

Leisure Theme Meeting on 23.5.07

Venue: Daisy Bank Community Centre

Present

D Pitcher, J Postance, E Bennett, K Pitt, L. Motrome, A Hickman, R Patel, T Percival, C McNally, A Hubble, L Ansell, B Nelson, R Wright, S Poole & M Jacobs

1. Apologies

Lynne Law, Tina Gibbon, Megan Fitzgerald Plumber, Joan Oram, Tanja Korfkamp, Rob Preston, Carol Fawdry & Wendy Binder

2. Introductions

Mary introduced the theme work process and how they feedback to the main meetings (partnership). Mary then went through the parts of the action plan which related to the Leisure Theme Group.

Everybody then introduced themselves.

3. Terms of Reference

Mary went through the proposed terms of reference for the group and suggested that reps share these within their own organisations, so that they can be agreed at the next Leisure theme group meeting.

Ron asked about the reference of areas under two different Police Sergeants. The two Police areas fall under Sergeant Yeoman for Bilston Town Centre and Sergeant Tomlin for the rest of Bilston East.

The Partnership has agreed from September 07 there will be less frequent LNP meetings and more theme group meetings. The theme group will be where business and debate is done to feed into the partnership meetings for ratification.

4. Action Plan

Mary explained the action plan headings that came out of the Planning for Real Process and the Audit to Action household survey which were used to carry out public consultation in the autumn of 2006. The group were asked to put a priority preference of 'short term/now, medium term/within a year & Longer term/requires external funding.

Ron requested the sentence in the action plan preamble –“not fit for purpose” is changed as he thought it was not appropriate in describing Daisy Bank.

It was agreed: *to re-word 'not fit for purpose' with 'could benefit from investment' in the Action Plan (page 29).*

Questions were asked in regard of the headings of young people/children linked to schools around achievement and attainment. There was discussion around whether this should sit under the learning theme instead. It was agreed that wording around raising aspirations should remain, but educational achievement actions go to Learning.

Teachers present raised the following concerns: there is a need for 0-5 provision to be a priority area, which can be linked to children centres where there are one but many cases, for example the Lunt there isn't. Work with the under five's would significantly improve their experience of learning and socialising when they come into a reception class. With the under 5's there is also a need to work with the parents of this age group, to raise awareness with parents and signpost them to help and parenting support. There are also health issues related to under 3's that need to be picked up by health visitors.

Geography for schools: it was pointed out that Field View and Loxdale schools are linked with Bilston North and with this there will be cross LNP issues.

The following action was agreed: *The 0-5 age group has not come out as a priority from the household survey or Planning for Real©, but can be included in a workplan.*

There needs to be an audit of 0-5 activities in and around the Bilston East Area, to then help with sign posting.

Mary asked the question in regard of size of agenda, and the large number of lines in the action plan, 'would they prefer to split into two groups?'; one group working with 'children's issues' and the other with 'adults and communities' theme.

Arguments for: It was important for service providers to be able to focus on attending meetings where the majority of items were directly relevant to them. Arguments against: Already too many meetings, it's best to start with a broad brush and there would be difficulty in splitting up some topics.

A suggestion would be: That agenda items are framed around an appropriate theme say 'youth' one meeting and 'community' the next. Use this process at first and then evaluate after a period of time.

Eileen brought up the point of the need of having a voice for young people on any group.

Mary informed the meeting that she had assurances from Errol that there would be a youth forum set up in June 07. Both Bilston High and Holy Trinity Schools supported this and could offer children and young people to attend as part of their citizenship curriculum. Andy Hubble offered young people to be active as part of a normal school day within any youth group.

Action/agreement: *It was agreed that the group would stay as one theme group with agendas aimed at particular topics and this would be reviewed in December.*

5. Audit of children and youth provision in Bilston East.

Steve explained the remit of the audit, which was to visit all organisations providing activities for young people. Activity within schools, directed at pupils was also included.

Geography: Steve used a large map on the wall to plot current provision. The largest gap in provision is Loxdale, where there is a lack of an indoor facility or a green open space. Statutory provision in the form of a summer Play scheme at the school, and deployment of a team of detached youth workers has been negotiated to begin to address the need.

Representatives from CREST mentioned that they have previously offered their assistance to Loxdale reps to kick-start a voluntary youth club. Also that some young people from Loxdale already attend CREST and the Rocket Pool Youth clubs.

a. Recommendations agreed:

- Addressing the gap in provision in the Loxdale area is a priority
- Bradley also lacks statutory provision for older adolescents.(Wilkinson school now has an astro-turf area as a possibility to negotiate for activity)
- Improve/increase the amount of activities on green open space
- The group should seek to apply for additional funding for holiday provision/activities (suggestion was to approach BBAP as accountable body)
- Charge detached youth team to canvass views of young people in Ashley/Frazier St on what facilities they currently access.

The group did not endorse the recommendation to do outreach work in the Town centre, because it was felt that these families have good provision through Prouds Lane CC and Hickman Park.

b.projects to refer back to the LNP

- Establish the current status of ex-Ladymoor school playing fields, and Greenway for future use.
- Request from CREST for funding of Set up costs if outreach work with Loxdale is established.

6. Community.

a. Feedback on community facilities consultation.

Steve indicated that a working group to move forward the questionnaire would proceed once Lisa Ansell was out of hospital and a representative for Carder Crescent had been engaged.

b.Notice boards.

The LNP have been successful in securing £2,000 from WCSP to place notice boards around the patch. Sites already agreed are: Bradley Housing Office, Daisy bank cc, Lower Bradley CC, Lunt CC, Holy Trinity School, St Martins Church and Bilston Resource Centre. The meeting suggested that further efforts be made to speak to Field View and Loxdale schools to canvass their interest for the two remaining sites.

7. A.O.B

Andy Hickman asked if enquiries could be made to establish where the insurance money from the fire damage claim is being held. The CA would like to use it towards refurbishment costs.

8. Date of next meeting: Monday 16th July, @ 6pm. Venue, Innisfallen house, King Street.