

Leicestershire Stronger Communities Board

Meeting of the Leicestershire Stronger Communities Board held on
Wednesday 10th December 2008 at 10am
at Kibworth Grammar School Hall (community run facility), Kibworth Beauchamp

MINUTES

Present

Alex Lea	Leicestershire County Council
Andrew Ingles	Voluntary Action Blaby District
Anita Chavda	Leicestershire County Council
Bob Scott	Leicestershire Police
Jeremy Prescott	Rural Community Council Leicestershire and Rutland
Lynn Aisbett	Melton Borough Council - representing District Councils
Martin Gage	North West Leicestershire CVS
Michelle Skinner	Leicestershire Volunteer Centre Network
Mick Fattorini	Leicestershire County Council
Neil Lambert	Voluntary Action Charnwood (Chair)
Nicole Rickard	Leicestershire County Council
Peter Yates	Diocese of Leicester
Richard Tobin	Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils

In Attendance

Afsa Mitha	Leicestershire County Council
Joanne Bettles	CVS Community Partnership (taking minutes)
Joanne March	Voluntary Action South Leicestershire
John Leach	Blaby District Council
Maureen O'Malley	Voluntary Action South Leicestershire

Action

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from:

- Janet Mills Government Office East Midlands
- Joanna Hamilton-Colclough Voluntary Action South Leicestershire
- Louise Driver Leicestershire Rural Partnership
- Paul Hackwood Diocese of Leicester
- Sue Cavill NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland
- Thilo Boeck De Montfort University

2. Minutes of the last Stronger Communities Board meeting on 10th September

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising

3.1 Community Anchors

A reminder has been sent to the Stronger Communities Board to suggest

Community Anchors in Leicestershire by Friday 19th December. **Anyone with suggestions to contact Jo Bettles (jo@ccp.org.uk).**

All

4. **Conduct at Meetings**

Jeremy Prescott gave a brief statement asking that all members of the Board respect each other's views at future meetings.

5. **Presentation from District Councils**

John Leach, Corporate Head of Policy and Partnerships at Blaby District Council presented on Sustainable Community Strategies on behalf of District Councils in Leicestershire.

Discussion then took place into linkages between Local Strategic Partnerships, countywide organisations and the Stronger Communities Board. Voluntary Action Chief Officers are currently links between their Local Strategic Partnerships and the Stronger Communities Board. Each district has varying models of addressing Stronger Communities.

Lynn Aisbett is aware of an exercise being done to map different levels of engagement. **Nicole Rickard and Lynn Aisbett to investigate the possibility of the mapping being circulated.** There may be plans for Neighbourhood Management and Community Forums to come under the remit of the Stronger Communities Board next year.

NR
LA

6. **Stronger Communities Update**

6.1 Any further questions arising from Paper 1 'Stronger Communities Board Update. Volunteers are being recruited to conduct the Social Capital Survey in the last two weeks of February. Where local volunteers are not recruited, partners will be given the opportunity to join in or MORI will be brought in. The Board agreed with the changes to the Social Capital Survey suggested in Paper 4 'Social Capital Survey 2009'. It was asked that the section on employment status to remain in the survey.

6.2 Leicestershire Hate Incident Monitoring Draft Strategy
Anita Chavda introduced the Hate Incident Monitoring Papers 2 including 'Working draft HIRS 0_11'. Any comments are to be sent to her (achavda@leics.gov.uk).

7. **Leicestershire Local Area Agreement 2**

7.1 Stronger Communities Strategy – Delivery Plans
Paper 5 'Budget for Stronger Communities 2009 approved' was referred to. The Stronger Communities delivery plans have been approved by Leicestershire Together. The funding has been reduced to £795,000 for the first year. The reduction impacts on the Initiatives Fund, part of the funding to the Association of Local Councils and means collaborative work to save costs on the volunteering delivery plans. The second year of Local Area Agreement Stronger Communities work is to be funded from the first Local Area Agreement Stronger Communities reward money. Work will be done this year to 'mainstream' Stronger Communities.

7.2 Volunteering Targets

Michelle Skinner introduced herself and explained her role and current work.

Michelle to send an online survey to Jo Bettles to send to members of the Board. Jo Bettles to circulate Michelle Skinner's Contact details.

**MS
JB**

7.3 Commissioning of the work

The Stronger Communities Board agreed to commission work to organisations that were clearly stated in the delivery plans. As Leicestershire Together had approved the delivery plans with specific organisations attached to certain pieces of work, it was taken that these organisations had also been approved. It was agreed that the following work be commissioned to:

- 1. Voluntary Action Centres - Voluntary Action Neighbourhood Workers
- 2. Organisation not yet agreed - Information and Administration Officer (Jo Bettles)
- 5. Rural Community Council (Leics. & Rutland) - Community Development Officers to undertake new style Parish Plans and support Parish Councils
- 6. Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Councils' - Capacity Building Parish Councils into Quality Parish Councils

A task group was formed to commission the rest of the work. The group consists of Lynn Aisbett, Bob Scott and Nicole Rickard as voting members and Martin Gage, Neil Lambert in an advisory capacity. It was agreed that a special meeting of the Board would be convened, should decisions need to be made before 11th March 2009.

7. Any other business

Renaissance East Midlands

Mick Fattorini informed everyone about Renaissance East Midlands, a project to develop museums with a volunteering cross-cutting theme.

8. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held at The Samworth Centre, Melton Mowbray on Wednesday 11th March, from 10am until 12noon.