

Minutes
The Northern Area Partnership Board
6th June 2011 5:45pm
Low Grange Community Centre, Billingham

<p>Chair: Val Scollen (Roscoe Road Residents Association)</p> <p>Members: Gerald Barrass (Low Grange Residence Association), Kevin Bowler (North Billingham Residents Association), Cath Coldbeck (Stockton & District Trade Union), Ken Ellis (Churches Together in Billingham), Sandy Gibson – Bell (Disability Advisory Forum), Fred Gook (Neighbourhood Watch), Geoff Harrison (Low Grange Community Centre), Andy Hatton (Federation of Small Businesses), Jayne Hector (Clarences Residents Action Group), Chris Humpleby (Over 50's Assembly), Joe Maloney (Billingham International Folklore Festival), Ray McCall (Billingham Town Council), Ged McGuire (South Billingham Residents Association), Bert Smailes (Safer Billingham Partnership), Gil Smith (Billingham Business Association), Kim Staff (Stockton Borough Council), Mike Womphrey (Stockton Borough Council), Barry Woodhouse (Stockton Borough Council)</p> <p>* Members are representing their nominating body.</p>
<p>Advisors: Laurayne Featherstone, Tony Montague, Ginny McCallum, Iain Robinson, Kelly Smith (Stockton Borough Council), Dianne Rickerby (Town Council), James Hadman (Stockton Residents and Community Groups Association),</p>
<p>Observer: Hilary Aggio (Public), Evaline Cunningham (Stockton Borough Council)</p>
<p>Apologies Mike Bowron (Stockton Borough Council), Victoria Cooling (North Tees Teaching PCT), MP Alex Cunningham (Stockton South), Insp Andy Fox (Cleveland Police), Louise McDonald (Stockton Borough Council), Carol Redden (Grindon Parish Council), Jim Scollen (Old Billingham Community Association),</p>

ITEM/ISSUE	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies Members were welcomed to the Northern Area Partnership Board.</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>2. Declarations of Interest Standard DOI's are on the DOI register.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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6th June 2011 5:45pm
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<p>3. Approval of the last meeting on 4th April 2011 GMcG noted that under item 8 his questions on who KB represents when attending the Town Council meetings, whether a complaint had been received by the Northern Area Board or the Billingham Network and the responses were not noted.</p> <p>Hillary Aggio noted a couple of spelling and grammar corrections</p> <p>Agreed as a true record.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>4. Matters Arising GMcG noted that he had received a reply on his query regarding Building Schools for the Future. However the information was a general response and that he would be asking for more specific information on the schools in Billingham.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>5. Major Redevelopment Scheme Update a. Town Centre Development IR informed the board that there was no further information to update on other than what was included in the report.</p> <p>GH raised a question on when Stockland was planning to have the work complete as it was originally due to finish in 2012. IR stated that it must be noted that Stockland are doing work in the centre but things have changed since the original plans were agreed not least the changes in the economic climate which has had an effect on the development. IR noted that Stockland are coming back to SBC on how they will undertake the work in some of the phases of the redevelopment scheme which will include dates.</p> <p>IR informed the Board that the issue with the toilets is still to be resolved as Stockland are waiting to see what happens with the supermarket. It is still the intention to have toilets located centrally and above ground as noted in the plans with any temporary facilities removed once the centre has been completed. KB queried why the toilet provision should be delayed due to the supermarket as they are on the other side of the centre. IR to check this out further.</p> <p>KB noted that his residents group have written a letter to Stockland regarding the toilets issue as they feel it is</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>KS to invite Stockland to a future meeting.</p> <p>IR to chase this issue up.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

Minutes
The Northern Area Partnership Board
6th June 2011 5:45pm
Low Grange Community Centre, Billingham

ITEM/ISSUE	ACTION
<p>unacceptable, they are still waiting to hear back from them</p> <p>IR noted that planning permission has been agreed for 27 – 31 Queensway to be merged into one unit.</p> <p>IR also informed the Board that on Wednesday and Thursday of this week SBC will be undertaking an operational plan in and around the town centre for the Market so in future there is minimal damage caused.</p> <p>A query was raised on the children’s play area in the centre as it was closed around 6 to 8 weeks ago with some of the equipment being removed as it was unsafe, however the young people are still using the remaining equipment. Will there still be play facilities in the new town centre? IR noted that a play area was in the original plans but that he would check.</p> <p>b. Billingham House IR noted that the hearing was adjourned till the 10th June.</p> <p>GMcG raised a query on the money form One North East. IR confirmed that the funding was still available however he would look into it.</p> <p>c. Forum IR noted that the Forum reopened last week to the public. SG noted that the disabled toilets were all locked when she visited the facility and that it may be worth asking whether radar keys could be installed.</p> <p>d. Integrated Health and Social Care Facility IR informed the Board that there were no further updates on this development.</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement? No</p> <p>Are any other boards affected? No</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>IR to check that a play area is included in the plans.</p> <p>Information from the outcome of the review to be circulated to the board.</p> <p>IR to feed this comment back to the Forum Manager</p> <p>Noted.</p>

Minutes
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6th June 2011 5:45pm
Low Grange Community Centre, Billingham

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<p>Any Declarations Of Interest? None</p>	
<p>6. Asset Transfer Tony Montague informed the Board that Community Asset Transfer is not a new concept however, the draft Community Asset Transfer Strategy has been developed as a framework for the process in the future. It must be noted that it is not a one size fits all solution.</p> <p>TM informed the board that SBC is currently undertaking an asset review on all of their property portfolio, however no buildings have been identified for transfer to date. Any transfer under the Policy would usually be a transfer of the leasehold, not the freehold, unless in extreme circumstances. Each transfer must have a strong rationale and business case for transfer which includes consultation with the community and current users of services provided within the asset. It should also set out what the building would be used for in the future.</p> <p>Any asset identified for a possible transfer would be advertised to the community. It must be noted that any asset providing a statutory service such as schools, care homes etc will not be included.</p> <p>Board members expressed that the consultation with the community and service providers needs to be strengthened in the document and the arrangements for protecting these services once an asset has been transferred needs to be clearly stated.</p> <p>The Board expressed concern that larger organisations from outside of the borough or national organisations may come in and take control of an asset to the detriment of local groups and communities and whether some thing needs to be included in the strategy to guard against this. TM informed the Board that there does need to be local consultation and buy in. A suggestion was made from the Board that if this was to happen there needs to be some local governance, it was suggested that something could be incorporated into the strategy along the lines of a 25% of local representation in any governance arrangement i.e. management board.</p> <p>The Board noted that some organisations only have a small amount of funding so would potentially struggle to maintain an</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

Minutes
The Northern Area Partnership Board
6th June 2011 5:45pm
Low Grange Community Centre, Billingham

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<p>asset. TM noted that some organisations would need more support than others to get themselves in a position to accept a transferred asset. An event is to be held in July 2011 to review support options.</p> <p>A query was raised on what would happen to an asset if the Council advertises for expressions of interest in transferring community assets and gets no suitable response? TM informed the Board the Council would review its options, but with the protection of community facilities and services strongly in mind.</p> <p>A query was raised on the assets / buildings that currently have leases, will they be included? TM informed the Board they potentially would be, but that the implications of the current lease arrangements would need to be assessed and taken into account.</p> <p>Comments on the document included: Page 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition to the first set of bullet points on P7 would be to add “All relevant Insurance requirements” • Second set of bullet points under number five the wording needs to be looked at • On the Timetable it was noted that the EOI stage should be at least 3 months. • Throughout the doc refer to Stockton Borough Council rather than “we” <p>The strategy will be going to Cabinet on the 14th July which will include feedback from the various consultations.</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement? Yes</p> <p>Are any other boards affected? Yes</p> <p>Any Declarations Of Interest? None</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted,</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>7. Town Council Update Diane Rickerby the Executive Officer for Billingham Town Council gave an update to the Board on the work that the Town</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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<p>Council have undertaken from 2007 and the plans for the future. For example they have supported the work at the Clarences allotments, the Billingham newspaper, local traffic calming measures, the Billingham Train Station improvements, provided additional Enforcement Officers on a Friday and Saturday evening as well as providing sponsorship to a number of local groups and activities in the area.</p>	
<p>A number of work areas have been identified for the future including a keep Billingham tidy campaign, working with St Michael's school to design a coat of arms for a Chairman's pendant, working towards quality status, more partnership work with the BELP including holding a meeting with local industries, a main work area will be to developing a Town Plan for Billingham.</p>	Noted.
<p>A query was raised on the additional Enforcement Officers. DR informed the Board that the Town Council supported Officers are in addition to those being provided by the Borough council. They patrol the area concentrating on hot spot areas i.e. John Whitehead park now the evenings are lighter, officers are called to attend incidents /concerns that arise from direct calls from residents of Billingham”.</p>	Noted.
<p>A question was asked why the precept had been increased. DR informed the board that previously the Enforcement Officers were funded through the reserve that the Town Council had as it was not a planned expenditure. As the project has been so successful and it was agreed to fund it again this year it will come directly out of the council tax and the increase on the precept will equate to £10k.</p>	Noted.
<p>A question was directed to the Chair of the Town Council on the estimated 10% increase in salaries. RMcC informed the Board that the decision was made after an analysis of other Town Councils across the Teesvalley was undertaken and the fact that the EO has completed her relevant qualifications. DR noted that the town Council's books are open and that if anyone has any queries they can be checked.</p>	Noted.
<p>BW noted a point of order to move the meeting on.</p>	Noted.
<p>A query was raised on the tax from the mines which is dedicated to community use. DR informed the board that this is</p>	Noted.

Minutes
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6th June 2011 5:45pm
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ITEM/ISSUE	ACTION
<p>only dedicated to one group and Town Council has been given the funding. They are looking to establish a stakeholder group to discuss how the funding should be allocated locally. DR noted that the stakeholder group could also help to disseminate the lorry tax funding once that has been agreed.</p> <p>A query was asked as to whether the Town Council had any communication with Stockland. DR informed the Board that they are in touch with Stockland almost on a weekly basis.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>8. Thematic Group Updates</p> <p>BS informed the Board that the ‘theft other’ category had increased this month again mainly due to the increase in metal and cycle theft unfortunately he did not have the crime figures to circulate.</p> <p>BS also informed the Board that the Chair of the Safer Stockton Partnership wants to increase the feedback and two way information flow between the SSP and all of the Area Boards. Currently only the Northern Area Partnership Board has regular attendance and the Chair of the SSP will be writing to the Chairs of the other Area Partnership Boards to address this.</p> <p>The Safer Billingham Partnership will be concentrating on bike safety over the coming year including training for adults.</p> <p>VS noted that the last Housing and Neighbourhoods meeting agenda were all items that had already been to the Board</p> <p>Arts and Culture, Children’s Trust Board, E RTP, Heath and Wellbeing and Stockton Renaissance have not met or the meeting has been cancelled since the last Board meeting</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>9. Board Updates</p> <p>a. Public Sector: i) Town Council: Issues raised under item 7.</p> <p>ii) SBC: Cllr Woodhouse noted that the new Mayor is Councillor Paul Baker.</p> <p>b. Community Sector:</p>	<p>Noted,</p> <p>Noted.</p>

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<p>i) Supporters of John Whitehead Park: G McG informed the Board that SBC have drawn up the plans for the BMX / Multi use facility for the Park which will be situated next to the tennis courts.</p>	Noted.
<p>ii) SRCGA: JH informed the board that they have the CEN contract for the year up to March 2012 whilst SBC look at what they want going forward.</p>	Noted.
<p>An event will be held later in the year to look at what members want from the service.</p>	Noted.
<p>They have now moved offices to Suite 4, first floor Marlborough House, 30 – 32 Yarm Road. The telephone numbers are remaining the same and there will be a meeting room facility.</p>	Noted.
<p>JH informed the Board that they are looking to resurrect the Billingham West Residents groups. MW offered to help with this.</p>	Noted.
<p>iii) BELP: They have received the keys for Hereford Terrace and the allotments have water facilities.</p>	Noted.
<p>iv) Legacy Fund update: JM informed the Board that they are currently in talks with John D regarding Lorry tax and they are looking for an independent Chair.</p>	Noted.
<p>v) Clarences Update: JH had circulated with the papers a report on the issues regarding transport in the Clarences.</p>	Noted.
<p>c. Voluntary Sector: No update.</p>	Noted.
<p>d. Business Sector: GS informed the Board that the business have welcomed the reopening of the forum.</p>	Noted.
<p>10. Any Other Business ATS: KS noted that the next meeting will be held on the 9th June at 6:30 at the Forum. KB is having a pre agenda meeting with officers on the 8th to look at the proposed schemes.</p>	Noted.

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<p>Youth Board: Ginny McCallum from the Councils Youth Service informed the Board that they are looking to hold a youth forum meeting for the Northern Area on the 14th June. They have around 15-20 young people interested in taking part. A further and more detailed update will be given at the July meeting.</p> <p>One of the areas of interest that the young people have already identified is a skate / Bike track. They have been in touch with the BMX club but they are mainly adults.</p> <p>A query was raised on the mobile Skate park. GMcC to look into it</p> <p>MW raised the issue of the revised plans for the hospital and whether it can come to a future meeting. The Board agreed that a future meeting should be dedicated to Health.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>GMcC and BS to discuss this issue.</p> <p>GMcC to look into this.</p> <p>KS to arrange a special Health meeting.</p>
<p>11.Date of Next Meeting The next meeting of the Northern Area Partnership Board will be held on:</p> <p>Monday 4th July 2011, 5:45pm, Low Grange Community, Billingham</p> <p>Northern Area Board members are invited to forward any proposals for agenda items for future meetings to Kelly Smith on 01642 526032 or kelly.smith@stockton.gov.uk</p>	