

Community Development **MINUTES**



Website www.yourtestvalley.com

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Development Action Group of the Test Valley Partnership held on Wednesday 13th December 2006 in Longstock Village Hall

Present:

JeanLannie,AndoverFamilyLearning
GivThornton,CommunityActionHampshire
CllrSandraHawke,TVBC
AllisonAngel,HCC
JamieO'Reilly,TVBC
SamCornick,TVBC
LouiseGordon,EnhamTrust
MarionWoods,TestValleyPartnership
JanetBlann,TVCS

CllrBrianPage,AgeConcern/TVBC
GregAlexander,TVCS
MariannePiggin,TVBC
DawnElson,TVCS
BrianCowcher,TVBC
SalWright,TVBC
AnneMeador,CarersTogether
AlisonMurley,TVBC

1. Apologies

Ange Moon, Andover CAB
Verna Brown, TVBC
Cllr David Bidwell, TVBC
Christine Brown, TVBC
Pam Delderfeild, Andover Neighbourcare
Tony McGovern, Mountbatten School

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

- Community Development Strategy – CDAG's chapter in the Community Plan will be the group's strategy and action plan, and therefore a separate strategy is not required
- Rural Community Development – Rural Mentoring Project ends in April 2007. The mentoring team and visited other Local Authorities to learn from best practice. Conference on Parish Plans will be taking place on 28th March. David Gleave is the contact. More information to be circulated when available.
- TurnAround Project – Kerry St John has been appointed as the Neighbourhood Activity Co-ordinator. Lots going on, Hall is being used, things going well.
- E-volve – TVCS now have a full time administrator. Continues to be some technical difficulties, but in-putting is progressing

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3. Review of the Community Plan – Community Development

Marion Woods facilitated a workshop, to begin the review of the Community Development chapter of the Community Plan. First, the group highlighted some of CDAG's achievements:

- Grateley research project – actions achieved
- Volunteer recognition – community groups and individual awards (TVBC and TVCS)
- Raised the profile of community development
- Regular meetings with committed members
- Rural Mentoring Project – community development and Parish Plans of the two of the priority areas
- Parish Plans – a community focus
- Health Checks – Romsey and Stockbridge
- Turnaround Project
- Compact
- E-volve

The group's overall aim is to achieve 'A place with strong local communities'

What would tell us that we had achieved that aim?

Do you think that current progress is good, bad or patchy? (indicated in brackets, together with the number of 'votes' when prioritising the outcomes)

- People would feel a sense of pride and responsibility about where they live (2)
- People look out for one another and are neighbourly
- People would feel that they live in a safe community (patchy) (7)
- People will be involved in community activity (patchy) (7)
- People will have a knowledge of events taking place in their communities
- New people feel welcomed into the community and able to participate (2)
- People would recognise the different communities within their community (2)
- A cohesive community
- There would be trust, tolerance, communication and understanding in the community (patchy) (4)
- People would respect others
- All sections of the community would feel involved in it
- Everyone learns from the past, lives in the present and plans for the future (patchy) (1)
- People will have skills and knowledge to become community leaders and representatives (2)

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- People's skills are recognised, acknowledged and developed
- Voluntary activity would be encouraged, supported and recognised (good)
- Local enterprises and services are encouraged and valued (good)
- People have access to amenities and services that they need wherever they live (Bad) (8)
- Local people influence what goes on in their community (LA priority) (Patchy) (2)

As a group, four priority outcomes were agreed:

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- People have access to amenities and services that they need, wherever they live
- People feel that they live in a strong, safe and supportive community
- Local people influence what goes on in their community, and people are involved in community activity
- People are tolerant and trusting in their community and communicate effectively with one another

During the workshop, a note was made of any other ideas/barriers/issues:

- Where are the 'weaker' communities
- Different communities are at different stages of development
- Major Development Areas – new communities in Test Valley
- 'Safe' communities is not just about crime rates
- Fear of crime – when actually Test Valley is a safe area
- People feel 'unconnected'
- Capacity building
- Sustainable development
- Community champions/local Members
- Government policy – can be restrictive in reality
- Recognising different communities
- Engage with voluntary groups
- Mapping community activity
- Toolkit for small villages to do a 'mini' Parish Plan
- Housing – how does it link to the Test Valley Partnership

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The next stage of the review will be completed at CDAG's next meeting (date), where we will look at our agreed priority outcomes and ask ourselves:

snextmeeting(date), where we will look

- How could we measure these? Are the measures getting better or worse? Where are things heading if we do nothing?
- What is the story behind these measures?
- Who are the partners that we need to work with to do better?
- What do we know about ideas from elsewhere that we might be able to use to do better?
- What do we propose to do? (action plan!)

4. Next Meetings

10am – 12.30, 9th February – Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey

10am – 12.30 15th May - Conference Room 5, Beech Hurst, Andover

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