

**Minutes of the Board meeting of the New Deal for Communities (Hathershaw & Fitton Hill) held at The Honeywell Centre on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008.**

<b>Present:</b>	Les Coop	Independent Chair (non-voting)
	Mark Birchall	Resident Board Member
	Janine Conway	Resident Board Member
	Philip Howarth	Resident Board Member
	Graham Taylor	Resident Board Member
	Janice Latreche	Resident Board Member
	Sylvia Patterson	Resident Board Member
	Joyce Todd	Resident Board Member
	Chris Nielson	Resident Board Member
	Martin Griffin	Small Business Representative
	Cllr Jean Jones	OMBC
	Kath Muir	Jobcentre Plus
	Ian Hughes	Health & Social Care Partnership

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Gordon Roscoe	NDC Chief Executive
	David Patterson	Newly-elected Resident Board Member
	Melanie Coffey	Newly-elected Resident Board Member
	Gail Hurst	Voluntary Sector Representative
	Harry Govan	NDC Capital Projects Manager
	Joyce Hatton	NDC Theme Manager
	Lesley Starmer	NDC Theme Manager
	Robin Prescott	NDC Theme Manager
	Paul White	OMBC
	David Latham	NDC Admin Assistant (Minutes)

**1. Apologies/Introductions**

Apologies were received from:  
 Tom Flanagan – OMBC  
 Cllr Hugh McDonald - OMBC  
 Anita Williamson – Resident Board Member

The Chair offered his congratulations to the successful candidates on their election to the NDC Board. He suggested writing to Anita Williamson, who decided not to stand for re-election, thanking her for her contributions over the past three years.

**ACTION 1.1:** GR to write to Anita Williamson.

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

PH declared an interest in agenda item 5.1.

**3. Minutes of the meeting 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

**Action 4.1:** It was agreed that it applying for extra funds from the overall NDC shortfall would not be advisable as it may result in an underspend this year.

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

The Chair confirmed that he had been in discussions with representatives of Oldham Athletic regarding working in the community and on the Sports Zone. A sports community worker will be working three days per week.

**SP** reported that the TNT were invited to attend an event in Birmingham in April to talk about the Neighbourhood Agreements. They will be attending another in Leeds on 15<sup>th</sup> May.

**GT** reported on **HG's** presentation to the Villages board on the Masterplan in the NDC area.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes**

**i) Fitton Hill Town Green Applications**

This item was deferred from the last meeting. **GR** informed the Board that **PW** had written to **PH**. It was agreed that this item should be deferred until the next meeting to allow **PH** time to respond to it.

**6. Report of Chief Executive – all verbal reports**

**i) 2008/09 Financial allocation**

**GR** reported that the funding bid for 2008/09 had been successful. The allocation of £7.1m will be split across all themes.

**ii) Election Results**

Joyce Todd and Chris Neilson were re-elected to the Board and Melanie Coffee and David Patterson were appointed as newly elected Resident Board Members. Gail Hurst is to take up one of the voluntary sector positions on the Board as the nominee of the Community groups Network. One voluntary sector position remains and it was agreed to seek a nomination from the BME Forum to fill this position.

**ACTION 6.1:** **JH** to seek BME representation for vacant position.

**iii) Update on Forward Strategy**

A business case is currently being drawn up for the successor vehicle to the NDC. The Chair and GR are to meet with Andrew Kilburn to discuss the business plan and it is hoped to put the plan to the NDC Board in June.

**iv) Update on Neighbourhood Centre**

Oldham PCT are almost ready to proceed on commissioning GP's and dentists for the Neighbourhood Centre. It is hoped that they will take up residence in temporary accommodation in March/April next year. Discussions are ongoing with Community First Oldham regarding joint approach funding and options will be go to the Board for consideration. **CN** raised concerns about timescales but was assured that there would be no implications if timescales are not met.

**v) Update on Sports Zone**

Oldham Council are still to formally agreed to release the land. A business plan is required which should be concluded shortly. **PH** enquired whether the process would be put back further as groups have been waiting for three years to have the fields released for community use and there were very active community groups willing to get involved. **PW** informed him that there was no resistance from council officials.

**7. 2007/08 Performance Report**

Last year saw an overspend of £485,907 on capital and an underspend of £368,762 on revenue. The main reason for the overspend was the purchase of Borough Mill but this will be recouped upon sale of the mill. **PH** expressed his objection to funding the smoking cessation project. **GR** reported that an evaluation would be carried out on this project at the appropriate time.

**ACTION 7.1: VJ/JH** to ensure evaluation carried out on smoking cessation project.

**8. 2008/09 Delivery Plan**

The Delivery Plan was approved. A report on Community Centre running costs will be submitted at the next meeting. Money received from the sale of Borough Mill will be put back into the Masterplan Implementation project subject to approval from Government Office.

**9. Risk Management Review**

The updated Risk Register was approved. **GR** reported that the risk scores on 'the Board working well together' and 'NDC Forward strategy' have increased and a new risk on 'Sustainability of the Honeywell Centre' has been added. Reports on NDC Forward Strategy and the Honeywell Centre will be submitted at the next meeting. **MB** raised the issue of poor partner attendance and it was agreed that partners should be contacted prior to Board meetings to attend to discuss relevant business.

**ACTION 9.1: GR/Theme Managers** to contact partners prior to Board meetings.

**10. Masterplan Consultation**

The proposals for the next round of Masterplan consultations were noted. **JT** expressed thanks on behalf of local residents for the impact of the improvements works in the Hathershaw North and suggested a press release and cover in the

NDC News. **PH** expressed his concern of lack of use of local contractors and suppliers. The Chair took his concerns on board and reported that local labour has been used but admitted more could be done. He added that local employer requirements are being built into some major contracts.

**ACTION 10.1:** **Cath Carter** to arrange press release and feature in NDC News.

**11. Presentation on Economy & Enterprise Theme**

**RP** gave a presentation on the Employment and Enterprise theme. The main points of note are as follows:

- 15.3% of NDC residents are in receipt of incapacity benefit.
- Between 2001 and 2005 the number of small-medium sized businesses had fallen from 218 to 182 reflecting the decline of manufacturing industries.
- Up to 2005 there were very few NDC projects focussed on enterprise. This has increased dramatically over the last three years.
- Establishment of effective working partnership offering holistic approach to breaking down barriers to employment.
- A reduction of NEET's from 14.3% in Nov 2007 to 11.3% in Feb 2008.
- The continued success of the Enterprise Factory and developments of Earl Mill and Hathershaw construction centre.
- The decline in number of businesses has been halted with increased demand for business premises.
- New commercial and retail developments under Masterplan proposals.

**12. Any other business**

**LS** reported that the Board would be notified when dates have been arranged for the tributes to Ian Payne to go ahead.

The Chair informed the Board that Martin Griffin has tendered his resignation as a business representative on the NDC Board because of his dissatisfaction with progress on the improvement works to his premises but added that he hoped he would return once the works to his shop are completed. He thanked Martin on behalf of the Board for his hard work and dedication over the past few years.