Tim recommended that any group would need accountability and need to fit within existing structures in a similar situation to the current NDC Partnership. James Powell noted the need of officer support for any group that would be established, if this proposal is to be successful.

Ann-Marie thanked Board members who attended the special Board meeting on June 10th regarding the Succession Strategy. It was noted that the meeting had been very positive and productive.

The Partnership Board

- **Noted current levels of expenditure.**
- **Noted the decisions made by Finance Sub-Committee around programme management and the PIP.**
- **Noted the decisions made at May and June's Finance Sub-Committee.**
- **Noted the decisions made at the special meeting of the Partnership Board on 10th June 2009 and the actions required to complete the Succession Strategy.**
- **Nominated Councillor Merry, Linda Carr, James Eagle, Harry Davies, Kevin Coakley and Ann-Marie Pickup as representatives for the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan steering group.**
- **Approved Option A for locking in the benefit from assets from the NDC programme which will involve relinquishing any future claim on the assets purchased by NDC grant, in return for a guaranteed income towards the delivery of the Local Neighbourhood Action Plan for an agreed period of time to lock in assets.**

6.0 Working Neighbourhoods Team Action Plan

Alison Burnett presented a report updating the Partnership Board on the progress of the NDC Working Neighbourhoods Team pilot and the development of a draft action plan. She informed the Board that a Working Neighbourhoods Management Team had now been established. It has clear

terms of reference and is being chaired by the NDC Chief Executive. The team will be responsible for developing, delivering and reviewing an action plan based around the following four themes.

- Community engagement and outreach
- Service offer
- Leadership and co-ordination
- Central support

Alison went onto explain that the working neighbourhood pilot provided an opportunity to continue and mainstream local good practice developed through New Deal, highlight the role of third sector as a provider and provide valuable information on the type of support required for people on the journey back into work. In addition to tackling worklessness, the pilot faces the additional challenge of supporting people who have recently lost their jobs in the current economic downturn and explained how in the short-term the Future Jobs Fund will provide some new local opportunities.

The Board raised the issue of the rise in the over 50's losing their jobs and asked if this is a trend which can be seen in the NDC area. Tim Field agreed to investigate this issue further and report back in due course.

It was noted that if Board Members have any comments on the Draft Action Plan they should contact Alison Burnett.

The Partnership Board :

- **Noted the content of the report and agreed to send any comments on the draft Working Neighbourhood Team Action Plan to Alison Burnett.**

7. Evaluation - Telling the Story

As it was late, the Board agreed that the section of the report which had been prepared on telling the story should be deferred to another Board meeting so that enough time could be dedicated to discussion.

However, it was necessary to discuss and agree the format for the AGM as detailed in the report submitted to the Board but it was noted that Board Members need to know what they will be saying before the event. Tim Field agreed to contact Board members to see if they would be interested in being involved in taking part in presentations to be made at the AGM.

The Partnership Board:

- **Agreed to defer this telling the story element of the evaluation report to a future Board meeting.**
- **Agreed in principal to the outline proposal for the AGM.**

9 Any Other Business

Tim Field informed the Board that the Salvation Army has established a Project Advisory Group for the works being undertaken in Brindle Heath. He went on to enquire if any Board Member would be interested in joining the group. The Board recommended that it might be appropriate for a member of the local residents group to join and recommended staff from Salix Homes or a Community Development Worker from NDC explore this further.

Kevin Coakley raised the issue of residents being consulted for Men's Health Day and the Mini Olympics. Tim Field agreed to investigate.

Ann-Marie Pickup introduced Ann Olnier to the Board and Board members introduced themselves to Ann. Ann is the new community representative for the Charlestown area.

Date and Time of Next Meeting
Monday 27th July
St Sebastian's Community Centre
Annual General Meeting 4pm - 6.00pm
Board Meeting 6.30 pm