

**Minute/Decision Summary**  
**Meeting- Renaissance Central Area Partnership**  
**Date –27<sup>th</sup> September 2007**  
**St. Johns Living Well, Durham Road, Stockton**

**Members:**

**Alex Bain (Chair/CPF)**, Edna Chapman (VS), Elizabeth McClurg (VS), Stan Slater (VS), Roy Parker (CS), Cllr Mrs S Fletcher (SBC), Elaine Morris (PCT), Tina Williams (CS), Paul Thomas, PC Carl Broughton (Cleveland Police), Mary Cartwright, Jim Beall (CPF), Judith Tuner, Cllr Laing

**Advisors:**

Sarah Upex (SBC), Sue Burgess (SBC), Faye Parminter (SBC), James Hadman (SRCGA), Dawn Welsh (SBC), Claire Sills (SBC), Anna McGrogan (SBC), Keith Matthews (SBC), Graham Clingan (SBC), John Tierny (SBC), Karen Merrick (SBC)

**Observers:**

Ann Howard, Olive Kay, J Matthews, Margaret Tinkler

**Apologies:**

Kellie Hopkins (SBC), Rev David Whiting, Mark Telford

CS =	Community Sector	YA =	Youth Assembly
PCT/PUB =	Primary Care Trust/Public Sector	RC =	Rural Community Sector
PS =	Private Sector	BS =	Business Sector
Stockton Police/PUB =	Stockton Police/Public Sector	PC =	Parish Council
SBC/PUB =	Stockton Borough Council/Public Sector	CEN=	Community Empowerment Network
VS =	Voluntary Sector		
JS+/PUB =	Job Centre Plus		
CPF =	Community Partnership Forum		

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ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	COMMENTS/DECISION	ACTION	Does it need Council approval/ endorsement?	Are any other boards affected?	CONTACT
<p><b>1.WELCOME &amp; APOLOGIES.</b></p> <p>Welcome and Introductions were made.</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p>		Noted.	No	No	No	<p><b>Sarah Upex</b>  <b>Central Area</b>  <b>Partnership</b>  <b>Coordinator</b>  <b>(01642) 526498</b></p>
<p><b>2. STOCKTON TOWN CENTRE UPDATE</b></p> <p>Members were informed on the progress to date with the Stockton Town Centre and Riverside Sites Action Plan. The Action Plan sets out the long-term vision for the regeneration of the Town Centre and Riverside based on the masterplan, and details the strategic development projects and town centre management initiatives that will deliver this vision. The Action Plan will also be subject to regular reviews to ensure that the projects and initiatives remain on track and contribute to the delivery of this vision.</p> <p>Since February 2007, a programme of consultation has been undertaken to present, seek comments and contribute towards the vision for the regeneration of the town centre and an Action Plan for the</p>		Noted	No	No	No	<p><b>Faye Parminter</b>  <b>Stockton Borough</b>  <b>Council</b>  <b>(01642) 526031</b></p> <p><b>Sue Burgess</b>  <b>Stockton Town</b>  <b>Centre Manager</b>  <b>(01642) 527569</b></p>

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<p>delivery of this vision. A focussed communications and media campaign was undertaken to increase awareness of the consultation programme.</p> <p>The overall responses from the consultation were supportive of the six key sites identified as the focus of the Action Plan for the regeneration of the town centre and riverside. These sites included the Northern Gateway, Riverside Sides, Southern Gateway, Townscape Heritage sites, Boathouse Lane and the Eastern Gateway (including North Shore).</p> <p>One of the common themes throughout the comments received was the concern that there were not enough proposals for the regeneration of the High Street itself. Many were supportive of the gateway and riverside proposals and people requested changes to the quality and mix of the retail offer in the High Street. Requests for improvements to the public realm and market provision were also received. It was proposed that whilst all efforts will continue to be made to being in high quality retailers, additional development opportunities need to be identified through the Action Plan and Local Development Framework.</p>						
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<p>Another common theme were issues relating transport and infrastructure in the town centre.</p> <p>The proposals for the food store on the Southern Gateway was supported, with people welcoming the new visitors to the town this could bring. Some, however, raised concerns over the potential impact that this could have on other High Street retailers. The Globe Theatre was an extremely popular proposal, and the need for improvements to Norton Road, as part of the Northern Gateway, was particularly welcomed.</p> <p>Strong support was received for the development of a café culture, with street cafes proposed to maximise use of the wide High Street and creating activity on non market days.</p> <p>Calls for improvements to the street market have been met with the re-launch of the new-look market taking place in September 2007.</p> <p>The need to celebrate the towns' heritage was noted, and subject to feasibility will be included within future reviews of the Action Plan.</p> <p>The Action Plan is currently being amended to take into account the public comments received, as well as a number</p>						
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<p>of changed circumstances in the proposals originally included in the Action Plan approved by Cabinet in November 2006. These are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stockton Town Centre Partnership</li> <li>• Eastern Gateway</li> <li>• Parkfield Commercial Improvement Strategy</li> <li>• Townscape Heritage</li> </ul> <p>The Action Plan will be subject to regular review in order to keep in line with the vision for the regeneration of the town centre and riverside sites.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>3. DRAFT SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Members were presented with the emerging draft Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), and the Local Area Agreement 2008-11 (LAA) priorities following the first phase of consultation. The first phase of consultation is now completed and each consultation session involved running through the key themes and ambitions proposed for the long term Sustainable Community Strategy for comments and discussion around “were they the right ones” and which of the ambitions we should focus on first, which will form the priorities for the Sustainable</p>		Noted	No	No	No	<p><b>Dawn Welsh,</b>  <b>Neighbourhood Renewal and LSP Manager, SBC</b></p>

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<p>Community Strategy's first 3 year delivery plan (the LAA). Emerging priorities to date include greater provision and access to local services, improved local transport networks, financial inclusion and improved Town Centres.</p> <p>It was noted that SRCGA had been approached nationally for information on the engagement strategy for the SCS.</p> <p>The 'place shaper' government guidance, (anticipated in the autumn of 2007) on LSP's, Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Area Agreement statutory elements, will also be considered and any required changes will be picked up. Due to the timescales involved, Renaissance at its meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2007 agreed that any minor changes from this guidance will be authorised with the Chair and Vice Chair.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>4. TACKLING CRIME AND DISORDER AUDIT 2007</b></p> <p>Members were informed that the Crime and Disorder Audit 2007 is an opportunity for members have their say on crime and disorder and is a chance to make a real difference. The consultation document has been produces by the Safer Stockton Partnership and asks individuals to chose</p>		Noted	No	No	No	<p><b>Claire Sills &amp; Anna McGrogan, Community Safety, SBC</b></p>

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<p>three priorities to focus on for three years for crime and anti-social behaviour. Monitoring on these priorities will be done quarterly to the Safer Stockton Partnership.</p>						
<p><b>5. DRAFT PLAY AREA STRATEGY FOR STOCKTON ON TEES 2007-2010</b>  The draft Play Area Strategy for Stockton sets out the Council's approach to the development of outdoor play facilities across the Borough. It replaces the existing Play Area Strategy produced in 1998.  The Play Area Strategy will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a broad framework for the management and future development of play areas across the Borough.</li> <li>• Help to prioritise capital and revenue investment in play provision to avoid duplication and target resources effectively to address local needs.</li> <li>• Encourage public, private and voluntary sector partners to work together to enhance play provision and promote its use by the whole community.</li> <li>• Inform the development of planning policy and underpin the</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	<b>Graham Stockton Council</b> <b>Clingan, Borough</b>

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<p>Council's approach to securing improvements in provision via planning obligations and other mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlight the role of play in improving the health, well-being and the development of children and young people, and the contribution that provision of high quality play facilities can make to wider social and environmental agendas.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy forms a companion document to the Borough's Play Strategy 2007-2012 'Play Matters', prepared by Stockton-on-Tees Children's Trust Board in June 2007.</p> <p>This Play Area Strategy focuses on one key aspect of play provision: sites with fixed play equipment which are accessible free of charge at all reasonable times. Such sites are mainly under the ownership and management of Stockton Borough Council, but others bodies such as parish councils also own and manage facilities within the Borough. The Strategy does not refer to play equipment within school grounds or other locations not accessible to the wider public.</p> <p>Following an audit of the Borough's play areas in 1998 it was recommended that</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
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<p>the Council adopted a hierarchy of play area sites. This hierarchy is also recognised in this strategy and comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destination Sites – well-equipped play areas within parks, which serve a large catchment area and offer a good range of supporting facilities such as toilets and refreshments.</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Sites – again, well-equipped areas within parks, but with fewer supporting facilities.</li> <li>• Doorstep Sites – smaller, stand-alone play areas, which have a limited range of equipment and serve a local catchment area.</li> </ul> <p>The Strategy covers a relatively short time period: 2007-10. This reflects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A medium term aspiration to incorporate the key elements of the Play Area Strategy into a single Borough Play Strategy, subject to the approval of Cabinet, the Children’s Trust Board and the proposed ‘Play Partnership’ and;</li> <li>- A need to produce a more detailed ‘Play Area Action Plan’ upon completion of the Council’s Open Space Audit. The next stage in this process will be to undertake</li> </ul>						
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<p>a full assessment of local needs and expectations in terms of the provision of open spaces across the Borough, including play areas. This work will be complete by May 2008 and will form an essential step in the process of setting local standards for the provision of play areas and other types of open space (e.g. a minimum of one Destination Site to be within X km of every household in the Borough, or per X no population).</p> <p>The final version of this document will be made available to the public, and the Council will consult locally on the implementation of any specific proposals. Presentations on the Play Area Strategy are being given to all four Area Partnership Boards.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>6. PARKS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE – NEWHAM GRANGE PARK</b></p> <p>Members were informed that a programme of parks is currently being undertaken, with Newham Grange Park highlighted as a major site. A masterplan for this has been circulated and was subject to consultation in Spring 2006. February 2007 saw the installation of a new play area, which caters for children and young people aged 3-14 years old. The play area was opened as part of a fun</p>		Noted	No	No	No	<p><b>Keith Stockton Council</b>      <b>Matthews, Borough</b></p>

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<p>day in September 2007, with over 600 people in attendance. CCTV has also be installed with a signal direct to the Security Centre.</p> <p>A key issue arising from the consultation was a strong sense/fear of crime so a programme of removing shrubs from certain areas in the park has begun, which has been well received. £21,000 has been received from SITA to undertake a bio diversity project within the Park.</p> <p>Currently supporting infrastructure is being developed for the play area and a unique scheme for the park is being developed to give it an individual style.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2007, Salvation Army, Palmerston Street, Stockton at 2.00 pm</p>		Noted	No	No	No	<p><b>Sarah Upex</b>  <b>Central Area</b>  <b>Partnership</b>  <b>Coordinator</b>  <b>(01642) 526498</b></p>