

Community Learning MINUTES



Website www.yourtestvalley.com

Team:	Test Valley Community Learning Partnership		
Date:	5 October 2010	Copies to:	As Listed
Venue:	The Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge 12.00 -2.00pm		

Present		
George Allen (Hampshire Learning)	Clive Graham (Community Education Manager, Harrow Way Community School)	Lesley Johnson (Adult & Community Learning Co-Ordinator Mountbatten School)
David Gleave (TVBC – Co-ordinator of the Group)	Helen Briers, Aim Higher University of Winchester	Janet House (Connexions, Andover)
Jan Lefley Chairman (Community Education Manager, Romsey Community School)	Terri Sandison (Director of Lifelong Learning and Staff Development, University of Winchester)	Debbie Dean (Connexions, Eastleigh)
Helen Overton (Hampshire Learning Development Officer)	Martin Simmons, Vice Principal Sparsholt College	Patrick Goatley, Deputy Head Teacher Harrow Way Community School
James Moody Test Valley Partnership Manager	Sue Muldowney (Development Officer HCC – Hampshire Learning)	Paul Connor TABS Ltd
Apologies		
Stephen Cottrell	Melody Mew (Enham and Vice Chair of the Group)	Louisa Hiscock Headteacher Test Valley School

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Agenda			
1.	Apologies		See above
2.	Minutes of previous meetings on 7 th July 2010		
3.	Matters Arising		
4.	Moving the Partnership Forward		
5.	Any Other Business		
6.	Dates of Next Meeting (at Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge, 12 noon -2.00pm) 7 December 2010		

Summarised notes of the discussion and action points	
1.	Apologies – see above
2.	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting on 7th July – agreed</p> <p>Minor corrections to wording under 3ii);</p> <p>3v) to read: Awbridge are consulting with Wellow on a federated structure but Lockerly will not.</p>
3.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Children’s Trusts (CT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Meeting of Southern Test Valley CT on 28th September 2010 – changed emphasis from to “every child matters” to “every child achieves”. <p>An Action Plan is in place; emotional health and wellbeing is the priority. Teenage Pregnancy group in attendance. Primary sector concerned with improving sexual relationships and education, in part by influencing parents and making sure young people are aware of their responsibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A meeting of the Test Valley North CT has been postponed again. There was some discussion of using Extended Services Capacity Building funding to support the CT though it was assumed that only any underspent funds for Extended Services co-ordination may be available. In any event this is unsustainable as it is the last year for Extended Services funding from Government. <p>Stockbridge Children’s Centre – now up and running, being managed by Tara.</p>

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- ◆ Awbridge and Wellow junior schools have agreed to federate.
- ◆ University of Winchester MBAs to be delivered in Andover - only 4 enrolments from 18 expressions of interest meant students will have to join the Basingstoke programme.
- ◆ Enham Trust won the contract for the Teenage Parents' Learning Programme.
- ◆ Switch in Government funding for learning from public to private sector providers – TABS reported that T2G virtually gone and Learn Direct has been cut back. Government is talking about a new employment skills programme.

MS added that Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) wants to re-package existing initiatives for the unemployed (e.g. 6 month, long term unemployed 18 – 20 year old unemployed etc) into a new programme and contract with a private sector provider (e.g. VT or UFI the over arching Learn Direct body) who would sub-contract to local providers.

JL asked if our group should be ready to bid for Test Valley delivery?
DG agreed to seek an update from Job Centre Plus and MS said that we should know more about procurement at the end of October.

- ◆ Romsey Job Club – open 9.30am – 12.30pm every Wednesday at Company House, Romsey Community School <http://romseyjobclub.wikispaces.com/>. Helping 10-12 people each week, including mums referred through Children's Centres. All credit to Romsey Community School for establishing and continuing to support the Romsey Job Club, despite a lower unemployment rate and for the strong referral network.
- ◆ Andover Job Club – open 1.00pm – 3.00pm every Tuesday at King Arthur's Hall, King Arthur's Way, Andover.
- ◆ A Job Club will open in North Baddesley.

4. **Moving the Partnership Forward**

JL introduced the item and DG re-capped the meeting of 23 June 2010 at which the head teachers of the 3 community schools which deliver Adult and Community learning (Harrow Way, Romsey and Mountbatten) resolved to:

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“pursue a Test Valley Community Learning entity, as the basis for managing (not delivering) QCL in the Borough; and begin consideration of the wealth of detailed implications necessary for this to work, initially through this group – and which all relevant organisations are represented”.

The fact that ACL is so strong in Test Valley behaves this group to try and find a local solution following whatever cuts lie ahead.

CG felt that there are two aspects:

- i) Arrangements for delivering the Hampshire Learning contract in Test Valley; and
- ii) The role of the partnership – some organisations in the Partnership may not (want to) receive HL funding but may want to play a development role.

JL considered we could do things in a different way: we have three centres with similar cost structures – each with a management, admin and finance function. We are all running deficits. Redundancies are inevitable. Romsey Community School has already had to make some. The existing arrangement is unsustainable.

We either pare down our individual centres or do something together e.g. share support functions (and costs) thereby allowing more resources for frontline learning.

Romsey CS will be looking at 25-40% cuts.

CG felt that schools need a run-in period of between 3-6 months in which to make adjustments. Funding is OK up to July 2011 which means that new proposals will have to be formed by the end of 2010/beginning of 2011. The redundancy process requires reasoning and a new proposed structure etc.

Legal status of a Test Valley Learning Partnership:

A company limited by guarantee would pose conflicts of interest for representation of schools as potential beneficiaries of the funding. Therefore a charitable trust would be preferable.

Timetable:

GA described funding timetable which would inform any eventual new arrangements:

- 20 October Comprehensive Spending Review
- settlement to the Skills Funding Agency (currently £210m)
- SFA settlement to Hampshire – end of November/early December (currently £2.1m)

The Minister for FE, Skills and Lifelong Learning (BIS), John Hayes has stated

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that ACL is very important.

What will the post CSR funding priorities be?

Adult Safeguard Learning has 7 strands – DG imagined that employability, which covers much/most of ACL in Test Valley will remain important and a valid justification for the best settlement we can expect. CG added that Andover's priority was Entry Level Learning i.e. dealing with effective illiteracy and innumeracy among many, many adults.

Hampshire Learning has a providers meeting on 7th October 2010. It will convene contract visits to providers and ask all three Test Valley Community Schools to contact HCC's Education Personnel Services (EPS) to prepare for the possibility of funding restructuring and consequential staffing and employment issues.

Mechanisms for dealing with staffing issues

- i) Transfer staff across to a New Test Valley Learning organisation? However, staff, employed by HCC will want to stay with HCC as their employer and not be TUPED across.
- ii) Second staff from schools to a new Test Valley organisation? This is preferable because staff will continue to be employed by HCC.

Dealing with Deficits

Any new Test Valley Learning organisation will want to start without any inherited deficits. Romsey Community Schools ACL operating deficit should be secured by March 2011. Harroway Community School should have reduced theirs to £30,000 by March 2011.

Community Schools setting budgets for 2011/12

Budgets for September 2011/12 will need to be in by December 2010. Governing bodies will need to take responsibility for staffing decisions. As well as dealing with deficits, identifying staffing costs they will also want to take a view on the future management model e.g. a Test Valley Learning Partnership. The level of redundancies will be affected both by attempts to pool arrangements, rather than implement cuts school by school (Romsey could not sustain a 40% cut), and by any moves to full cost recovery e.g. tutors delivering full cost recovery courses are more likely to be retained.

Therefore a proposed Test Valley Learning Partnership model, including governance, staffing, legal status, functions etc will need to be worked up over the next few weeks to inform reports to School Governors.

AGREED

1. A sub-group comprising Jan Lefley, Clive Graham, Paul and Martin (and

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	<p>anyone else interested) meet as soon as possible to describe the nature of a Test Valley Learning Partnership.</p> <p>2. Jan to seek guidance from Test Valley Community Services and Community Action Hampshire and/or the Charities Commission as to the legal status and governance of a Test TVCLP.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>PC: TABS have been in Andover 4 years specialising in 19+ literacy and numeracy. Learn Direct is under capacity, because Andover's needs are pre level 2.</p> <p>JH: Perhaps my NEET/potential NEET clients could use Learn Direct services?</p> <p>MS: September enrolment at Andover up on last year but growth is coming from curriculum and apprenticeships rather than 6th form. The Clere, Peter Symonds and in the future, Wellington College all pose challenges to keeping a broad based and viable 6th form at Andover College.</p> <p>Andover College is undergoing major capital improvements in Creative Arts, Hair Salon, Construction Workshops, 6th Form Interactive Learning Centre and Common Room but, sadly all with money borrowed from the bank rather than awarded by the LSC, as originally promised.</p> <p>JM - Test Valley Partnership reported that TVP Board are re-assessing the 14 Joint Areas of Focus in the current financial circumstances with a view to reducing their number.</p> <p>A TVP Stakeholder Day will take place on 3rd December 2010.</p> <p>DD - Southern Test Valley Connexions Lowest NEET figure (49) since April, reflecting stirring work by the team.</p> <p>JH - Andover Connexions Summer event/positive outcomes was oversubscribed. A little bit of funding remains available until December 2010, for work focusing on last year's Year 11 potential NEET and Early Leavers from college.</p> <p>HB and TS Aim Higher The Aim Higher Project involving all 8 Andover junior schools in 2009 and led by the University of Winchester will continue. This entails visits by pupils, teachers and parents to the University and more parent-helpers are welcome.</p> <p>Aim Higher will be funded to July 2011. The University of Winchester is full and is anticipating 35% funding cuts!</p> <p>GA - Hampshire Learning A learning providers meeting will take place on 7</p>

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	<p>October at Sparsholt College. A BIS Consultation is asking whether the budget for Adult Learning should continue to be safeguarded. Please respond YES by 14 October 2010.</p> <p>http://www.bis.gov.uk/consultations/skills-for-sustainable-growth-consultation?cat=open</p> <p>JL - Romsey Community School A conference titled “Doing Things Differently – Follow the Yellow Brick Road” will take place at the Tower Arts Centre, Kings School, Winchester on 21st October featuring Johnny Ball – cost only £20.</p> <p>DG - Test Valley Borough Council Third annual Business of Learning conference on 19th October 2010 at The Lights. Tim Jackson will open.</p> <p>The 4th Andover Junior Graduation will take place at the Lights on 22nd and 25th July 2011.</p> <p>TVBC about to conduct research into Andover’s skill needs and extent of public sector learning provision as benchmark for grant-aiding bids for education, learning and skills training from £500,000 Section 106 contributions from Goodman on part of development of Andover Commercial Park. It is anticipated the fund should begin operating in may/June 2011.</p>
6.	<p>Date of Next Meeting at Grosvenor Hotel, High Street, Stockbridge 7th December 2010 12 noon - 2.00pm <i>PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE – THANK YOU</i> <i>PLEASE BRING ALONG DIARIES TO SET 2011 MEETING DATES</i></p>