

**Minutes**  
**The Central Area Partnership Board**  
**26<sup>th</sup> November 2009**  
**Stockton Business Centre, Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees**

**Chair:**

**Paul Thomas** (Tilery Residents Association)

**Members:**

Cllr Mrs S Fletcher (SBC), Anne Howard (Neighbourhood Watch Group), Edna Chapman (St John's Living Well), Gareth Rees (Thorpe Thewles Residents Association), Edna Brown (Over 50's Assembly), David Headland (Salvation Army), Judith Turner (Stillington & Whitton), Alex Bain (Parkfield Residents Association), Barbara Warren (Bishopsgarth Residents Association), Cllr Cockerill (SBC), Marilyn Surtees (Elm Tree Community Centre), Jim Fenwick (Community Partnership), Mary Cartwright (NECIL)

\* Members are representing their nominating body.

**Advisors:**

Sarah Upex (SBC), James Hadman (SRCGA), Julie Derbyshire (SRCGA), Kelly Smith (SBC),

**Observers:**

Karen Merrick, Cllr Rix (SBC), Derek Rosamond (Community Priest), Cllr A Cains (SBC), Edna Marwood, Keith Mathews (SBC), Steve Brock, Insp Young, Faye Dunhill

**Apologies**

Jim Beall (Vice Chair), Marc Mason (SBC), Jill Anderson (SBC), Stan Slater (Stockton Physically Handicapped Group), Cllr Rix (SBC), Roy Parker (Durham Road Residents Association), Di Simms (SBC)

ITEM/ISSUE	ACTION
<p><b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>2. Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009</b></p> <p>Minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>It was requested that the definition of restorative justice be changed in the minutes.</p> <p>It was requested that SU to invite the CPS to a future meeting of the Board.</p>	<p>Amends to minutes to be completed</p> <p>SU to contact the CPS to attend a</p>

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<p><b>4. Central Area Partnership Sub Group Update</b></p> <p><u>Volunteering</u></p> <p>It was noted that Board agreed a £30,000 (none recurring) allocation on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009 to pilot a volunteer bureau within the Central Area. An Expression of Interest to become the host organisation was sent out via the Community Empowerment Network and directly to organisations known to run volunteer projects. Registrations of interest were received from five organisations who where at the time interested in becoming the host organisation. After the briefing session held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009, which all the potential hosts were invited too attend, the official application was circulated. The deadline for returns was Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Only one application was submitted by the Professional Services Group, which the group went through thoroughly and scored against the criteria set by the group. A further meeting with PSG was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> November to clarify a few points.</p> <p>Members were informed that the sub group are confident that the Viva Volunteers project to be ran by PSG will be an excellent project and are recommending that the Central Area Partnership agree to commission PSG as the deliverer of the volunteering pilot.</p> <p>It was noted that the Sub Group have taken advice from Stockton on Tees Borough Council Procurement team on the process for only receiving one application. They have been assured that if the application meets the criteria and the group are happy with the product they can accept and recommend the application.</p> <p><u>Future Jobs Fund</u></p> <p>It was noted that at the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009, the Board agreed to delegate to the Sub Group the responsibility of selecting the 10 vacancies for the Future Jobs Fund from those organisations based within the Central Area.</p> <p>The sub group have selected the following vacancies to be sponsored by the Central Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elm Tree Community Centre - Administrator</li> <li>• Hardwick in Partnership - Administrator</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Management - Community Officer Trainee</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Management - Trainee Admin Officer</li> <li>• Roseworth Partnership - Administrator</li> <li>• Tees Active - Splash Administrator</li> </ul>	<p>future meeting</p> <p>The Board agreed to commission PSG as the deliverer of the volunteering pilot.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shaw Trust - Community Gardeners/Horticulturalist</li> <li>• Community Interest Company Newtown Community Resources Centre - Community Handy Person</li> <li>• West Middlesbrough Neighbourhood Trust - Youth Workers (2) (Located in Hardwick)</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that it is likely that other posts out of the 171 remaining will be filled by Central Area Residents, this information can be fed back to the board at a later date.</p> <p><b>Kelly Smith</b>  <b>Partnerships &amp; Engagement Team</b>  <b>(01642) 526032</b></p> <p><b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b>  No</p> <p><b>Are any other boards affected?</b>  No</p> <p><b>Any Declarations Of Interest?</b>  None</p>	
<p><b>5. Stockton Town Pastors</b></p> <p>Board members were provided with background information to the project, which is modelled on the Street Angels initiative. The Stockton Town Pastors scheme is made up of trained volunteers operating in groups of 3 or 4 and wearing identifiable uniforms who will be around Stockton town centre between the hours of 9pm and 3am on Fridays to assist anyone who needs help, commencing on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2009. Over the weeks and months ahead they will build relationships with those enjoying a night out, door stewards, taxi drivers and others. Town Pastors will undertake a number of practical tasks to increase safety like removing bottles and broken glass from the streets, attending to minor first aid needs, summoning professional help if needed including ambulances, supplying bottled water to people who have become dehydrated and flip flops to people who have lost their shoes.</p> <p>Each operating group will have a radio link with the town's CCTV Control Unit and the Police, however the Stockton Town Pastors are not part of Cleveland Police.</p> <p>It was noted that the Stockton Town Pastors (STP) will have an initial operating base on Fridays from the Parish Church Hall but it is</p>	

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<p>hoped to eventually use premises in a more prominent position towards the other end of the High Street, perhaps with a café facility. The training of Town Pastors has been devised and delivered in conjunction with Inspector Andy Fox of Stockton Police. The Halifax Street Angels Handbook has been used as the basis for training and has been modified to accommodate the needs of Stockton and will be the operational guide. Ongoing training needs for volunteers will be met as experience is gained.</p> <p>There are currently 48 volunteers involved in the training and 20 of these are emergency first aid trained and there will be at least one female in the group at all times.</p> <p>Board members were informed that the volunteers have been recruited through a controlled process with references and CRB checks being obtained. Anyone is welcome to apply and publicity has been distributed through Stockton Residents &amp; Community Groups Association and through Stockton Faith Network. STP has a Christian ethos and volunteers are asked to respect this. All of the initial funding to establish and run the project has been supplied through the churches and it is hoped to extend the service of Town Pastors to cover Saturday nights possibly in the new year.</p> <p>There was a discussion around insurance for personal liability for the volunteers and it was noted that there will be ongoing risk assessments conducted. It was noted that a lot of the training for the volunteers has been focussed on how to avoid conflict where possible.</p> <p>It was noted that the STP have been in touch with a number of religious bodies, via the Faith Network and media coverage. They also attend Pub Watch meetings and have an ongoing advertising campaign.</p> <p>It was noted that the STP scheme will be reviewed after a few months, however there will be a continuous review process throughout the scheme and it was requested that this be brought back to the Board.</p> <p><b>Stockton Town Pastors</b>  <b>07526641796</b>  <a href="mailto:steve@stocktontownpastors.co.uk">steve@stocktontownpastors.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.stocktontownpastors.co.uk">www.stocktontownpastors.co.uk</a>  <b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b>  No</p>	<p>An update on STP to be provided to the Board after being in operation for a few months.</p>

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<p><b>Are any other boards affected?</b> No</p> <p><b>Any Declarations Of Interest?</b> None</p>	
<p><b>6. Parks Regeneration and Spaces for Play</b>  Members were provided with information on the Play Builder Grant – Spaces for Play, which Stockton Borough Council received £1.1million to deliver 22 play spaces across the Borough over a period of 3 years, with funding aimed at 8-13 year olds. 10 of these 22 play spaces are to be located in the Central Area.</p> <p>The key areas which have to be identified are the way in which play is provided and how to think more creatively about schemes. There are 10 design criteria to work to, including natural elements and environment in which providing play and reintroducing risk and challenge into play. A risk benefit analysis will now be carried out on schemes rather than a risk assessment to look at the benefits of play.</p> <p>Members were informed that A4E have conducted research with 1100 children and young people across the borough and the facilities that they want providing, which have helped to inform the ideas. The research highlighted that children and young people are quite satisfied with play facilities in the borough, which conflicts with the “Tell Us” survey. A visitor survey is also underway in parks across the borough. The issue of access to Ropner Park via cycle routes was raised and it was noted that this will be identified as part of the Green Infrastructure Strategy. It was noted that the surveys need to be done at as many different places across the borough as possible as opinions can differ significantly from area to area.</p> <p>It was noted that the £15k received from the Play Builders scheme in Thorpe Thewles has transformed the community and brought the community together as a central meeting point for children and young people and parents and is also attracting people from outside the area.</p> <p>Board members were provided with information on proposed schemes for the Central Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great North Park – Norton Grange – there will be no play equipment, this is very much a landscaping scheme with balancing beams and play opportunities. It was noted that this is an experimental scheme.</li> <li>• Bowesfield Travellers Site - £10,000 has been put towards this</li> <li>• Carlton Village – scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the parish council and residents who wanted to see a</li> </ul>	

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<p>drainage scheme and improved access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wynyard Woodland Park – new £300,000 play area and play facilities for older people and will be attending the Older Person’s Forum to consult with them</li> <li>• Blue Hall Recreational Ground in Norton – access points and improvements to footpath. It was discussed that the empty building in this park could possibly be used as a community building and they are looking at other alternatives</li> <li>• Darlington Back Lane – working with residents association to look at play and development of the whole site and a draft master plan has been drawn up</li> <li>• Greenvale Local Nature Reserve – scheme to look at the development of the woodland park and an informal play trail.</li> <li>• Newham Grange Park – new master plan devised, extensive consultation is to be done on this in the new year and address the anti social behaviour issues throughout the design and provide play for children aged 14-16. It was noted that there had recently been a meeting of the Friends of Newham Grange Park and the priority for them is the lighting of the Park. Insp Young noted that this is a big issue. It was also noted that young people on the Hardwick estate need diversionary activities put into place.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the funding is purely capital and could not be used for ongoing costs. Judith Turner noted that the play park in Stillington (which has not been funded via the Play Builders Scheme) have to pay a number of different costs to keep the park going such as inspection costs. SRCGA offered to meet with Judith to discuss this further.</p> <p>The Board requested that further information be brought back to the Board on where the mobile skate park for the borough is.</p> <p><b>Keith Mathews</b>  <b>Countryside &amp; Green Space Team</b>  <b>(01642) 526872</b>  <b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b>  No  <b>Are any other boards affected?</b>  No  <b>Any Declarations Of Interest?</b>  None</p>	<p>SU to find out further information on what is happening with the mobile skate park.</p>

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<p><b>7. Advertising Board Policy</b></p> <p>It was noted that Stockton Borough Council is exploring the introduction of a new Advertising Board Policy to assist in the promotion of businesses whilst safeguarding highway users and protecting their right to pass along a highway (this can mean the pavement, not just the road) unhindered. The Policy will propose the regulation of Advertising Board use, with businesses having to apply for permits to put advertising boards outside their premises.</p> <p>Board members were informed that it is proposed to pilot the policy in Yarm and Norton town centres commencing in the coming financial year as these areas are recognised as being the most problematic in terms of uncontrolled usage causing problems for pedestrians. It was noted that if the pilot was successful then the policy would be rolled out across the borough.</p> <p>The Board were informed that if a business was using an Advertising Board, under the proposed policy they would need to apply for a permit and planning permission and there would be a cost for both.</p> <p>The following issues were raised during the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestion that advertising boards be fixed to a building rather than on a pavement</li> <li>• If a church or community centre was having a coffee morning for example, under planning law, they would also have to apply for planning permission and the permit</li> <li>• It was suggested that the advertising boards could be themed so that they would look more attractive or could have one board that could be hired out to churches and community groups</li> <li>• It was suggested that flower displays outside of shops also be built into the policy</li> <li>• It was noted that the bollards in Norton High Street are dangerous, especially for wheel chair users</li> </ul> <p>It was requested by the Board that they are able to have further discussion on this item before they answer the questions in the consultation.</p> <p><b>Faye Dunnill</b>  <b>Project Officer</b>  <b>(01642) 527829</b>  <b>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</b>  No</p>	<p>SU to arrange for further discussion to take place on this item.</p>

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<p><b>7.Any Other Business</b></p> <p><u>Thematic Updates</u>            Play Partnership Nominations – it was requested that further information be sent out to members on this partnership</p> <p>Safer Stockton Partnership (Tina Williams) – Tina Williams informed the Board that at the last meeting there was an update on the Stockton Town pastors and the Alcohol Strategy was launched. Tina informed the Board that nearly 50% of all deaths are alcohol related. The services available to those people, especially those with mental health issues were discussed. It was noted that services do not go out to people in their homes and it is very difficult for families to cope. It was requested by Tina that the issue of grandparent carers be raised at the next Children’s Trust Board by Marilyn.</p> <p>Health &amp; Wellbeing Partnership (Paul Thomas) – no update since the last update. Paul Thomas to raise the issue regarding the alcohol issue at the next meeting.</p> <p>Children’s Trust Board (Marilyn Surtees) – no meeting until the 10<sup>th</sup> December, update to be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p>Housing &amp; Neighbourhood Partnership (Roy Parker) – Roy Parker had tendered his apologies for the Central Area Board meeting so was unable to provide an update.</p> <p><u>Stockton Renaissance Update</u>            Paul Thomas provided an update from the last meeting which took place on 10<sup>th</sup> November:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership and terms of reference for the employability consortium – With a number of developments across the employability agenda both locally and nationally, it was proposed that it is the opportune time to review the existing terms of reference and memberships of the group to ensure it is fit for purpose and that it will be positioned to be able to respond to Government changes and recommendations</li> <li>• Stockton’s Alcohol Strategy – members were informed of the content of the strategy and there was a themed discussion around the content. It was requested that the Stockton Renaissance Partnership Board receive 6 monthly reports on the</li> </ul>	<p>SU to send out further info on the Play Partnership</p> <p>Children’s Trust Board rep to raise the issue of grandparent carers at the next meeting</p> <p>Health &amp; Wellbeing Partnership rep to raise the alcohol issue at the next meeting.</p>

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<p>Strategy and action plan. It was also requested that the Area Partnership Boards are also provided with this information with data at an Area Partnership Board level.</p> <p><u>Funding Opportunities</u>            Julie Derbyshire informed that SRCGA had been successful in a Tees Valley wide Basis 2 Bid.</p> <p>It was noted that Grassroutes and Fairshare are still open to applications.</p> <p>It was requested that the PCT are contacted again to request that a representative attends the Board meetings</p> <p>Barbara Warren updated the Board on the bus tours which are taking place as part of the Communities Together project. It was requested that a similar tour of the central area partnership board be organised for members next year.</p> <p>Julie Derbyshire noted that SRCGA are looking into holding their elections in a more innovative way and will have discussions with the Partnership &amp; Engagement Team about this. It was also noted that James Hadman will be writing out to CEN reps before Christmas regarding nominations onto the Board.</p>	<p>SU to contact the PCT.</p> <p>SU to look into organising a bus tour for board members in 2010.</p>
<p><b>8.Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Central Area Partnership Board will be held on:</p> <p>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009, 10am, Education Centre, Junction Road, Norton.</p> <p>Central Area Board members are invited to forward any proposals for agenda items for future meetings to Sarah Upex.</p>	<p>No</p>