

Minutes
The Eastern Area Partnership Board (EAPB)
16 December 2008, 9.30am at The Five Lamps Organisation, Thornaby

APPROVED BY EAPB ON 20 JANUARY 2009

Chair:

Graeme Oram (Five Lamps Organisation).

Members:

Doug Nicholson (Friends of Tees Heritage Park) **Carol Adams** (Village Park Residents Association) **Geoffrey Green** (Thornaby Town Council) **Meg Collins** (Over 50s Assembly) **Tom Bowman** (Ingleby Barwick Town Council).

* Members are representing their nominating body.

Advisors:

Nicola Hall, Beverley Cross, Nigel Laws (Stockton Council) **Anne-Louise Orange** (Groundwork South Tees) **Tracy Roberts** (Stockton Residents & Community Groups Association)

Observers:

Dorothy Fairhurst (resident) **Beryl Robinson** (resident)

Apologies

Members:

Peter Brennan (Village Park Residents Association) **Insp Ian Garrett** (Cleveland Police) **Cllr Kevin Faulks** (Stockton Council – Ingleby Barwick East Ward) **Trevor Mortlock** (Job Centre Plus) **Philip Day** (Holmes & Middlefield Residents Association) **Cllr Tina Large** (Stockton Council – Mandale & Victoria Ward) **Irene Machin** (Ingleby Barwick Community Centre)

Advisors/ Observers:

Andy Whinnerah, Shirley Stenburge (Stockton Council) **Elizabeth Benomran** (North Tees Primary Care Trust) **Linda Russell-Bond** (Thornaby Community School) **Diane Patterson** (Tees Credit Union)

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1. Welcome and Introductions Members were introduced and welcomed to the Eastern Area Partnership.		No	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823
2. Apologies Apologies were noted.		Noted	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823
3. Declaration of Interest Graeme Oram (GO) declared an interest in agenda item 9.		Noted	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823

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4. Minutes of Last Meeting Minutes of the last meeting held on 18 November 2008 were agreed as a true record.		Minutes agreed as a true record.	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823
5. Matters Arising There were no matters arising.		Noted	No	No	No	Graeme Oram, Chair (01642) 608316
6. Thornaby Town Centre Nigel Laws (NL) provided an update on the redevelopment of Thornaby Town Centre, explaining that the programme was still on track. NL stated that a number of the retail units were now open in Block B and the soft strip of Appleby House was currently taking place. NL explained that the market café would be open in the New Year and the main mall was on schedule to be completed at the beginning of February, ready for the shops to complete fit-outs and open in March 2009. NL reminded members that the		Noted Noted	No No	No No	No No	Nigel Laws, Projects Manager, SBC (01642) 527565

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<p>Christmas market would be taking place on Tuesday 23 December 2008.</p> <p>NL explained that there were still outstanding issues regarding lighting and stated that there has been damage to the cable at the side of the Pavillion. NL explained that as a result of this, Thornfield would be bringing forward the permanent lighting of the Town Centre ahead of schedule.</p> <p>NL informed members that as requested by the Partnership, the tree stumps had now been painted white to make them more visible.</p> <p>NL stated that in partnership with the Job Centre Plus, an employment fair had been arranged for 15 January 2009, 9am at the Golden Eagle. NL explained that this event would provide opportunities for local employment within the Town Centre.</p> <p>NL explained that the additional funding provided by the Council that had been originally reserved for the contribution towards the removal of the BT cable, would now be used towards enhancements in the Town Centre including the upgrade of the ramp to the Pavillion, signage and lighting.</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>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	

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NL stated that Thornfield were keen to have a launch event for the Town Centre and this would be arranged during April 2009.		Noted	No	No	No	
A query was raised regarding the situation with Inshops. NL explained that Inshops were still assigning their lease over to B & M Retail and the tenants currently within Inshops were expected to leave during mid January 2009. NL stated that the Council and Thornfield were working with the tenants to offer assistance. NL explained that Thornfield were keen to introduce a further couple of free standing retail units, subject to planning permission and this would provide an opportunity to provide some of the tenants with medium term security if they wished to take this up. NL clarified that Thornfield had made the commercial decision not to make any of the retail units smaller.		Noted	No	No	No	
A query was raised regarding if there was any plans to put a post box outside of the post office, as the only post box in the Town Centre was inside of the post office. NL explained that he would look into this issue and report back to the Partnership.		Noted	NL to report back on the issue of a post box within the Town Centre.	No	No	
Comment was made that access into the car park was not being used properly as people did not seem to		Noted	No	No	No	

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GO commented that the Town Centre looked really good and it was encouraging that it was progressing well.		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>7. Stockton River Corridors Project</p> <p>Anne-Louise Orange (ALO) provided a presentation to the Partnership on the Stockton River Corridors project, explaining that it was a partnership initiative between Groundwork South Tees, Stockton Council, British Waterways and the Environment Agency. ALO stated that it was a two-year initiative and was based on Stockton developing a Green Infrastructure Strategy.</p> <p>ALO explained that there were a number of green corridors around the River Tees and the project aimed to ensure that there was joined-up thinking and a strategic approach to the development and enhancement of the river. ALO stated that the project was also to prevent duplication, work in partnership and raise awareness of what is on offer in the Borough in terms of environmental and recreational activities. ALO outlined that access to the area is an issue, which the project would seek to address.</p> <p>ALO provided the context to the project, stating that the project would be rebranded as 'Tees Together' and would build upon what is already going on, such as</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Anne-Louise Orange, Development Manager, Groundwork South Tees (01642)
		Noted	No	No	No	

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<p>initiatives like the Stockton Middlesbrough Initiative. ALO stated that the project would also work with local community groups and had already built up close working with Friends of Tees Heritage Park.</p> <p>ALO explained that a Rivers Users Group had been set up in July 2008 and this was being led by Becky Brown. ALO further explained that other working groups had also been set up including a development and access group, a marketing group and a stewardship group.</p> <p>ALO stated that an event had taken place during October 2008, which looked at the boundaries of the project and access to sites, including the links with the Connect2 project. ALO explained that the boundaries and ethos of the project had been included within the Council's Core Strategy and Development Plan Document. ALO identified the core area of the project as being from Victoria Bridge to Yarm.</p> <p>ALO explained that she had been working on funding applications to Community Spaces Flagship and Access to Nature. ALO explained that 2 Community Rangers would be appointed, who would work with community groups to address the access issues.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	

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<p>ALO informed members that an Action Plan was being developed, which would identify all of the projects along the river under one strapline. ALO explained that the Action Plan would be launched during March 2009 and partners and stakeholders would be involved in the launch of the Action Plan.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>ALO explained the timescales for the project, stating that practical delivery of the project would take place during 2009 onwards. ALO explained that a number of 'quick win' projects had already commenced including Brickie Ponds/ Hartburn Beck.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>Doug Nicholson (DN) informed members that Friends of Tees Heritage Park were pleased that ALO and Stockton Council are involved in the project and it was fantastic that the vision of a Heritage Park had been turned into a reality. DN stated that having more partners involved in the project gave the vision more strength and linkages that are important to the wider context.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>DN explained that plans were being considered to reintroduce ferries on the river, in order for people to be able to walk the whole length of the river. There was a discussion around accessibility to certain riverside walks which are currently curtailed by building developments..</p>		Noted	No	No	No	

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<p>ALO explained that plans were being considered to divert the footpath in Ingleby Barwick along the front of the golf club and in front of the club house. DN commented that the developments on the river need to be accepted and the vision is to minimise the effect of them and have alternatives, such as the ferry, so they are not a barrier.</p> <p>Comment was made that some of the paths along the river had been eroded. ALO explained that she was aware of this and was looking into more radical longer term solution to the problem, such as installing board walks. ALO explained that it was good that British Waterways were a main partner in the project and issues such as this can be raised directly with them.</p> <p>A discussion took place on the links to the heritage sites within the Borough including the ticket office.</p> <p>The Partnership requested to be kept informed of future developments with the Stockton River Corridors Project.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>Item to be included on the forward plan for future meetings.</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	

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<p>8. Mandale Housing Redevelopment</p> <p>Beverley Cross (BC) explained her role as project officer and stated that she dealt with the day to day running of the Mandale housing redevelopment scheme.</p> <p>BC provided background information to the project, stating that in January 2002 a demand study was undertaken in Mandale to address housing market failure and the longer term social and economic decline of the area. BC explained that Mandale had poor quality low demand housing and also had high levels of deprivation.</p> <p>BC stated that the housing redevelopment scheme was not eligible for external funding and as such was a self funding scheme.</p> <p>BC highlighted that there was a strong sense of community with Mandale with many residents wishing to return to the area once it had been redeveloped.</p> <p>BC explained that the project was split into 3 phases and the masterplan was to demolish 600 properties including over 100 right to buys. BC stated that this approach meant that properties and streets that were considered</p>		<p>Noted</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> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>Beverley Cross, Project Officer, SBC (01642) 526074</p>

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<p>as higher demand and higher quality needed to also be demolished. BC stated that there is two-thirds and one-third mix of homes for sale and registered social landlords. BC explained that the masterplan was also for the area to be attractive and have safe park land with playing pitches, cycleways, safe routes and high quality landscaping and there would be a new gateway to the estate through a tree lined 'urban boulevard'.</p> <p>BC explained the layouts of the 3 phases. BC stated that to date, just under 300 properties had been demolished, 340 new homes had been built and 132 NomadE5 homes across the 3 phases. BC informed members that the £1 million Linear Park had been completed, along with Phase 1a. BC stated that work had started in Phase 2.</p> <p>A query was raised regarding getting more dog bins installed in the Linear Park. BC explained that Thornaby Town Council had funded 8 dog bins in the park and had funding available for more dog bins. BC to raise this issue with Thornaby Town Council for consideration.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>BC to raise the issue of more dog bins with Thornaby Town Council.</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	

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BC stated that the squareabout was created to provide an identity for the area and also for traffic calming purposes.		Noted	No	No	No	
BC informed members that new homes on Mandale were still selling well despite the credit crunch. BC explained that phase 3 new layout would be designed with the new year and the decanting of residents within this area would begin in April 2010.		Noted	No	No	No	
BC stated that a Community Action Plan would be developed for the area to encourage residents to take an active interest in the area.		Noted	No	No	No	
BC explained that as a result of issues around Anti-Social Behaviour, the central mound feature had been removed.		Noted	No	No	No	
A discussion took place around the boundary of the development. BC explained that it was always difficult as a boundary line had to be drawn, however the impact of the development does increase house prices in the surrounding area.		Noted	No	No	No	
GO commented that the project was a real success story and the concerns expressed by residents had been		Noted	No	No	No	

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<p>handed expertly by the Council.</p> <p>A query was raised regarding if the spirit of the area had changed. BC explained that most of the responses from the results of the first resident satisfaction survey were positive and residents identified that they had confidence in the plans for the area. BC stated that a number of residents who had been temporarily relocated outside of the area had moved back in and also a number of new residents had also moved into the area. BC commented that the demography of the area had changed, however it had not lost its community feel.</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the lack of public transport within the area. BC explained that the area had been designed with public transport in mind, such as wider roads for buses.</p> <p>Comment was made on the number of facilities within the area. BC explained that there were few facilities within the area; however this was due to its close proximity to the Town Centre.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	
<p>9. Update from the Eastern Area Partnership Commissioning Sub Group</p> <p>Nicola Hall (NH) referred to the submitted report and</p>	<p>GO</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Nicola Hall</p>

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<p>provided members with an update on the commissioning of the Eastern Area Partnerships Communities Fund allocation.</p> <p>NH stated that the Eastern Area Partnership has an allocation of £114,359 during 2008/11 from the Communities Fund to address their priority areas of children and young people and financial inclusion.</p> <p>NH explained that the Partnership had agreed that £14,999 would be allocated towards a project around engagement of young people and £14,999 would also be allocated towards a project towards financial/ liveability advice and both projects would be commissioned until March 2009.</p> <p>NH stated that a Sub Group was set up and had met on 6 November 2008 and developed specifications for the Partnership's priority areas.</p> <p>NH informed members that specifications had been sent out to the agreed providers on 7 November 2008, with a returned deadline of 21 November 2008. NH stated that the Sub Group had met on 26 November 2008 to discuss the received applications; an application was received from the Five Lamps Organisation and 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>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823</p>

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<p>Youthy (in partnership) for the project to address engagement of young people and an application was also received from Stockton & District Advice & Information Service, Tees Credit Union and Five Lamps Organisation (in partnership) for the project to address financial inclusion.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>NH explained that applicants were invited to attend the Sub Group meeting in order for the Sub Group to ask any questions they had on the received applications. NH stated that the Sub Group agreed that the applications received from Five Lamps Organisation and the Youthy (in partnership) for the project to address engagement of young people and Stockton & District Advice & Information Service, Tees Credit Union and Five Lamps Organisation (in partnership) for the project to address financial inclusion were successful.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>NH recommended that the Eastern Area Partnership consider the options for future funding of both projects at the earliest opportunity before March 2009.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p>GO provided an overview of the project developed by the Youthy and Five Lamps and explained that it had an intergenerational aspect, in which a local filmmaker would work with a group of young people and local</p>		Noted	No	No	No	

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resident groups to produce a film which would capture the views of those involved. A discussion took place on aspirations of young people and the heritage of Thornaby.						
<p>10. Meeting Dates 2009</p> <p>GO informed members that the meeting dates for 2009 were attached with the paperwork. GO commented that he had no preference for the meetings being held at the Five Lamps Organisation and that previously other venues had been considered including those in Ingleby Barwick, but were unsuitable. Following discussion members agreed to continue to hold the meetings at the Five Lamps as it was on a bus route and was convenient for parking purposes.</p>		Meeting dates, times and venue for the Partnership in 2009 were agreed.	No	No	No	Graeme Oram, Chair (01642) 608316
<p>11. Any Other Business</p> <p>Tracy Roberts (TR) stated that the Youthy were holding a Christmas show on Thursday 18 November 2008 at 6.30pm.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Graeme Oram, Chair (01642) 608316
<p>12. Thematic Partnership Update</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing Partnership GO explained that there had not been a meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Partnership.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Graeme Oram, Chair (01642)

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<p>Children's Trust Board GO explained hat he had been unable to attend the meeting of the Children's Trust Board due to prior commitments.</p> <p>Safer Stockton Partnership Ian Garrett (IG) was attending the Safer Stockton Partnership.</p> <p>Economic Regeneration & Transport Partnership Tom Bowman (TB) stated there had not been a meeting of the Economic Regeneration & Transport Partnership.</p> <p>Environment Partnership Irene Machin (IM) had submitted her apologies and as such could not provide an update.</p> <p>Housing & Neighbourhood Partnership. Peter Brennan (PB) had submitted his apologies and as such could not provide an update.</p>						608316
<p>13. Forward Plan NH explained that the items on the forward plan for the January 2009 meeting were roles and responsibilities, summary plan and scrutiny review of policing.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Graeme Oram, Chair (01642) 608316

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<p>14. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next business meeting of the EAPB will be held on:</p> <p>Tuesday 20 January 2008, 5.30pm at the Five Lamps Organisation.</p> <p>EAPB members are invited to forward any agenda items for future meetings to Nicola Hall.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823