

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 23rd November 2007, Crosfield Hall, Romsey.

Present:

Janet Blann (TVCS, Chair)
David Bidwell (TVAPC)
Cllr Mrs Janet Whiteley (TVBC)
Brian Cowcher (TVBC)
Anne Meader (Romsey Carers)
Cllr Mrs Sandra Hawke (TVBC)
Verna Brown (TVB)

Martin Jeffery (Hants Constabulary)
Alison Murley (TVBC)
Kelly Edmead (Testway)
Allison Angel (HCC)
Dawn Elson (TVCS)
Lyn Bird (Rock Solid)
Monica Lanagan (North Baddesley)

1. Apologies

Judith Cohen (Grateley PC)
Brian Page (Age Concern)
Marianne Piggin (TVBC)
David Shields (Grateley PC)
Mollie Antrobus (Andover Mencap)

David Judkins (Andover Baptist Church)
Louise Gordon (Enham)
Sue Sheppard (Andover Vision)
Cllr Marion Kerley (TVBC)

2. Matters Arising from previous meeting (21st September 2007)

- Minutes agreed
- It was agreed that Houghton & Bossington Parish Plan Group should be invited to present their Plan to CDAG. **AM to send invite**

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

The **Askalot** shop has had a positive start. Lots of services / agencies are using the shop. There are some problems with lone working when sessions are missed. Volunteers have been recruited and they are keen to get involved. A sexual health clinic is due to start at the shop.

There is a need to launch the shop for residents, as the original launch was more focused on launching the shop for agencies.

Community Development **MINUTES**



Broadband has gone into King Arthurs Hall as part of the Everyone on-line project. Hoping to get your people to develop an Askalot Website.

The sign is now up at the Shop, funded by the Community Safety Partnership money following nomination by this group.

Resources continue to be limited, with no funds for a shop manager. Possibility of a volunteer being trained up as a shop manager? Cllr Hawke suggested all partner organisations contributed to fund a shop manager.

As Kerry St John is leaving her role as Neighbourhood Coordinator, there is an opportunity to change the focus of the job so the person spends more time in the shop. The number of hours for the post is flexible, depending on funding.

Group agreed that more monitoring of who uses the shop is required, as this is patchy at present. However, highlighted that we do not want to 'scare people off' by asking too many questions.

Cllr Whitely noted that the area around the shop does not look particularly attractive, particularly the canapés. This has been brought to the Council's attention and the Green Team have been attending the area.

4. Parish Plans

Houghton and Bossington's Parish Plan went to the Test Valley Partnership Board for endorsement in October, following a recommendation from this group. The Board agreed to endorse the Plan. We now have three endorsed Parish Plans; Houghton & Bossington, Longstock, and King's Somborne. Test Valley Borough Council have agreed to provide funding to help design and publish the Plan, which we hope to be published in the New Year.

Alison reported that she had met with the Parish Plan Project lead in Sherfield English, who have produced their first draft. They have made an excellent start, and it is hoped that it will be at the stage to go to this group to recommend for endorsement.

Several other Parishes have made a start on plans and are doing well including Ampfield, and Mottisfont.

Alison, Janet and David attended a Community Planning event organised by Hampshire County Council. All districts gave a short presentation on how they approach community planning within their areas. It was clear that all districts take a different approach and have

Community Development **MINUTES**



different levels of resources. Test Valley seemed to have a good approach, working in partnership with Community Action Hampshire. No other districts mentioned how Parish Plans fed into the Local Strategic Partnership.

Hampshire County Council arranged the meeting to see how best they can link in the Parish Plans and ensure the action plans reach the right people. It became clear that there was no easy answer! Once the notes from the meeting have been circulated, these can be fed back to this group.

Action: AM to invite Houghton and Bossington to present their Plan to the group at a future meeting.

5. Diversity

Using money from 'Capacity Builders', Community Action Hampshire have arranged Diversity Network meetings across the County. Test Valley's was held on 15th October – lots of organisations attended, looking at BME communities in Test Valley (incl. migrant workers and gypsy and travellers). A draft report has been circulated. It has been agreed that this diversity work will feed through the Voluntary Sector Forum, rather than setting up another group. The next Forum is on 12th December at 10am in Longstock Village Hall.

Action: AM to circulate draft report with the minutes

6. Information exchange

Verna Brown - Children and Young People's plan event on Friday 30th at Beech Hurst – to develop a Plan for Test Valley. Older People's Hampshire Well-being Strategy – how Test Valley will need to link in with this Strategy.

Martin Jeffery – Police are looking at how they can best consult with people; they want to be involved in any consultation events / community events / surveys taking place, rather than duplicate what is already happening.

Lyn Bird – joint coordinator of the Rock Solid Youth Project in North Baddesley. Has been running for 9 years. Funded by Children's Fund. Service provided via a bus twice a week, attracting 5 – 19 year olds. I paid worker (substance misuse) and volunteers. Looking to develop a one-stop shop for young people in North Baddesley – based at a shop in North Baddesley precinct. Possibility of developing this into a Children's Centre – this would enable access to funding.

Community Development **MINUTES**



Anne Meader – Carers Together now have an internet café in Romsey, run by 2 volunteers. Based at Love Lane, twice a month. Flu Jab days at Crossfield Hall were very successful.

Brian Cowcher – New Housing Strategy currently being developed. Emphasis is on sustainable communities. Need to look how this is going to link into the Test valley partnership – possibility through CDAG?

Kelly Edmead - Active Learning for residents has been very successful. 54 residents involved at present, gaining qualifications by working in the community. Group suggested linking this with Askalot and Alamein Community Association.

Sandra Hawke – Asda have started recruiting for their new store in Andover – due to open on 10th March 2008. Possibility of a recruitment event at Askalot?

David Bidwell – Calor Village of the Year to go on the next agenda.

Janet Whitely - Liz Bourne has been appointed as Stockbridge Town Manager, 2.5 days a week – she is moving things forward following the Health Check.

Alison Murley – update from David Judkins; in the process of completing the social action brochure carried out by different Andover Churches. Hope to have this completed in the New Year. Romsey Churches Together will hopefully do something similar. North Baddesley Churches Together? A series of events being planned by Churches for Hope08, a national initiative. Visit www.hope08andover.org.uk for more info. Keen to link this in with other events already going on in the Andover area.

7. Future meetings

2008

21st January, 10-12, Conf Rm 2, Beech Hurst, Andover

1st April, 2-4, Crosfield Hall, Romsey

20th May, 10-12, Con Rm 5, Beech Hurst, Andover

24th July, 10-12, Crosfield Hall, Romsey

22nd September, 10-12, Conf Rm 2, Beech Hurst, Andover

24th November, 10-12, Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey

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