

Community Development Action Group MINUTES



Website www.yourtestvalley.com

Minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Action Group of the Test Valley Partnership held on Monday 23rd November 2009 at Duttons Road, Romsey.

Present:

Chris Davies (The Parish of Knights Enham)
Cllr Janet Whitely (TVBC)
Janet Blann (TVCS)
Cllr Sandra Hawke (TVBC)
Councillor Sandra Hawke (TVBC)
Alan Evans (Andover Churches Together)
Lucy Buis (TVBC)
James Moody (TVBC)
Marianne Piggin (TVBC)
Madina Boyo-Jalloh (TVBC)
Louisa Rice (TVBC)
Jim Bird (True Life Church)
Sally Simpson (Romsey & District Carers Forum)

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Apologies were received from:

Brian Cowcher (TVBC)
Alison Angell (HCC)
David Shields (Grateley PC)
Louise Gordon (Enham)
Ian Cross (District Service Manager)
Andrew Ashdown (Parish of Knights Enham)
Kelly Edmead (Testway)
Sarah Smith (Testway)
Jenny Stevens (Andover Museum)
Tina Robinson-Collins (Ministry of Defence)
Anne Meader (Romsey & District Carers Forum)

2. Matters Arising from previous meeting (7th September 2009)

- Minutes agreed

Community Development Action Group MINUTES



- Lucy Buis updated on the East Anton Community Development Worker. Post advertised as a two year post with possibility to extend. 16 applications have been received to date.

3. St Paul's Church Centre, Smannel Road – Chris Davies

Chris Davies talked about the plans to refurbish the St Paul's Church Centre. Originally built in 1980s the hall is now in need of modernisation. The hall is currently used 7 days a week by many community groups and they have to turn people away.

Along with the Centre needing a face lift they would also like to expand the building as the parish is about to double in size due to the East Anton MDA. An architect has been employed and drawn up potential plans to date. Anticipated cost is £1m, in order to raise funds for the project the Church are investigating selling off some of the land and securing significant external funding for the refurbishment.

They are very aware that there are other community facilities and soon to be a new community facility at East Anton but they have carried out research which demonstrates there is still a need for additional community facilities. The proposed new Church Centre will comprise two large halls, 4 meeting rooms, kitchen and 5 offices for use by community/charitable organisations.

4. Updated Action Plan 2009-11 – James Moody

James Moody updated the group on the recent work to finalise the CDAG action plan. Following the involvement of partners to help set out key actions under each of the Joint Areas of Focus (JAFs), James felt that the plan was now complete and that it illustrates really well the work partners through CDAG are delivering.

The next phase of work will be to evidence where actions are being completed and the impact they are having on the JAFs. This will enable CDAG to recognise achievement and also provide the opportunity for the group to tackle any issues that are restricting progress. James proposed to provide an initial progress report for the next meeting that would give the group an overview of current performance against the CDAG JAFs.

5. Project Updates

East Anton Members Visit

Cllr Whitely attended an event with other Councillors to find out more about the East Anton MDA, she found it very informative. 47 affordable houses will be available by Christmas, MOD houses had been handed over. 70% of the interest shown in the properties were from Andover.

Community Development Action Group MINUTES



True Life Church - Community Life Centre (sixbirds@ntlworld.com)

The Community Life Centre has been established for 18 months now. They have noticed an increased number of clients suffering from mental health illnesses with complex problems and this has had implications for some of the volunteers for which they are now providing training. The Children's' Centre staff are moving premises which will give the Centre the potential to open the space used by them into a café style area. Staff are working with Gainsborough Court and offering support and advice, volunteers are also going in on Christmas Day

Romsey & District Carers Forum (rodsal_81@talk21.com)

Sally Simpson talked about a new event called 'Generation Scrabble'. Starting Wednesday 9th December, this group will involve linking older people and pupils from Romsey School in arts and crafts activities such as making Christmas cards, board games, cards, music and much more. Please find flyer attached.

East Anton update (lbuis@testvalley.gov.uk)

A good calibre of applications received for the Community Development Worker position, interviews are to be held on 7th January. It has been confirmed that the temporary community facility will be a portacabin on the site of the local centre.

Test Valley Borough Council (cllrshawke@testvalley.gov.uk)

Would like to see members contact details included in the minutes or agenda, raised whether the membership of the group needed to be revisited. Cllr Hawke recently attended an informative two day conference on Community Safety.

Revised Citizens Panel (Jmoody@testvalley.gov.uk)

The citizens panel has been revamped and is now a lot more effective, in terms of preventing duplication. All partners are now able to access the panel and consult through this one channel, rather than each agency devising and sending out their own survey.

Community Development Action Group MINUTES



My Test Valley is an opportunity to have your say about a variety of local issues, such as health, wellbeing, community safety, the environment and the area in which you live. My Test Valley is made up of residents from across the borough. As a member of the panel you will be asked to take part in up to five surveys per year, each one including a prize draw. The Test Valley Partnership is now recruiting for the panel. If you would like to join please register online at www.mytestvalley.com

Andover Churches Together (aevans7244@aol.com)

Have been holding Healing on the Street sessions since 26th September and in the first week 26 passers by stopped and were prayed for.

Andover Churches Together are also responsible for Bridge That Gap (debt advice), Oakbank Pregnancy Centre and the Andover Foodbank. Andover Foodbank is now providing a service to the whole of Test Valley, more recently figures demonstrate they are feeding 200 people a month. They provide food for those in crisis for three days; they have three distribution points and ten agencies that can refer people to them. There has been a 75% increase in take up of the service since March 2008.

Hope 2010 is planned for Saturday 5th June in Vigo Park.

Grateley Parish Council (davidshields@btinternet.com)

Grateley Parish Council are going to proceed with doing a Parish Plan.

Test Valley Community Services (janet.blann@tvcs.org.uk)

Deadline for the Integrated Children's Services grant is December. TVCS has recently launched a new car – a 7 person people carrier. Project is continuing with promoting volunteering with Jobcentre Plus once a month. TVCS will be providing training on the new ISA scheme on 21st January in Romsey and 24th February in Longstock.

Test Valley Borough Council (Irice@testvalley.gov.uk)

Currently preparing to launch a new healthy walk for mothers and their children whether babies or toddlers from Askalot – 'Pushing Mothers'. This will be launched in January and will involve training up parents to become walk leaders. Leisure & Well-Being are also conducting a Sports & Recreation survey asking questions on sports and recreation

Community Development Action Group MINUTES



facilities, are there any clubs missing etc. Information collected will feed into the Sports & Recreation Strategy which will be available next spring.

BME Community Officer
(mboyo-jalloh@testvalley.gov.uk)

Madina has recently relaunched the drop-in at Andover Library, for people to call in with any questions or advice they may require.

Planning a cultural community event on 23rd January 4-7pm at the Bridge, Andover. The event will be celebrating different cultures with dance, music, arts and food.

Maddie is also working with Winton School on some equality and diversity work.

Alamein Community Association
(cmdavies76@aol.com)

Alamein Youth Meeting is to be held on 24th November, have received a very good response rate to date.

New windows, doors and shutters have recently been installed, next phase is an office.

Dads Club is doing very well, holding a Christmas event on 12th December, have recently employed a sessional worker.

9. Any other business

None

10. Dates of meetings in 2009

11 February 2010, 2pm – 4pm - Conference Room 2, Beech Hurst, Andover
15 April 2010, 10am-12pm - Council Chamber Large, Duttons Road, Romsey
29 June 2010, 2pm -4pm - Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Andover
23 September, 10am-12pm -Council Chamber Large, Duttons Road Romsey
30 November, 2pm – 4pm Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Andover

Any agenda items to Marianne (01264 368623/ mpiggin@testvalley.gov.uk)