

**Minutes of the Board meeting of the New Deal for Communities (Hathershaw & Fitton Hill) held at The Honeywell Centre on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008.**

<b>Present:</b>	Les Coop	Independent Chair (non-voting)
	Janine Conway	Resident Board Member
	Philip Howarth	Resident Board Member
	Anita Williamson	Resident Board Member
	Graham Taylor	Resident Board Member
	Janice Latreche	Resident Board Member
	Sylvia Patterson	Resident Board Member
	Joyce Todd	Resident Board Member
	Michael Wild	Resident Board Member
	Chris Nielson	Resident Board Member
	Martin Griffin	Small Business Representative
	Martin O'Connell	Crime & Disorder Partnership
	Bernie McConnell	Villages Housing Association
	Ian Hughes	Health & Social Care Partnership

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Gordon Roscoe	NDC Chief Executive
	Harry Govan	NDC Capital Projects Manager
	Joyce Hatton	NDC Theme Manager
	Lesley Starmer	NDC Theme Manager
	Robin Prescott	NDC Theme Manager
	David Latham	NDC (Minutes)

The Chair opened the meeting and reported on the sad death of Ian Payne. Tributes were made and a moment of silence was observed in respect of Ian. Suggestions for a lasting tribute to Ian were put forward. These included renaming the IT Suite, an annual IT award and a remembrance tree. The Chair asked for further suggestions to be passed to himself of **GR**.

**1. Apologies/Introductions**

Apologies were received from:

Paul White – OMBC

Cllr Jean Jones – OMBC

Cllr Hugh McDonald – OMBC

Jit Kara – OMBC

David Cummins – Housing Partnership

Josh Percival - Young Persons Representative

**2. Declarations of interest (if known at this point)**

**PH** declared an interest in agenda item 5.1.

**3. Minutes of the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2007**

The minutes were accepted as true and accurate subject to the addition of apologies from Councillor McDonald.

4. **Report of Chair, Vice Chairs and NDC Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Graham Taylor reported on issues raised at the Villages Management Committee

5. **Matters Arising from the minutes**

- i.) **GR** reported that the Council had decided not to determine the Fitton Hill Village Green applications pending the outcome of discussions with the applicant. A meeting had been arranged with Villages to try and agree a joint Villages/Council proposition to put to the applicant for consideration. It was resolved to defer further Board discussion pending a report on the outcome of these discussions.
- ii.) **JH** provided information on The Pacific Institute as a training provider as requested by **PH** at the last meeting. **PH** accepted the information provided.

6. **Report of Chief Executive**

- i.) **GR** informed the members present that he is awaiting a decision from Government Office regarding the 2008/09 funding allocation. It is hoped that information will be available prior to the NDC Board Away Day. He added that Government Office hoped to be represented at the next Board meeting.
- ii.) NDC Officers are to complete the 2007 Performance Management proforma prior to the NDC Board Away Day.
- iii.) The NDC Board Away Day is to be held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008.

7. **Election of Resident Directors**

The Board agree the process for the election of Resident Directors which is to take place in the coming months. Nomination papers are to be distributed to all households in the area and there will also be a number of information sessions and an election results announcement event will be held on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

8. **2007/08 Quarter 3 Performance report**

The Board was informed that actual spend for quarter 3 is £1,503,445 which is £843,313 below the forecast. **GR** explained that some of the capital projects underspend was due to delays in invoicing and then **OMBC** in processing these invoices. Catch-up is expected in quarter 4 and this will be monitored on a monthly basis.

The NDC Officers reported on projects within each of the NDC theme areas. **RP** informed that Board that the Hotspots project is now being run as a social enterprise. He added that the Enterprise Factory will be running the Fast & Furious programme again this year with Rochdale and may have won a contract in Bradford. **MO'C** reported on a re-offenders/worklessness programme which links in with the Economy & Enterprise theme. **JH** reported that the Community Theme is going well. **PH** asked for a

breakdown of Community Grant applications including those pending approval. **JH** said this information would be made available. **HG** reported that approval from the diocese is still being sought for the upgrading of disabled access to churches. He added that spend must be made by March. The Masterplan Implementation has begun on Broadway Street and demolition at top end of the gateway. **GR** is to report to the OMBC Capital Strategy Group with proposals for the CPD Sports and Community Zone Development. The library and youth services are still to get back with their requirements. **PH** raised a question related to the housing site at the sports zone. **VJ** is to pass continuation funding information relating to the Substance Misuse project to **MO'C**.

## **9. Results of 2007 Residents Survey**

**RP** explained that the purpose of the NDC Household Survey was to find what residents feel about the area. The Board discussed the findings of the survey. The main points that were discussed were:

Crime – at 41%, car crime is the most common crime committed. 70% of respondents felt safe living in the area and the most common reason for not feeling safe was gangs of teenagers. The most common suggestion to make the place safer was more police presence. **MO'C** explained that he was not surprised by these findings. It was suggested that encouraging young people to engage in consultation would go a way towards changing people's perception of young people.

Health – 98% of respondents were registered with a GP from outside of the area. 29% claimed they are current smokers but the actual figures could be much higher.

Basic Skills – The number of respondents who rated their basic skills as good, very good or excellent were as follows: reading 86%, writing 81%, spelling 76% and maths 48%. **RP** queried the validity of these results. Although 91% stated English as their first language there was a huge demand for Entry Level 3 ESOL courses.

Employment, Education & Training – 29% of respondents are not working. 9% stated they were interested in starting their own business. 40% had no formal qualifications. 32% had taken part in training courses over the past 12 months and 32% expressed an interest in training in the future.

Community and Communications – 88% of respondents stated that they read the NDC newsletter whilst only 10% said they visited the NDC website. As only 24% read the electronic noticeboard and only 64% of these thought it was useful it was not deemed worthwhile to have one at Langham House.

Area Satisfaction – 61% are satisfied or very satisfied with the NDC area as a place to live. 51% are not satisfied with the choice of shops and 41% would like to see a supermarket in the area. 70% revealed that they know very little about the proposed plan for redevelopment of the area. **GR** explained that a summary version of the Masterplan would be ready to distribute to all residents and businesses by end of March.

**ACTION 9.1:** **JT** to respond to **BM's** e-mail on return from holiday.

**ACTION 9.2:** GR to check and report to MG regarding the leaflet campaign to businesses on business security.

In response to a question raised by PH regarding public access on school fields, HG stated that the appraisal was in the process of being written. It was also reported that school heads have not been working with NDC in replying to requests for completed pro-formas relating to who are using school facilities and when. HG stated that last week was the deadline for responses.

**10. Liveability Theme update**

It was reported that by end March, only 15 alleyways would still be ungated. Gates will be installed on adopted alleyways once gating orders have been approved. It was suggested that the NDC should work with residents to assist them in taking ownership of gated alleyways. Also discussed was the work of partner agencies such as Youth Inclusion Project and the Youth Service.

MO'C reported on the NDC Crime Statistics between 2003-2007 which shows a decrease in robbery, criminal damage, violent crime and vehicle crime but an increase in hate crime. A discussion followed on types of hate crime and the role of the police force. He added that a hate line will be launched in the coming months.

**11. Any Other Business**

JC and JL reported that a number of windows of St. Martin's School had been broken and asked whether there was any support available. MO'C made a note of this and said he would investigate.

HG agreed to look at the situation regarding disabled access at the two pharmacies after a request from GT.

A question arose about erecting a shelter at the temporary bus stop on Ashton Road (Honeywell Centre) but it was reported that this could not be done until the bus stop becomes permanent.

SP informed the Board about the launch of the Environment Neighbourhood Agreement (Green & Clean) on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> February at the Honeywell Centre.

**ACTION 11.1:** Javed Iqbal to report to the Board on Honeywell Centre income and running and costs as requested by PH.

GR reported on a request from Hathershaw Pre school for a reduction in their proposed rent for use of the Honeywell Centre from 1 April 2008 onwards. The Pre School had used the Centre rent free from 1 January 2007 to 31 March 2008.

A vote took place and the Board resolved (by a majority decision with one vote against) that the Pre School should pay rent on the same basis as the other community groups using the centre.