

# Community Learning MINUTES



Website [www.yourtestvalley.com](http://www.yourtestvalley.com)

<b>Team:</b>	Test Valley Community Learning Partnership		
<b>Date:</b>	8 March 2011	<b>Copies to:</b>	As Listed
<b>Venue:</b>	The Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge 12.00 -2.00pm		

<b>Present</b>		
Charlie Currie (Head Teacher Harrow Way Community School)	James Moody (Partnership Manager TVBC)	David Gleave (TVBC – Co-ordinator of the Group)
Patrick Goatley (Deputy Head Teacher Harrow Way Community School)	Rachel Hawkins (Partnership Manager Job Centre Plus, West Solent)	Paul Connor (TABS Training)
Terri Sandison (Director of Lifelong Learning and Staff Development, The University of Winchester)	Andrea Hulme (Leisure Learning Manager, County Library Service)	Jo Osman (Partnership Manager, Job Centre Plus)
Janet House (Team Leader, Andover Connexions)	Lesley Johnson (Adult & Community Learning Co-ordinator, Mountbatten School)	Jan Lefley (Community Education Manager, Romsey Community School)
Sue Muldowney (Hampshire Learning, Quality and Curriculum Development, HCC)	Jo Parker (Stockbridge Children's Centre, Children's Services)	Maggs Todd (Harrow Way Community School)
George Allen (Head of Hampshire Learning, Recreation & Heritage, HCC)		
<b>Apologies</b>		
Ann Truman (District Manager, Education & Inclusion, HCC)	Jenny Stevens (Andover Museum)	Susan Wilson (Solent EBP)
Stephen Cottrell (School Improvement Manager, HCC, Chair of the Group)	Michael Physick (LMRA Manager, Job Centre Plus)	Martin Simmons (Vice Principal, Sparsholt College)
Melody Mew (Enham and Vice Chair of the Group)	Debra McAndrew (Senior Development Officer, Services for Young Children)	Linda Clarkson (Senior Development Officer, Services for Young Children)
Louisa Hiscock (Headteacher, Test Valley School)	Roger Buck (First Partnership)	Richard Watson (Team Manager, Youth Support Service)

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Maria Wright (Employer Engagement Manager, Job Centre Plus)	Richard Butler (Headteacher, John Hanson Community School)	Janet Blann (Chief Executive, TVCS)
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<b>Agenda</b>			
1.	Apologies		See above
2.	Minutes of previous meetings on 7 December 2010 October		
3.	Matters Arising		
4.	Funding Update for Academic Year 2011-2012		
5.	Moving the Partnership Forward		
6.	Any Other Business		
7.	Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2011 (at Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge 12 noon -2.00pm)		

<b>Summarised notes of the discussion and action points</b>	
1.	<p><b>Election of Chairman</b> As the groups Chairman Stephen Cottrell had moved to take up a position in Fareham a replacement Chairman is needed. DG asked for volunteers and chaired today's meeting.</p>
2.	<p><b>Apologies</b> – see above</p>
3.	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010</b> – agreed</p>
4.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Job Clubs (JL)</b> North Baddesley now has a job club supporting 15 people. Romsey Job Club at Romsey Community School is expanding all the time - though we don't know why?</p> <p>Andover Jobcentre Plus say they are supporting 4 "work clubs":- Askalot, Andover and Adult Family Learning, Two Saints and Silver Surfers (Vince Delderfield). DAG asked for details of these because there is a risk of duplication/confusion, less effective provision assuming they are all publicly funded. PG &amp; MT added that although AAFL was involved in Information, Advice and Guidance this was in the Andover JC+ office so should not be considered a separate job club.</p>
5.	<p><b>Funding Update for Academic Year 2011/12 (GA)</b></p> <p>The Government's indicative funding settlement for Hampshire, announced in early February, is £2.1m. which is much better than originally feared and reflects</p>

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the value and perception of adult and community learning in Government.

Although Adult Safeguarded Funding has, to some extent, been protected it will undergo reform on fees, fee-remission and funding eligibility.

In the foreward to the BIS Strategy Document, further Education – New Horizon (November 2010) Ministers state:

*“Adult and Community Learning is not only valuable in its own right, but also stimulates progressive learning, often leading to employment, still more, it sustains democratic citizenships and will continue to be supported. However, we will look to reform it radically reducing the complexity and bureaucracy that hampers providers from responding to community needs”.*

The Government’s Skills Agenda, with emphasis on apprenticeships and welfare to work and HCC will want to allocate scarce resources more widely across the county. At the same time HCC is conscious of the scale and quality of provision in Test Valley and the genuine partnership between agencies that exists, all of which was illustrated in the recent Ofsted Review.

Workshops will be held across Hampshire to inform decisions on the allocation of resources, including one at Mountbatten School very soon.

Hampshire Learning now falls within Children’s Services and the previous four categories of adult and community learning (e.g. Personal & Community Development Learning, Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities, Wider Family Learning and Family Literacy, Language, Numeracy) have been combined to give greater flexibility involving less bureaucracy.

The Government’s Skills for Sustainable Growth policy sets out 3 principles for Adult & Community Learning (ACL):-

- i) effective community engagement
- ii) evidence of progression into formal learning and employability; and
- iii) contribution to The Big Society.

It is envisaged that Test Valley’s share of the £2.1m settlement could be of the order of £255-260,000 which although good, represents a significant reduction on the current level of activity – hence the need to work more closely together.

Jobcentre Plus are involved with a range of initiatives which relate closely to ACL:-

- i) Work Programme - mid April the announcement of the two agencies which will be delivering the Work Programme in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. This is an outcome linked payment for the provider for clients

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	<p>who find secure employment. The Work Programme will include a Skills Conditionality Element which will require claimants to go on training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii) Get Britain Working Measures - Enterprise Allowance - grants and mentoring scheme should be available for Hants from the Autumn.</li> <li>iii) Work clubs – see above.</li> <li>iv) Work Experience – originally up to 8 weeks work experience for 18-21 year olds at 13 weeks of unemployment, however the budget has increased the eligibility to up to 12 weeks WE and for 18-24 year olds. They remain on JSA and receive a travel allowance.</li> <li>v) Work Trials – candidates will receive a travel allowance.</li> <li>vi) Service Academies – providing pre-employment training for specific sectors e.g. BCOT providing retail training; Andover College working with JC+ on pre-employment training for the Co-op distribution centre.</li> </ul> <p>JL asked whether Hampshire could sign up as a Service Academy rather than have individual training providers apply separately. GA confirmed that Philip Walker at HCC was looking at Skills Academies.</p> <p>Andover adult &amp; Family Learning (Cath Calcraft) is working on ESOL for the Nepalese. JL asked whether there was any funding for ESOL and DG replied that Andover College were preparing a business plan for ESOL  <a href="mailto:Patrick.barrett@sparsholt.ac.uk">Patrick.barrett@sparsholt.ac.uk</a></p> <p>TS is writing the University of Winchester’s Access Agreement and asked whether any agencies were providing above level 2 in order to offer opportunities to progress through to university. JL said Romsey Community School’s ACL offered level 3 qualifications.</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Moving the Partnership Forward</b></p> <p>A meeting involving Jan, Patrick, Charlie, Paul, Lesley, George and Sue took place immediately before this group to review progress on the schools submitting a single, test Valley, and bid to Hampshire Learning as the prelude to more collaborative working.</p> <p>We need a project plan and timetable to submit a bid in the next 6 weeks, with JL leading. The bid will identify priorities and who is best-placed to meet them. A single entity also offers the opportunity to sell services outside the area but there are important issues of personnel, governance and accountability to deal with.</p>

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	<p>Agreed: Sub group to meet 3.30 pm on 16 March 2011 at Harrow Way Community school. Circulate the group's terms of reference.</p> <p>GA said that other districts were considering single bids but are looking to Test Valley for the model of effective partnership working.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>DAG – The Business of Learning conference (Andover businesses working with Andover schools) will take place on 22 March 2011 at The Lights and attendance is looking good.</p> <p>A Test Valley apprenticeships campaign “111 apprenticeships in 2011” will be launched at The Lights on Wednesday 8 June 2011, 8.00 a.m.-10.00a.m. The National apprenticeships Service, 6 training providers, the Council, Preformed Line Products, Andover Industrial Mission and Test Valley Borough Council will all be supporting the initiative.</p> <p>The Council is employing consultants to help define skills needs in Andover in order to help inform how it will manage a £500,000 Andover skills training fund (obtained through a section 106 agreements with Goodman, as part of the Andover airfield development) over the next few years.</p> <p>TVCS will be offering 16 volunteering sessions to claimants in Andover Jobcentre Plus from March 2011. Interviews will be held once a month and TVCS hope to see 8-10 prospective volunteers per session. For more info contact Viv Parsons (Volunteer centre Manager) at <a href="mailto:volunteers@tvcs.org.uk">volunteers@tvcs.org.uk</a></p> <p>PC – a new course (Employment and Personal Development Programme), aimed at the unemployed, has been established in Andover, linked to Jobcentre Plus, and designed to improve employability. It has been heavily over-subscribed.</p> <p>AH - Library Service's leisure learning has proved hugely successful. A joint funding bid has been submitted across Hampshire which if successful will extend the programme.</p> <p>RH Jobcentre plus working on a Skills Development Zone in Southampton using collaborative funding including from major new developments.</p> <p>JL – Local Children's Partnerships – a vehicle for future funding opportunities? The universal youth service grant of £1.8m. will be going to Children's partnerships (excludes targeted families) so this group needs to have representation on the Test Valley North and Test Valley South Children's</p>

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partnerships groups. JP (Stockbridge Children's Centre) agreed to feed back to the group from one and JM agreed to liaise regarding the Test Valley Children's partnership steering group.

A meeting has been arranged of all voluntary groups operating in southern Test Valley.

Romsey Community School (including Helen Overton) is managing the Education Improvement Partnership in East Hampshire.

SM – A course-search facility, listing 1000 courses is available on Hampshire Learning's web site and will be launched in Adult Learners' week.

JM – The Test Valley Partnership will continue, in contrast to some parts of Hampshire.

The number of Joint areas of Focus has been reduced from 14 to 4 including one which refers to learning and developing skills. The others are: community self help, dealing with the root causes of alcohol and anti social behaviour and health inequalities.

JP – Stockbridge Children's Centre running a parent & toddler group, working in Lockerley and Middle Wallop (liaising with Mike Dear) and King's Somborne. DG mentioned [www.plainaction.org.uk](http://www.plainaction.org.uk) for possible funding in western Test Valley.

JH – Huge changes taking place - merger Youth service & Connexions; no longer offering universal service, only targeted. 60 personal advisors in Hampshire (7 in Test Valley). Working with care leavers and NEETS but softer work may be lost. Hopefully some community development workers will be recruited to work with voluntary groups. There is uncertainty over careers advice and guidance in schools before they can access a new service from 2012.

Despite that, Andover Connexions working on Back to Work sessions and drop ins. There is a project for Year 11s starting from 14 March.

TS – The University of Winchester will experience major cuts in 2011/12 before the new tuition fees come into being in 2012.

Aimhigher is being scaled down but the university will still work with Andover and 5 or 6 schools in Basingstoke – but not elsewhere.

The university's Agreement to the Office for Fair Access will be submitted by 19 April 2011.

The university is doing a lot of work with children in care and care leavers. In a new project with HCC it will provide the pre-employment training for care leavers

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taking up subsidised apprenticeships.

Similarly the university is working with Winchester Young Carers and wondered whether there are equivalents in Andover and Romsey – answer yes.

The wolf Review on Further Education recommended that no work experience is needed pre-16. CC added that the busy timetable, focus on exams and temptation to give pupils work experience regardless made it more sensible to target those who would benefit in the 4 weeks after exams and before the end of term.

JL added that a new company called Locality would employ 16-20 people to deliver The Big Society in Hampshire!

The consultation on the future of Children's centres is being extended but the budget is being cut from £10m to £6.5m and services will be amalgamated. The Romsey and north Baddesley Children's Centres are already jointly managed. There are centres in Barton Stacey and Stockbridge and two in Andover.

## 8. **Date of Next Meeting:**

The date of the next meeting of this group is scheduled to take place on  
**Tuesday 14 June 2011, 12noon - 2.00pm**  
**in the Hatch Room, The Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge**

### Future Meeting Dates:

Tuesday 13 September 2011 – Market Room  
Tuesday 6 December 2011 – Market Room