

**Minutes**  
**The Eastern Area Partnership Board (EAPB)**  
**31 March 2009, 5.30pm at The Five Lamps Organisation, Thornaby**

**APPROVED BY EAPB ON 28 APRIL 2009**

**Chair:**

**Graeme Oram** (Five Lamps Organisation).

**Members:**

**Philip Day** (Holmes & Middlefield Residents Association) **Insp Ian Garrett** (Cleveland Police) **Diane Patterson** (Tees Credit Union)  
**Carol Adams** (Village Park Residents Association) **Peter Brennan** (Village Park Residents Association) **Meg Collins** (Over 50s  
Assembly).

\* Members are representing their nominating body.

**Advisors:**

**Tracy Roberts** (Stockton Residents & Community Groups Association) **Andy Whinnerah, Beverley Cross, Kelly Smith, Nicola Hall, Simon Lee, Victoria Welsh, Chris Davey** (Stockton Council) **Neil O'Brien** (Engage Associates).

**Observers:**

**Dorothy Fairhurst** (resident).

**Apologies**

**Members:**

**Cllr Kevin Faulks** (Stockton Council – Ingleby Barwick East Ward) **Irene Machin** (Ingleby Barwick Community Centre) **Geoffrey Green** (Thornaby Town Council) **Doug Nicholson** (Friends of Tees Heritage Park) **Tom Bowman** (Ingleby Barwick Town Council)

**Advisors/ Observers:**

**Elizabeth Benomran** (North Tees Primary Care Trust) **Beryl Robinson** (resident) **Shirley Stenburge**(Stockton Council).

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

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<p><b>4. Minutes of Last Meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting held on 24 February 2009 were agreed as a true record.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b>            Amendment to page 12 of the 24 February 2009 minutes:</p> <p>First paragraph should read 'NK explained that a proposal is being put forward to Cabinet to create a pedestrian crossing across Allensway (near Asda and the Dentist) and if approved this would be implemented during 2009/10 budget cycle'</p>		<p>Minutes agreed as a true record.</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p> <p>NH to amend minutes.</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823</p>
<p><b>5. Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Youth Services and Youth Provision Review</b></p> <p>Andy Whinnerah (<b>AW</b>) explained that to date 50 responses had been received to the Youth Services and Youth Provision Review questionnaire. AW stated the questionnaire responses were currently being analysed.</p>		<p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Graeme Oram, Chair (01642) 608316</p>

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<p><b>Myplace</b></p> <p>AW explained that Stockton had been successful in its bid to the Myplace programme and had been awarded £4,995,250 to create a new youth facility in Stockton's Tilery area.</p> <p>GO commented that Myplace was a fantastic result for the Borough.</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>6. Cardboard and Plastic Recycling</b></p> <p>Victoria Welsh (<b>VW</b>) provided the Partnership with information on the Council's Cardboard and Plastic Recycling scheme.</p> <p>VW stated that she wanted to ensure that the right messages were being sent out to residents and also wanted to quash any rumours about the scheme.</p> <p>VW explained that the scheme had been undertaken through a phased approach and all residents would be provided with a white hessian bag and also an information leaflet explained what they can and can not recycle and also when the recycling would be collected.</p>		Noted  Noted  Noted	No  No  No	No  No  No	No  No  No	Victoria Welsh, SBC (01642) 527184

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<p>VW informed members that the Council employed 2 Waste Support Officers to tackle issues such as recycling within communal areas.</p> <p>VW clarified that residents could request more than one white hessian bag; however the numbers given out would be within reason.</p> <p>VW stated that the Council would no longer be providing communal skips. VW stated that if residents wanted to remove any bulky waste items, Care For Your Area would take up to six items for a charge of £10. VW also explained that bulky waste could also be disposed of at the Haverton Hill recycling site. A discussion took place on the charges for collecting bulky waste and comment was made that it would lead to a rise in fly tipping. VW clarified that the charge for collection had been in place for a number of years, therefore residents should be aware of this. VW also clarified that the Environment Agency were responsible for doing spot checks for fly tipping.</p> <p>VW circulated information leaflets on the scheme and requested that members distribute this information to their groups.</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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A query was raised regarding a clothes recycling bin on Thornaby Road. VW explained that the recycling bin was the responsibility of the land owner.		Noted	No	No	No	
A query was raised regarding if the cardboard and plastic would be collected if it was wet. VW explained that water was not an issue and also residents do not have to wash or take the labels off any items that are to be recycled, however it is appreciated if residents are able to do that. VW clarified that the plastic bottle tops can also be recycled.		Noted	No	No	No	
VW clarified that the collection crews would try to ensure that the white and blue bags are put back securely, however they can not control the weather.		Noted	No	No	No	
A query was raised regarding the way in which the recycling items and placed in the same lorry as the general waste. VW explained that the contractors have the facility to be able to sort the recycling from the general waste on site.		Noted	No	No	No	
VW explained that the Council also worked very closely with local schools to educate young people on recycling.		Noted	No	No	No	

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<p>GO asked if VW would be able to provide a breakdown of the recycling rates at a ward level. VW stated that she would have to look to see if this information was available and would let NH know. (<b><i>Post Meeting Note:</i></b> VW emailed NH on 6 April 2009 to explain that information on the breakdown of individual recycling tonnages for the individual wards is not available for public viewing, as the accuracy of the data cannot be guaranteed).</p>		Noted	No	No	No	
<p><b>7. Sustainable Communities Act</b></p> <p>Simon Lee (<b>SL</b>) gave a presentation on the Sustainable Communities Act. SL explained that the Act encourages people to identify what is needed locally to make communities more sustainable and what needs to change nationally to make it happen</p> <p>SL stated that the Act defines sustainability as covering social, economic and environmental issues, therefore it really covers anything.</p> <p>SL explained how the Act would work and gave examples of proposals including supporting local pubs; supporting local housing and supporting local energy generation. SL informed members that at the other Area Partnerships, suggestions had been made that issues</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Simon Lee, SBC (01642) 524581

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<p>such as planning and rural transport should be considered as a proposal.</p> <p>SL invited comments and suggestions from the Partnership. A discussion took place and issues such as a central entertainment venue and second homes were suggested. Comment was made that a proposal should be considered around dispersal orders.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the Tristar Neasham site in Thornaby Town Centre and how long the legal process has been to ensure that the site is made good. GO suggested that a proposal could be put forward that would allow the process to be sped up and give the Council more freedom than the current legislation allows to redevelop derelict land for community use.</p> <p>Comment was made that the Council should be pushing for this information anyway and it should not be in the onus of the local community to come forward with suggestions. SL explained that the Council welcomed the opportunity to be able to influence and enhance current laws and wanted to put forward suggestions that had the support of the community. SL also explained that Cllr Suzanne Fletcher was a sub member on a national joint member panel that would consider the</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>proposals put forward by Councils.</p> <p>SL clarified that the Sustainable Communities Act unfortunately did not come with any funding.</p> <p>GO suggested that a proposal should be considered around public transport and giving Local Authorities more power to regulate the service.</p> <p>SL clarified that the timescale for submitting proposals was by July 2009 and the Local Government Association would consider any proposals and realistically any proposals would take years rather than months to implement. SL clarified that assurance had been given that this will be an ongoing process.</p> <p>SL advised that following consultation, a report would be submitted to the Council's Corporate Management Team (CMT). SL stated that he would come back to a future meeting with an update on the Sustainability Act.</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><b>8. Housing Futures</b></p> <p>Chris Davey (<b>CD</b>) introduced himself and Neil O'Brien (<b>NO</b>). CD explained that the NB worked for Engage Associates, a company that has been appointed by the Housing Futures Tenant Group to provide independent</p>		<p>Noted</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Yes - All</p>	<p>Chris Davey, SBC (01642) 526776</p>

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<p>Stockton.</p> <p>CD explained a report would be submitted to Cabinet in September 2009, which would identify the type of landlord and also provide more detail on the funding review. DC explained that at this meeting, Cabinet would be making a final decision on the future of the Council's Housing Stock.</p> <p>CD explained that if the stock transfer is the chosen option then the process of working with tenants to develop the Offer Document will start. CD stated that this is the document which tenants will be issued before they are asked to vote. CD explained that the Offer Document would detail the services tenants would receive if they wanted in favour of stock transfer and if not and vote to remain with the Council.</p> <p>NO explained his role and stated that he was trying to attend as many resident association meetings as possible to provide support to tenants. CD explained that a pocket guide and helpline had been set up to respond to any queries tenants had.</p> <p>A query was raised regarding if this would lead to a rent increase. CD explained that all rent should be worked</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>Yes - All</p> <p>Yes - All</p> <p>Yes - All</p> <p>Yes - All</p>	

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<p>NB explained that residents would need to ask some difficult questions when considering the type of landlord and explained that a new organisation would need to appoint a Chief Executive, Finance Director, legal team, IT team, HR team etc, which could be costly, however if a partnership approach is used then these costs could be shared. NO explained that all of these issues had been discussed at the Options meeting and the role of tenants was to influence the process.</p>		Noted	No	No	Yes - All	
<p>A discussion took place regarding if this could be an option for the Sustainable Communities Act, to allow local communities to take ownership of parts of an area and a local organisation could be the landlord for that area. GO explained that the Five Lamps had considered proposing a similar model for the Mandale redevelopment scheme. GO stated that a scheme like this would link to issues such as jobs, family, youth services and was essentially a neighbourhood management/ community type model.</p>		Noted	No	No	Yes - All	
<p>NO explained that a similar model had been successful adopted in Preston called 'Corn Gateway' and over a period of time parts of the stock had been transferred to the local community via a holding company.</p>		Noted	No	No	Yes - All	

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<p>consultation, greater representation and ensure that members give feed to their nominating body.</p> <p>NH explained that an Area Partnership Improvement Plan had been created as a result of the review and a number of actions would be implemented. NH informed members that progress on the Improvement Plan would be reported to the Partnership on a six-monthly and annual basis.</p> <p>Comment was made that it was disappointing that the further delegation of budgets to the Area Partnerships was not detailed in the Improvement Plan.</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><b>12. Roles and Responsibilities</b></p> <p>Peter Brennan (PB) explained that he wanted to highlight a few points with regards to the membership of the Partnership.</p> <p>PB explained that members elected though Stockton Residents &amp; Community Groups Association represented the voluntary and community sector as a whole and not just their nominating group. PB stated that members had a responsibility to spread information both ways and provide feedback on issues discussed at the Eastern Area Partnership. PB gave the example of the</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>Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823</p>

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<p>Eastern Area dedicated transport meeting and stated that members also had a responsibility to advertise this meeting amongst their groups and residents.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the induction process of members, particularly those from the voluntary and community sector. GO suggested that it would be useful if a briefing note was provided to members to use to feedback information to their groups.</p>		Noted	NH to produce briefing sheet.	No	No	
<p><b>13. Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Area Transport Strategy Steering Group</b></p> <p>Peter Brennan (<b>PB</b>) queried the attendance at the ATS meetings. NH clarified that the meetings were by invitation only.</p> <p><b>Thornaby Town Centre</b></p> <p>Philip Day (<b>PD</b>) explained that disabled members of Tees Active were upset that they could not use the facilities at the Pavillion whilst the ramp was being refurbished and were not provided with a refund.</p> <p>PD also raised concern regarding that there were no public toilets in the Town Centre. It was noted that it had</p>		Noted	No	No	No	Graeme Oram, Chair (01642) 608316

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<p>been made clear from the start of the redevelopment of the Town Centre that there would be no toilets to reduce issues of anti-social behaviour.</p> <p><b>Busting the Credit Crunch Event</b></p> <p>KS explained that a busting the Credit Crunch Event would be held at the Golden Eagle on Thursday 30 April 2009 at 1pm – 5.45pm and information and advice would be available from a wide range of organisation.</p>		Noted	Members to highlight this event within their groups.	No	No	
<p><b>14. External Funding Opportunities</b></p> <p>NH explained that this would now be a standard agenda item to highlight the information on external funding opportunities that is sent to the Partnership via email.</p> <p>NH highlighted the following funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fighting Fit Finances, Catalyst (deadline 3 April 2009)</li> </ul>		Noted	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator (01642) 527823
<p><b>15. Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next business meeting of the EAPB will be held on:</p> <p><b>Tuesday 28 April 2009, 9.30am at the Five Lamps</b></p>		Noted	No	No	No	Nicola Hall EAPB Coordinator

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<b>Organisation.</b>  EAPB members are invited to forward any agenda items for future meetings to Nicola Hall.						(01642) 527823