

**Minute/Decision Summary to be confirmed**  
**Meeting- The Billingham Partnership**  
**Date – 1st September 2008**

**Members:**

Manager: Kevin Pitt

Chair: Geoff Harrison

Kevin Bowler (KAB), Joe Maloney (VS), Ken Ellis (VS), Gil Smith (BS), Bert Smailes (VS), Chris Humpleby (VS), Ray McCall (CS), Liz Smith (BS), Fred Gook (VS), Michele Smith (VS), Andrew Hatton (BS), Colin Stratton (BS), Jim Scollen (VS), Val Scollen (CS), Cath Coldbeck (VS)

**Advisors/Observers:**

Zoe Rutter (SBC), Louise McDonald (SBC), Miriam Stanton, Haleem Ghafoor (SBC), Andy Whinnerah (SBC), x9 Safer Stockton Partnership members (for item 3 only)

**Apologies:**

Hilary Aggio

Mark Telford

Ged McGuire

Roger Black

Elizabeth Benomran

CS =	Community Sector
PCT/PUB =	Primary Care Trust/Public Sector
PS =	Private Sector
Stockton Police/PUB =	Stockton Police/Public Sector
SBC/PUB =	Stockton Borough Council/Public Sector
VS =	Voluntary Sector
JS+/PUB =	Job Centre Plus
CPF =	Community Partnership Forum

YA =	Youth Assembly
RC =	Rural Community Sector
BS =	Business Sector
PC =	Parish Council

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<p><b>1.Introductions and Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Introductions and apologies were noted.</p> <p>Chair opened the meeting by thanking Colin Stratton for his input to the Billingham Partnership over recent years and wished him well for the future. Colin informed the Board that Andy Hatton would be taking over from himself.</p>		Noted				Zoe Rutter SBC 01642 526025
<p><b>2. Approval of Minutes from Meeting 7th July</b></p> <p>Minutes of the 7th July and AGM were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p>		Noted				Zoe Rutter SBC 01642 526025
<p><b>3. Face the People Session – Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP)</b></p> <p>The Chair of the SSP, Geoff Lee, gave a brief introduction and explained the reason</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Safer Stockton Partnership

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<p>behind the SSP coming along to the meeting. The Board asked several questions of the SSP and all questions were answered fully. The SSP informed the Board that they look at issues at a local level and they monitor any trends.</p> <p>KP congratulated the Fire Service on the work that they are doing at the Low Grange Multi Use Gaming Area.</p> <p>The Board raised their concerns around the closure of the Forum and asked if SSP are planning to put any measures in place to mitigate antisocial behaviour that may arise as a result. SSP informed the Board that alongside the “programme of activities” currently under formulation they would monitor and take action as necessary.</p> <p>KAB raised the issue of quad bikes and mini motorbikes in the area and can the Police do anything about this? The SSP informed the Board that they can only act on things if people let the Police know what is happening however, the Police will patrol the area and monitor any problems.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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RM congratulated the Fire Service on the Life Project that they currently operate.		Noted	No			
<p><b>4. Grant Update – Chris Butler (Five Lamps)</b></p> <p>Chris informed the Board that the Five Lamps currently offer support to people wanting to set up in business across the whole of the Tees Valley. Chris informed the Board that the Five Lamps also work with social enterprises. The Five Lamps offer a loan fund which is repayable and in addition to this the Five Lamps can make a £500 grant available for clients who attend business training and following that register as self employed.</p> <p><b>5. Myplace – Andy Whinnerah</b></p> <p>Andy informed the Board that Myplace is a grant delivering project funded by the Government’s Department for Children, Schools and Families and using the Big Lottery Fund to administer the programme.</p>		Noted	No			Chris Butler 5 Lamps
<p><b>5. Myplace – Andy Whinnerah</b></p> <p>Andy informed the Board that Myplace is a grant delivering project funded by the Government’s Department for Children, Schools and Families and using the Big Lottery Fund to administer the programme.</p>		Noted	No			Andy Whinnerah SBC

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<p>Myplace will be allocating £190 million over the next three years and will be awarding grants of between £1-5 million for the development of any world class facility for young people. These facilities must be available for all and offer a wide variety of activities and services. Facilities must be financially sustainable.</p> <p>Andy informed the Board that a logo for Myplace was produced in June 2008 by an artist and young people from Stockton. A questionnaire was distributed in July 2008 asking for the opinions of young people on Myplace and these results have been entered on to a database. Consultation, led by Andy, has been carried out with young people across the Borough.</p> <p>A consultation event is being held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 5-8pm at Arc if anybody would like to attend.</p> <p>Andy informed the Board that all bids have to be completed and submitted by the end of September.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p><b>6. Area Partnership Communities Fund Allocation – Haleem Ghafoor</b></p> <p>Haleem introduced the report that was tabled and outlined it's purpose. Haleem informed the Board that following on from the success of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Area Partnership allocation Stockton Council has agreed to provide an allocation from the Communities Fund to each of the Area Partnerships. Haleem informed the Board that the area partnerships will receive an allocation of £150k in 2008/09 with a further allocation of £153,749 in 2009/10 and £157,592 in 2010/11 from the Communities Fund, with the allocation being targeted at addressing their Employability priorities. The Billingham Partnership will therefore receive £23,659 in 2008/09, £24,250 in 2009/10 and £24,856 in 2010/11.</p> <p>Haleem informed the Board that an Area Partnership priority setting event has been scheduled for Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			<p>Haleem Ghafoor SBC</p>

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<p>2008 and would encourage people to attend. The event will (i) agree which of the Local Area Agreement priorities 2008-11 they want to monitor progress on for their area; (ii) agree priority areas for the Area Partnership allocations; and (iii) consult on the Community Cohesion Action Plan. A final agenda will be sent out in the near future.</p> <p><b>7. Matters Arising</b>  <b>a. Town Centre Redevelopment</b></p> <p>Louise informed the Board that Stockland (previously Stockland Halladale) are still in negotiations with potential anchor stores, regarding possible leases and store configuration requirements.</p> <p>Louise informed the Board that Stockland has recently advised that they anticipate the masterplanning process to be complete in summer 2009. Following submission of the masterplan the Council will then lead on public realm consultation. There followed a</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>			<p>Louise McDonald SBC</p>

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<p>Board discussion around refurbishment grants and opportunities to slow decline of the Town Centre.</p> <p><b>b. Billingham House</b></p> <p>Louise informed the Board that Bizzy B has appointed a contractor to carry out the demolition of Billingham House. Work commenced on site at the end of July and it is envisaged that the contractors will complete by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008. Louise informed the Board that the Council has notified its Litigation team and they have suspended action regarding the breach to the agreed demolition programme. Louise informed the Board that the Council's Environmental Health team are monitoring works and liaising with external organisations such as the Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water as required. The Health and Safety Executive are regulating the asbestos stripping and security of the site. Water samples have</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>			



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<p>been taken and the results will be back in two weeks time, Louise will report any findings.</p> <p><b>c. Forum</b></p> <p>Louise informed the Board that the initial design scheme has now been completed in consultation with Tees Active Ltd, who has held meetings with key user groups. Louise informed the Board that a further consultation period for key stakeholders is scheduled over the next couple of months as we move into detailed design. Louise informed the Board that a number of pre qualification questionnaires have been received and assessed following the OJEU notice in June and the preferred contractors will shortly be invited to full tender. Louise informed the Board that it is anticipated that a contractor will be appointed for stage 1 design and costing in November 2008. Final approval for the detailed design and cost and permission to appoint the</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p>construction contract (stage 2) will then be sought from Cabinet in spring 2009. Louise informed the Board that Sport England have approved the stage 1 funding application for the refurbishment works and the Council is now preparing stage 2. It is anticipated that the bid will be submitted in the autumn 2008 and that a funding decision is expected to be received by the New Year. Louise informed the Board that pre-planning advice has been sought and a communication and marketing strategy is being produced alongside a programme of activities for the closure period. Louise informed the Board that discussions with the preferred theatre operator are progressing well. KP informed the Board that he has written to Louise requesting that the Forum remain open until the end of the Billingham International Folklore Festival next year and will report back to the Board when he has received an answer. There was a discussion around the soft market testing</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p>regarding the Forum Theatre. Louise went on to explain that the correct process had been followed and outlined in the aforementioned process in some detail.</p> <p><b>d. John Whitehead Park (JWP)</b></p> <p>Louise informed the Board that following the Council’s decision to operate the café in-house, terms have provisionally been agreed with the existing tenant for surrender of the lease. The refurbishment of the café toilets (includes re-roofing) commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2008 and refurbishment of the actual café will take place once the legal documentation has been completed.</p> <p>Louise informed the Board that the bins and benches for the play area are due to be installed within the next couple of weeks. Construction of the play area fencing by Kirklevington Prison is ongoing – the first 24 panels have now been delivered to the storage depot. Louise informed the</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p>Board that primary schools in Billingham will be consulted regarding the finalials. Louise informed the Board that unfortunately the assessment regarding the suitability of the "water feature" as the preferred central feature in the sensory garden has demonstrated that it is not feasible as the ongoing maintenance and costs associated with potential vandalism are prohibitive. Louise informed the Board that Andrew McKeown has been commissioned to work with Blind Voice etc to produce a design for a central feature sculpture.</p> <p>Louise informed the Board that the tapping rail is due to be replaced with a handrail. Louise informed the Board that Lee Brewster, artist, has completed his consultation with young people at Northfield and St Michael's school regarding specific provision of facilities for older children within the park and their long term aspirations for the park. Louise informed the Board that the consultation is currently</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p>being assessed and will be discussed with partners prior to the revision of the masterplan.            KAB member of SoJWP outlined their concern that they did not feel they had been made aware of the issues with the water feature at an earlier date. It was commented that SoJWP had contacted Impetus Environmental Trust to inform them of the decision regarding the water feature and they requested the return of their funding which had been allocated for a water feature. KAB informed the Board that as a result SoJWP had resigned their membership of the Board on 12<sup>th</sup> August. KAB informed the Board that the SoJWP are holding a dissolution meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 6.30pm in the Bowls Club. KP informed the Board that SRCGA and himself were going to try and resolve this matter and would the Board agree to SRCGA and KP trying to get the current SoJWP to withdraw their resignations or look to recruit a new SoJWP group.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>The Board agreed for KP and SRCGA to investigate this matter and feedback at the October meeting.</p>	No			

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<p><b>8. Thematic Group Updates</b></p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>9. Information Updates</b></p> <p><b>a. Community Sector</b></p> <p>RM informed the Board that the Clarences now have their own residents association and constitution.</p> <p>KP informed the Board that the Billingham Carnival have £2000 to give away in prize money for the Tug of War competition (£500 per team).</p> <p><b>b. Voluntary Sector</b></p> <p>JM informed the Board that Billingham International Folklore Festival (BIFF) was very successful this year and that the dates for next year are 25<sup>th</sup> July 2009 to 1<sup>st</sup> August 2009.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p><b>c. Business Sector</b></p> <p>Nothing to raise.</p> <p><b>d. Public Sector</b></p> <p>ZR informed the Board that the Billingham Partnership Summary Plan 2007/08 has been tabled for information.</p> <p><b>8. Chairs Report</b></p> <p>Chair informed the Board that he has attended no meetings in August.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			<p>Geoff Harrison Chair, TBP</p>
<p><b>9..Managers Report</b></p> <p>KP informed the Board that he has issued a copy of the financial statement which has now been audited and asked if the Board would accept them and the Chair would sign them.</p>		<p>Board accepted the accounts.</p>	<p>No</p>			<p>Kevin Pitt Manager, TBP</p>

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<p><b>10. Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Nothing to raise.</p> <p><b>11. Date Of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at the New Life Resource Centre, Low Grange Avenue, Billingham.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>				