

**Minute/Decision Summary to be confirmed**  
**Meeting- The Billingham Partnership**  
**Date – 6<sup>th</sup> October 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), Liz Smith (BS), Fred Gook (VS), Michele Smith (VS), Andrew Hatton (BS), Jim Scollen (VS), Elizabeth Benomran (PUB), Barry Woodhouse (PUB)

**Advisors/Observers:**

Zoe Rutter (SBC), Louise McDonald (SBC), Miriam Stanton, Haleem Ghafoor (SBC), Jean Edmonds (SBC), Kelly Smith (SBC), Lionel Danby (SBC), John Hegarty (SBC), Cliff Henderson (New Life Family Centre), Les Wadey (Governor Northfield School & Sports College)

**Apologies:**

Hilary Aggio

Ged McGuire

Roger Black

Cath Coldbeck

David Campbell

Ray McCall

Val Scollen

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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<b>1.Introductions and Apologies for Absence</b>  Introductions and apologies were noted.		Noted				Zoe Rutter SBC 01642 526025
<b>2. Approval of Minutes from Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>  Minutes of the 1 <sup>st</sup> September were agreed as a true and accurate record.		Noted				Zoe Rutter SBC 01642 526025
<b>3. Draft Core Strategy Submission for Local Development Framework (LDF) – Rosemary Young</b>  Rosemary introduced the report that was circulated and informed the Board that the consultation period for this particular item is expected to begin on 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2008 for		Noted	No	No	No	Rosemary Young SBC

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8 weeks. Representations need to be made in writing. Further information can be found on Stockton Council’s website.						
<p><b>4. Youth Provision – Mark Telford</b></p> <p>Mark informed the Board that following the Youth Provider Forum meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, four thematic areas were identified to be looked at in Billingham:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More activities for children &amp; young people</li> <li>2. Perception of children &amp; young people by adults and vice versa</li> <li>3. Advertisement of activities available to children &amp; young people in the Billingham area</li> <li>4. Gang culture and territorialism</li> </ol> <p>There now needs to be some action planning around these issues and the forum then needs to feedback to the young people.</p> <p>Mark also raised the Youth Café and that it</p>		Noted	No			Mark Telford SBC
		Noted	No			

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<p>is built and awaiting a couple of items to be delivered. At present funding has been secured to open the café for 4 sessions, funding needs to be sought for additional sessions.</p> <p><b>5. Area Partnership Allocation – Haleem Ghafoor</b></p> <p>Haleem introduced the report that was circulated prior to the meeting and explained that the funding and criteria are focused around the employability agenda and that the Employability Consortium have been tasked with recommending the criteria to the LSP and Cabinet. Haleem explained that the Billingham Partnership have been allocated £72,765 over 3 years as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £23,659 in 2008/09</li> <li>• £24,250 in 2009/10</li> <li>• £24,856 in 2010/11</li> </ul> <p>KP proposed that the Board spend the</p>		Noted	No			Haleem Ghafoor SBC

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<p>money as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 08/09, 09/10, 10/11 monies be allocated for the 3 year period to support the development of hard to reach groups/individuals within the Billingham area through the Billingham Environmental Link Project. The main priorities should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Engagement with hard to reach groups</li> <li>➤ Assistance into personal development</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Haleem requested volunteers from the Board to be part of a time and tasked sub group to assist in developing the projects. Members who volunteered for the sub group are: Geoff Harrison, Jim Scollen, Fred Gook, Bert Smailes and Ged McGuire.</p> <p>HG explained that the sub group's role</p>		<p>This proposal was accepted by the Board.</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>would involve partaking in the commissioning of projects to deliver on the Boards priorities. It was also explained that once all the service specifications have been developed to address the priorities, those tenders would be advertised to allow an open tendering process for which any organisation can bid to deliver against the service specification criteria.</p> <p><b>6. Reorganisation of Secondary School's in Billingham – John Hegarty</b></p> <p>John introduced the report that was circulated and explained the reason behind the consultation and why the change is necessary. John informed the Board that this briefing is part of the statutory consultation and that this proposal will be put to the Council's Cabinet. After a long debate the chair concluded that no decision will be taken until the Billingham Children &amp; Young People thematic sub group have looked at this item</p>		<p>Noted</p>           <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p>           <p>No</p>			<p>John Hegarty SBC</p>

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<p>in further detail. The group will meet before the 17<sup>th</sup> October and feedback accordingly to the Board.</p> <p><b>7. Matters Arising – Louise McDonald</b></p> <p><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.</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</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			<p>Louise McDonald SBC</p>

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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 following the analysis of water samples, Northumbrian Water had permitted the basement water to be disposed through the main foul drain.		Noted	No			
		Noted	No			
	<b>c. Forum</b>  Louise informed the Board that the consultation period for various key stakeholders is scheduled to take place over the next few months as we move through detailed design. Following assessment of the pre qualification questionnaires five contractors were invited to submit full tenders. Louise informed the Board that tenders are due shortly and it is		Noted	No		



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<p>expected that the preferred contractor will be appointed for the stage 1 design and costing work in November 2008. Louise informed the Board that the contractor will work in close partnership with the Council and Tees Active during stage 1 and to assist with this process the Council is appointing a Project Manager. Louise informed the Board that final approval for the detailed design and cost and permission to appoint the construction contract (stage 2 of the works) will then be sought from Cabinet in Spring 2009. Louise informed the Board that the Sport England Stage 2 funding application seeking £500k towards the enhanced refurbishment scheme has now been submitted and a decision is anticipated around the new year. Louise informed the Board that discussions with the preferred theatre operator are progressing well and an offer has been accepted in principle, subject to detailed contract information being agreed in</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p>principle, subject to contract. Louise informed the Board that further information on the Forum Enhanced Refurbishment scheme can be obtained from the Council's website at : <a href="http://www.stockton.gov.uk/newlookforum">www.stockton.gov.uk/newlookforum</a></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 been agreed with the existing tenant for surrender of the lease and contracts are currently being drawn up. The refurbishment of the café toilets (including re-roofing) is now complete and refurbishment of the actual café will take place once the legal documentation has been completed. The café project timetable should be available at the next Board meeting.</p> <p>Louise informed the Board that the bins and benches for the play area have now been installed and the current signage is</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>			

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<p>ongoing – over 60% of fencing has now been delivered to the storage depot.  Louise informed the Board that a brief to deliver finials and features for play area fencing has been produced to commission an artist to deliver a programme of workshops with children and young people from primary schools in Billingham to produce 8 bespoke finials reflecting some aspect of the park's landscape, history or heritage, or be based on a local contemporary theme. Louise informed the Board that £15k has been secured via the "Playing Out" programme to deliver this scheme.  Louise informed the Board that further thinning and reduction of shrub beds north of the play area is due to be undertaken throughout October by the Council's Ranger Service.  Louise informed the Board that unfortunately the assessment regarding the suitability of the "water feature" as the preferred central feature in the sensory</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>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 therefore 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.</p> <p>KAB informed the Board that a dissolution meeting of the Supporters of John Whitehead Park (SoJWP) was suspended until Impetus Environmental Trust released funds to pay for works to date. Once this payment has been made a further dissolution meeting will be scheduled.</p> <p>KP confirmed that he had held a meeting with Graham Clingan and Keith Mathews, where it was identified that communication could have been better with SBC and the SoJWP and that SBC apologised for this.</p> <p>KP informed the Board that he has spoken with Kevin Bowler, Chair of SoJWP, who</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>8. Thematic Group Updates</b></p> <p>KP circulated some statistics regarding elderly and disability in Billingham. KP has split the Board down in to teams and will be calling a meeting of each team in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p><b>9. Information Updates</b>  <b>a. Community Sector</b></p> <p>KAB informed the Board that Stockton Sports Centre is due to close shortly. LM summarised the plans to extend Splash, outlining the project timetable and scheme details as well as advising that Stockton Sports Centre will not re-open after the festive period. LM advised that Splash will remain open throughout the works.</p> <p>GH informed the Board that Low Grange Residents Association (LGRA), together with the Police, are working to bring the derelict garage site on Quenby Road back</p>		Noted	No			Kevin Pitt Manager, TBP
		Noted	No			
		Board agreed to this request.	No			



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<p>circulated if anybody would like to attend.</p> <p>GH informed the Board that Tees Valley Community Fund are offering grants from £250 - £5k for community lead projects. To be able to apply you have to be part of a constituted community group and have less than £20k in the bank.</p> <p><b>b. Voluntary Sector</b></p> <p>JM updated the Board on Billingham International Folklore Festival (BIFF) 2009 and the dates are 8<sup>th</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2009. JM stated that it would cost £30k for BIFF to retain the use of the Forum in 2009 and is currently seeking funding to meet this cost. JM informed the Board that BIFF have secured premises at Billingham Campus school for BIFF 2009.</p> <p><b>c. Business Sector</b></p> <p>LS informed the Board that the Billingham</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>8. Chairs Report</b></p> <p>Chair informed the Board that he has attended the following meetings over the past month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stockton Network 8.9.08</li> <li>• Stockton Renaissance Board 9.8.08</li> <li>• Economic Regeneration &amp; Transport Partnership 10.9.08</li> <li>• Catalyst Directors 12.9.08</li> <li>• SRCGA Directors 15.9.08</li> <li>• Environment Partnership 18.09.08</li> <li>• Low Grange Residents Association 18.9.08</li> <li>• Supporters of John Whitehead Park dissolution meeting 23.9.08</li> <li>• Billingham Network 24.9.08</li> <li>• Area Partnership “Get your Priorities Right” event 29.9.08</li> <li>• Catalyst Directors 3.10.08</li> </ul> <p>Chair asked if anybody had any questions, no questions were raised.</p>		Noted	No			Geoff Harrison Chair, TBP

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Chair informed the Board that the agendas and minutes for Stockton Renaissance are now on the website, <a href="http://www.stockton.gov.uk/renaissance">www.stockton.gov.uk/renaissance</a>		Noted				
<p><b>9..Managers Report</b></p> <p>KP updated the Board on the Anhydrite Mines and informed the Board that a briefing has also been given to the Billingham Town Council. NPL have outlined the area which they intend to use and this is not under any housing. KP informed the Board that the Environment Agency would like to see a hydrogeological report before granting an environment permit. KP informed the Board that a scoping report was issued by SBC which has drawn responses from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tees Archaeology</li> <li>• Natural England</li> <li>• Highways Agency</li> <li>• SBC Environmental Health</li> <li>• SBC Planning Department</li> <li>• SBC Urban Design</li> </ul>		Noted	No			Kevin Pitt Manager, TBP

