

Community Development **MINUTES**



Website www.yourtestvalley.com

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Development Action Group of the Test Valley Partnership held on Friday 21st September 2007, Andover Guildhall.

Present:

Janet Blann (TVCS, Chair)
David Bidwell (TVAPC)
Cllr Mrs Janet Whiteley (TVBC)
Brian Cowcher (TVBC)
David Shields (Grateley PC)
Iris Stevens (Andover MIND)
Mollie Antrobus (Andover Mencap)

Martin Jeffery (Hants Constabulary)
Alison Murley (TVBC)
Louise Gordon (Enham)
Cllr Peter Boulton (TVBC)
Dawn Elson (TVCS)
David Judkins (Andover Baptist Church)

1. Apologies

Cllr Brian Page (TVBC)
Cllr Mrs Sandra Hawke (TVBC)
Marianne Piggin (TVBC)
Verna Brown (TVBC)

Judith Cohen (Grateley PC)
Alison Angell (HCC)
Chris Lawton (Family Support Worker)

2. Matters Arising from previous meeting (26th July 2007)

- Minutes agreed
- No matters arising that are not covered in agenda items

3. TurnAround Project – AskAlot (Atholl Court one-stop shop)

The information and advice shop, AskAlot, has opened this week. A 'trial period' to see how it works with the various agencies having responsibility for the shop when they are there. Limited numbers using the shop, but hopefully this will improve when the timetable of use is publicised (still being amended at present) and the shop is clearly signed as AskAlot, and the inside looks more welcoming with leaflets, posters etc.

The official opening of the shop is on 18th October, by which time the shop will be looking more 'user friendly' and publicity about the shop will have gone out.

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There is no 'Shop Manager', and therefore each organisation is responsible for the time they are in the shop. Caused some co-ordination problems. Need to monitor and if funding streams available, apply for funds to employ a PT shop manager in the future.

Shop sign to go up once Planning permission given. Testway working on design.
UPDATE FOLLOWING MEETING: Planning permissions not required providing sign is under a certain size.

Need for vertical blinds at the windows? Police and Health looking in to possibility of joint funding

Toys for children – Iris may have some that can be used in the shop – to liaise with Dawn

Walk for Inspiration – successful community event, with approx. 50 people taking part

Youth Club going well – Alamein Community Association have applied for Local Network Funding for a Youth Worker

CREW (Community Respect Environment Week) – taking place this week. Gone well with lots going on, but limited involvement from local residents

Action: if any agencies have posters or leaflets to go in the shop, please contact either Dawn Elson (dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk) at TVCS or Alison Murley at TVBC (amurley@testvalley.gov.uk)

4. Parish Plans

Houghton and Bossington have completed a draft plan. Alison presented it to the Group for endorsement (as per the local guidance adopted in March 2007). Giv Thornton (CAH) and Alison have discussed the Plan and worked with the Steering Committee. Using the evaluation exercise that forms part of the Parish Plan Toolkit, both Alison and Giv and satisfied that this is a good plan that has been developed inclusively and therefore is recommending it to the group for endorsement.

The group were reluctant to agree to endorse the Plan without having read it. Whilst the group accepted Alison and Giv's assessment of the process of producing the Plan, individual

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agencies wanted site of the Plan to see how it may affect their organisations / areas of work. It was agreed that the Plan would be circulated with the minutes any comments to go to Alison by 5th October. If no comments from agencies to the contrary, the Plan will go to the Test Valley Partnership Board's next meeting on 19th October as endorsed by CDAG.

David Bidwell requested both King's Somborne's Parish Plan and Longparish's Plan were also endorsed. Again the group were unwilling to do this without having read the Plan's (these Plans were published prior to the local guidance being in place).

Action: Alison to circulate all three Plans for comment, before recommending them for endorsement to the Board on 19th October. All comments are welcome, but only organisations who have a particular concern about an aspect of the Plan will be taking into account with regards recommending endorsement.

5. Action Plan

The group went through the action plan and noted any achievements:

- Christine Alexander and EOL project to referred to under Atholl Court Shop
- CREW week of action taken place at Alamein Ward
- Reminder to all to make sure 'good news stories' are publicised
- 15th October – TVCS and CAH holding a Diversity Day at Longstock, for agencies. Invites to go out
- 30th November – Andover Baptist Church 'Calling all Nations'. If any one has any information they would like distributed at the event, let David know (david.judkins@andoverbaptist.org.uk)
- Volunteers for Atholl Court Shop – some contacts have been made

Reminder to the group that we should all be working to these actions. Please keep Alison informed of any update and progress made (amurley@testvalley.gov.uk).

6. Information exchange

David Judkins, Andover Baptist Church – Working with Andover Churches Together, a survey has been completed looking at Church activities. Included 17 Churches and looked at activities such as youth clubs and toy banks. All this information is now going to be put into a directory – both a printed version and a website. As part of this work an area of need was identified – 'befriending services'. This is something the Churches are looking to pick up on – establishing an inter-Church Trust to apply for funding.

David is the local lead for a national campaign 'Hope 08', to be launched next year. Will involve community fun days and activities throughout Andover.

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Janet – 'RockSolid' are looking in to the possibility of taking on an empty shop unit at the Fleming Avenue parade of shops in North Baddesley.

The Diocese covering the Alamein Ward is recruiting a Community Development Worker. Already have Chris Lawton in post as a Family Support Worker.

Brian – AskAlot sign yet to be funded. Suggested we nominate this as something to be funded from the CDRP's budget. Group agreed providing it did not cost a significant amount of the budget available (£5,000). Reminder to group that the CDRP have a £5,000 budget for capital projects that our group supports, and works towards our action plan. Any ideas to be brought to the next meeting.

Cllr Boulton – Broughton Neighbourcare established and to be launched this week. Issue of under-age drinking a concern in Broughton.

Mollie – currently profiling the needs of people with learning disabilities. Initial findings indicate approx. 50% live in rural areas.

Andover Food Bank is working in partnership with Twice as Nice, to provide support people going in to new homes.

Iris – Andover MIND has a new and developing counselling service. Charges are means-tested and they do not have a waiting list.

Fit for life project – looking a physical health and mental well-being. Lottery funded project for the Andover area

Employment Seminar – 1st February

World Mental Health day – 10th October. Events at Andover MIND in town.

Advice and information service open to the public

David Shields – Grateley are currently upgrading their website, which will include an area on community planning and Parish Plans.

7. Future meetings

23rd November, 10am – 12 – Romsey (Crosfield Hall)

2008: ?

Any agenda items to Alison (amurley@testvalley.gov.uk)