

**Minutes**  
**The Eastern Area Partnership Board (EAPB)**  
**18<sup>th</sup> October 2011, 5.30 p.m. at Teesdale Park / Thornaby Football Club, Acklam Road, Thornaby.**

**Members:**

Graeme Oram (Chair) – Five Lamps **(GO)**, Tom Bowman **(TB)** – Ingleby Barwick Town Council, Cllr Kevin Faulks **(KF)** – Local Ward Councillor, Cllr Sylvia Walmsley **(SW1)** – Local Ward Councillor, Doug Nicholson **(DN)** – Friends of Tees Heritage Park and Dorothy Fairhurst **(DF)** – Over 50s Assembly

\*Members are representing their nominating body.

**Advisors:**

Sophie Richardson **(SR)** – SBC, Nigel Laws **(NL)** – SBC, Ray Morton **(RM)** – Friends of Teesdale Park, Len Junier **(LJ)** – Five Lamps, Michael Garner **(MG)** – Nordic Pioneer, Les Hodge **(LH)** – Stainsby Beck Residents Association, Cllr Steve Walmsley **(SW)** – SBC, Cllr Derrick Brown - **(DB)** – SBC and Tracy Roberts **(TR)** - SRCGA

**Apologies:**

**Members:**

Carol Adams – Village Park Residents  
 Janet Stubbs – Job Centre Plus  
 Diane Paterson – Credit Union  
 Cllr Stott – Local Ward Councillor

**Advisors/ Observers:**

Katherine Linton - SBC

ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	ACTION
<p><b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b>                      Board members and advisors were welcomed to the meeting.</p> <p>Les Hodge, Chair of Stainsby Hill Residents Association was welcomed to the meeting.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

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<p><b>2. Apologies</b>  Apologies were noted.</p>		Noted
<p><b>3. Declaration of Interest</b>  RM declared an interested in Item 6 –Evaluation of Teesdale Park  GO and LJ declared an interest in Item 7 – Urban Blitz  SW declared an interested in Item 6 – Evaluation of Teesdale Park</p>		Noted Noted Noted
<p><b>4. Minutes from previous meeting</b>  Minutes from the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011 were agreed as an accurate and true record subject to the following:</p> <p>Doug Nicholson attended the last meeting.  Page 7, Doug Nicholson represents Tees Heritage Park not Teesdale Park</p>		Agreed  Noted Noted
<p><b>5. Matters Arising</b>  None</p>		Noted
<p><b>6. Teesdale Park Evaluation</b>  Ray Morton took the Board on a tour of Thornaby Football Club and Teesdale Park facilities answering questions from the Board and highlighting areas which have benefited from the Eastern Area Partnership Board's allocation of Communities Fund money. The official launch of the park took place on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2011 which the Mayor of Thornaby attended along with several local councillors, Head of Thornaby Academy, community businesses and community leaders. The Park is now more accessible and secure with the erection of entrance gates, fencing and pathways which resulted in an increase of visitors to the park. A meeting has taken place with Thornaby Academy to agree a scheme of work for pupils. The park has been used by Cleveland Police who are producing an anti bullying DVD and used the Park for some action shots. The Stockton Rivers project support has been supporting works on the</p>	SW	Noted

DOI – Declaration of Interest

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<p>pathways and roads within the park and created a new nature walk on site which is leading into another Natural England project to cultivate a relic marsh at the east of the site. Friends of Teesdale Park were successful in winning a Catalyst Award for best Community Group on 15<sup>th</sup> September. The teen shelter, picnic tables and carvings are now in place. The local Council Ranger has visited the site and advised the group on information signs and placing of carvings and seating which enhances the environment. The Stockton Rivers Project with volunteer help are clearing trees to establish pathways. Teesdale Park now has a Facebook page and has over 150 friends, articles have been in the Evening Gazette and Herald and Post. A website is being created by Thornaby Academy.</p> <p>The Board were very impressed with Teesdale Park and Thornaby Football Club and commended Ray, volunteers and all involved in the project. The classroom currently has had some work done to it, but needs equipment, Ray is looking for funding or any donations of old equipment such as tables and chairs.</p> <p>SW noted that the good work at the park is down to volunteers and Ray Morton and thanked them for their hard work. It was noted that one of the owl sculptures had been taken, so security is being stepped up.</p>		<p>SR to advertise on Council's notice board</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p><b>7. Urban Blitz – Michael Gardner from Nordic Pioneer</b></p> <p>Michael Gardner provided the Board with an overview of Nordic Pioneer and the Urban Blitz programme. The programme is for young people and offers a 20 week apprenticeship providing an NVQ level 2 in cleaning and environmental services. It is for 16 - 24 year olds and includes a full two weeks of training on Health and Safety, communication, team work and environmental issues. The project works in partnerships with organisations to develop a work programme for the young people within the community. During the 20 weeks the young people not only learn valuable hands on experience of cleaning and other environmental services, they are educated on the</p>		<p>Noted</p>

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<p>values, morals and ethics expected at the work place, promoting a firm but fair work ethic. The projects operate within the Tees Valley and have recently done work for Darlington Football Club, and over the winter carried out work at local Hospices clearing the snow. The project has a high succession rate of young people leaving the apprenticeship and entering into meaningful employment. Urban Blitz has a target of 70% of its apprentices to gain employment. Urban Blitz have met with Care For Your Area to look at filling gaps in their service and to avoid duplication. At present they are taking on groups of around 12 young people and they are required to work 30 hours over 4 days. They receive £2.60 an hour the equivalent of £78 a week, which is inline with apprenticeship wages. After 8 weeks of 100% attendance the young person receives a £100 bonus, after 15 weeks they will receive another £100 bonus and at the end of the 20 weeks, they will receive £140 bonus.</p> <p>SW noted that he felt this was work that the Probation /Youth Offending team should be doing and that the wages were very low. SW believes the Nordic Pioneer scheme to be exploitative and not what the public perceives it to be.</p> <p>It was noted that the Probation service is limited and this project assists the young with literacy, numeracy, key skills along with providing skills in areas such as cleaning and environmental services. LJ informed the Board that his son was involved in the scheme and became employed at the end of it, he found the apprenticeship very beneficial and previous to this his son was not in education, employment or training. RM commented positively on this type of programme creating a bridge into the employment market for young people, particularly for those at risk of becoming NEET or currently NEET, and stressed his support for the programme to do some work at Teesdale Park.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p><b>8. Stockton Town Centre Update –Nigel Laws</b>  Nigel provided the Board with an update on the results of the Stockton Town Centre</p>		<p>Noted</p>

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<p>consultation and was available to answer questions from the Board.</p> <p>Work to date includes the redevelopment of Stockton library, which has recently been updated and has seen vast improvements with the inclusion of the new contact point providing a one stop shop for the public. The library will be officially opened on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Work internally has started on the Globe and a new roof is to be erected. Advanced negotiations are now taking place with a national operator to run the Globe. The opening of the Globe has slipped to May 2013.</p> <p>Stockton Town Centre recently held Business Awards and gave out 6 awards for various categories, including eatery of the year and independent trader of the year. The Council will be launching a new loan scheme for existing and new businesses within the area. The enterprise arcade has been a great success with 3 of the businesses from the scheme relocating within the borough. There has been 45 new or relocated businesses in the Town Centre this year. Moby Grape is reopening as an Italian restaurant with nightclub.</p> <p>No decisions have been made regarding the relocation of the markets. Discussions are still on going and a working group has been created made up of 4 market traders and representatives from the Council. Further consultation for the Town Centre will be open in the Shambles for 2 weeks from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011.</p> <p>Proposals for the North end of the High Street include:  61 new car parking spaces at Lydsney House which will be demolished providing better views to the river.  56 new car parking spaces at Bishop Street with taxi space included.</p> <p>Proposals for the Southern end of the High Street include;</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

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<p>7 new taxi bays, bus stop and 46 new spaces.</p> <p>The Central High Street proposals include More open space and public realm with water and greenery. No through traffic and only access for buses. The Board were urged to view plans and leave comment via the website or at Stockton Shambles.</p> <p>No further update provided on the Swallow. It is currently the liability of Whitbread to pay the rates on the building.</p> <p>Comments received from the Board:  Issues with security at the Castlegate was raised with thefts occurring nearing the public houses. This issue has been passed to the Security Centre who are monitoring this issue. The new designs aim to the bus stops further away from the public houses.</p> <p>The Chair encouraged all members to get involved in the consultation and have their say on the improvements to the Town Centre.</p>		<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>Agenda items 9, 10 and 11 were referred to the next meeting due to lack of time to discuss these items in full.</p>		<p>Noted</p>
<p><b>12. Date and Time of Next Meeting</b>  Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 9.30 a.m. at Thornaby Academy.</p>		<p>Noted</p>