

Minutes –Unconfirmed
The Central Area Partnership Board
27th October 2011, 2.00 p.m.
Stockton Business Centre, Brunswick Street, Stockton.

<p><u>Members:</u> Paul Thomas (Chair, Tilery Residents Association), Cllr Jim Beall (Vice Chair, SBC), David Headland (Salvation Army), Jim Fenwick (Community Partnership), Cllr M Clark (SBC), Tina Williams (Community Partnership), Verna Pickering (Community Sector), Cllr Nigel Cooke (SBC), Edna Brown (Over 50s Assembly), Suzanne Fletcher (Voluntary Sector), Anne Howard (Primrose Hill Neighbourhood Watch), Gareth Rees (Thorpe Thewles Residents Association), Alex Bain (Parkfield Residents Association) *Members are representing their nominating body.</p>
<p><u>Representatives from Voice Box</u> Janice Brown (IYSS), Sarah Dobson, Chloe Dove, Daniel Goldsmith, Shah-Jehan Sharky, Chloe Alstrag, Charlotte Dobson, Claire Scott, Ginny McCallum</p>
<p><u>Advisors:</u> Sarah Upex (SBC), James Hadman (SRCGA), Nigel Laws (SBC)</p>
<p><u>Observers:</u> Roy Parker, Karen Merrick (SBC)</p>
<p><u>Apologies</u> Fiona Chesters (Rural Representative, Insp Steve Young (Cleveland Police), Victoria Cooling (PCT), Janet Stubbs (Job Centre Plus), John Tierney (SBC), Jill Anderson (SBC), Neville Anderson (Trade Union Council), Marilyn Surtees (Elm Tree Community Centre)</p>

ITEM/ISSUE	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies The meeting were informed that the joint meeting was being held following an agreement when the Voice Box was formed that a joint meeting between the Voice Box and Central Area Partnership Board was held annually.</p> <p>The young people from Voice Box did an introduction and presentation which informed the Board of what work they had been involved in and the purpose of the Board.</p> <p>Paul Thomas informed Voice Box of what the Central Area Partnership Board is and what the Board have recently been involved in.</p>	No
<p>2. Declarations of Interest None</p>	No
<p>3. Stockton Town Centre Update – Nigel Laws, Stockton Borough Council The presentation was to inform of the consultation which has been done on the prospectus, with 1,800 responses from the retail unit and 200 questionnaire responses. A lot of publicity was done on the consultation. The Board were informed of what was consulted on in the prospectus:</p>	Noted

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<p>North High Street Proposed idea to reintroduce car parking and linking the town centre to the River to develop physical and visual linkages, which includes the demolition of Lindsey House.</p> <p>Central High Street This lacks a focal point and this was identified in the early stages if the design concept with a seating area.</p> <p>South High Street Car parking spaces on the high street with 25 spaces where the current taxi rank is. Part of the ideas/concept is for the market to move from the north of the Town Hall and refocus the market and keep it compact.</p> <p>Globe Theatre Jomast and Stockton Borough Council £4m refurbishment of the Globe.</p> <p>Stockton Central Library £1.9m refurbishment – due to open 1st November and will include a one-stop-shop</p> <p>Historic Quarter Stockton Heritage In Partnership – project with English Heritage. The Townscape Heritage Initiative is a partnership scheme with Heritage Lottery Fund for £3.3m. The grant that private owners receive from this was discussed. The percentage of the grant is dependent on the nature of the works.</p> <p>Following the consultation, the above areas have been further developed in the prospectus</p> <p>Northern High Street Now looking at 61 spaces. Received comments that the car park would look better as on the original plan which was to have a plaza. This area will not be used all year as a car park – when have special events on this space would be used.</p> <p>Central High Street This design is currently conceptual and detailed design is still to be agreed. Consultation will take place on types of lighting etc. Looking at flexibility for this space.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Noted</p>

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<p>South High Street 10 spaces in front of the Post Office – this would involve taking out the bus stops immediately outside of the Post Office and 7 spaces for the taxi rank. There would be a newly created car parking on non market days with 46 new spaces.</p> <p>The Board were informed of some of the consultation responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% agreed with introducing car parking with 31% not in agreement of short term parking on the high street • South market move – this clears the north space for entertainment and events and specialised markets – 70% agreed with this. Received a petition on the market moving and the redesign of 10,000 signatures – however this was revised to 2,700 <p>Progress has been made since March, and this includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 buildings revealed following work done by the Stockton Heritage In Partnership project • 42 High Street – 1st application for Townscape Heritage Initiative has come forward • Owners of the Castlegate Quay have been taken over by an American based company who have refinanced and are heavily backing and investing in Stockton. They are currently revamping the car park and have announced plans to refurbish the Spencer Hall indoor market. • Globe - a lot of internal works have been done over the last 6 months. There was a lot of flooding internally so pumps were put in the building to dry it out. The roof is the next area to be looked at. The original opening date was for October 2012 but this is not looking likely as there is not an operator as yet. However Jomast are in advanced discussions with a well known operator. • Retail Award Winners 2011 – new initiative for Town Centres across the borough with a number of different categories • Launching new loan scheme shortly for businesses • Enterprise Arcade – was open for 6 months in partnership with Hartlepool Council with 5 individuals, all 5 have now left the Arcade and 3 are still trading within Stockton Town Centre. The unit will be reopened on 7th November 2011 for another 6 months. • In 2011, to date 46 new, relocated or expanded business in Stockton Town Centre and are currently working on a business map to explain where these are. • In terms of the market no significant progress has been made since March 2011. A long discussion took place at Council which was triggered by the petition received. Attended the Markets Forum and have agreed to set up a working group, the first meeting of this has now taken place. 	<p>Noted</p>

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<p>The following comments were received by the Board and Voice Box:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a suggestion from a board member that the shops were identified on the plans to make it easier for people to understand the plans. • The exhibition detailing the plans is open in the Shambles for 3 hours per day. • It was asked how many disabled parking spaces would be available. • It was asked if there were plans for business to share ownership/rental to encourage new businesses. It was noted though that this is limited as do not own the properties. • There was a discussion regarding occupancy rates in the Town Centre. • It was suggested that after a response is completed on line that you get a reply to say that your response has been received. • There is no mention as to what will happen with the portable café outside the Shambles. • Cars could cause pollution to the greenery in the proposed square <p>The Board and Voice Box were informed that if they would like to feed in any further comments, visit the Shambles or go online at http://www.stockton.gov.uk/citizenservices/regeneration/regenerationschemes/stocktonregeneration/stocktoncregeneration/</p>	<p>Nigel Laws to inform the board on the provision of disabled parking</p> <p>NL to provide information on occupancy rates to Su to circulate to the Board.</p>
<p>4. Question and Answer Session between the Central Area Partnership Board and the Voice Box</p> <p>This provided the opportunity for the members of the Central Area Partnership Board and Voice Box to ask any questions or to raise any issues that they had in relation to either Board.</p> <p>The following discussion took place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a discussion on skate parks and if young people are looking for somewhere to do this activity. Stockton Borough Council are looking into a plan to address this need and will be consulted on • Ginny is leading on this consultation from the Youth side and over the next 2 weeks will be consulting outside Splash, Hardwick, Roseworth and other areas. • The young people from the Voice Box were asked if they feel that there are things for them to do if they live in the Town Centre. What options/choices they would do if they could? The young people felt like youth clubs and other buildings should be opened up again and more sessions should be available. Youth Space is now shut which a lot of the young people used to use and they feel that there is limited space in the new Connexions building that they use. It was noted that My Place is going ahead and this will give young people things to do. • It was suggested by one of the young people that if they had more youth clubs to go to the levels of crime would go down and 	

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<p>Police attitudes towards them would change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was also suggested that extra sports sessions for young people should be available. • There was a concern from the young people in the Town Centre on an evening as they feel that people are taking drugs in the town and they do not feel safe. • It was requested that young people feed more into the agendas for the Board to get their views on items. SU to continue to provide JT with the forward plan for the board. It was agreed that JT would feed in any comments that the young people have or to request that the presentations are provided to Voice Box meetings. <p>Gareth Rees commented that the young people who attended this meeting were a credit to Stockton and they made a valuable contribution to the meeting. The Board agreed and congratulated Voice Box on their contribution.</p>	
<p>10. Feedback from other Partnerships from Board Members An election was held for the Central Area Partnership Board's Housing and Neighbourhood Partnership representative. The Board voted that Suzanne Fletcher would represent the Board on this thematic partnership.</p>	<p>SU to notify Simon Rogalski</p>
<p>11. Any Other Business None</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>12. Date of Next Meeting The next meeting of the Central Area Partnership Board will be held on: 24th November 2011.</p>	<p>No</p>