

BOARD MEETING OF THE SOUTH DERBYSHIRE
PARTNERSHIP

Old Post Centre,
High Street, Newhall
on Wednesday, 19th September 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Local Authority Sector

District Councillors Bob Wheeler (Chairman) and Kevin Richards.

Other Public Sector

Mary Hague (NHS Derbyshire County) and John Beaty (Burton and South Derbyshire College).

Private Sector

Nick Freeman (Toyota UK Limited).

Voluntary/Community Sector

Jo Smith (South Derbyshire CVS) and Glenys Williams (Old Post Regeneration Association Ltd).

Also in Attendance

S. Batchelor, T. Jantschenko, M. Roylance, C. Smith, K. Stackhouse, and Debra Townsend (South Derbyshire District Council) and M. Guest (Northgate Public Services),

SDP/12. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor J. Harrison (South Derbyshire District Council), Councillor M. Lacey (Derbyshire County Council), T Hurrell (Sharpes Pottery Heritage and Arts Trust), Chief Superintendent Atwal (Derbyshire Constabulary) (substituted by Superintendent G. Parkin), S. Jackson (Derbyshire Association of Local Councils), L. Robinson (P3), A. Daykin (East Midlands Housing Group), T. Harris (Homestart South Derbyshire), J. Spencer (Citizens Advice Bureau), W. Brooks (Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service), F. McArdle (South Derbyshire District Council).

SDP/13. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd May 2012 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

SDP/14. **MATTERS ARISING**

It was requested that the correct name be recorded for the football academy, which was St Georges Park National Football Centre.

SDP/15. COUNCIL TAX CONSULTATION

The Head of Corporate Services made a presentation about changes to the Council Tax Benefit system. Attendees were reminded about the current arrangements and the move from a national to a local benefit scheme from next April. Overall, funding to councils had been reduced by 10%, and for South Derbyshire, this equated to half a million pounds each year. There were currently 6,000 people in South Derbyshire who received benefits, around half of which were pensioners. A number of options had been considered to date, on which details were provided, together with the Council's initial proposals. The presentation concluded with a timetable for this review.

SDP/16. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2012/13

Following the last Board Meeting, Officers had considered how the Board could be better informed of the Partnership's work, and how Board Members might have more involvement in the Partnership's action planning and selection of projects. The Theme Groups had already been working on the 2012 Action Plan, and it would be inappropriate to change those plans at this point, consequently the current projects along with the original 'outcomes' and the current 'Performance Measures' had been included as an Annex to the report. It was suggested that these be considered by the Board and guidance given to the Theme Groups on how they should develop their Action Plans in 2013/14.

To enable Board Members to be further engaged in directing the Partnership's work and to collectively contribute to commonly raised issues, it was proposed that the Board identified its own actions and directly co-ordinated work in those areas. Performance was to be reported at Board meetings in the form of Theme Group narrative reports, which would contain information about what had been achieved, any challenges faced, and highlight any stories to demonstrate what was being delivered. The work of the Partnership would continue to be promoted across all theme groups through the production of a regular newsletter to be circulated at future Board Meetings. In addition, it was suggested that the work of the Partnership be promoted more widely to residents through the local media, working together to promote the successful achievements of the Theme Groups in delivering high quality outcomes across the District.

RESOLVED:

That the new arrangements be noted.

SDP/17. VILLAGE GAMES PROJECT

A presentation was provided on the Village Games Project, which was partly funded by the South Derbyshire Partnership. The scheme was County-wide and currently had 6 village games co-ordinators. Figures were provided on the number of participations, and the age and gender range of residents that this project was reaching.

This scheme currently involved working with parish councils, visiting existing groups and sessions, and also spending time in villages. Activities that had taken place were highlighted, along with particular projects that had taken place in Willington and Repton.

It was pointed out that current funding for this activity finished in March 2013, and a financial package was being put together for the ensuing year.

SDP/18. **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS**

The Safer Communities Manager reported that on 15th November 2012, residents would have the opportunity to elect their Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), who would be accountable for how crime and disorder was tackled in their police force area. He outlined the role and responsibilities of this position.

SDP/19. **VOLUNTARY SECTOR UPDATE**

Members were provided with a copy of a press report in which it was stated that volunteers in South Derbyshire gave up more than £2 million worth of their time each year. This followed an event at Swadlincote Town Hall which was to attract new recruits and recognised the efforts of those who already volunteered. Further details were provided about this event which marked Volunteers Week.

SDP/20. **DERBYSHIRE PARTNERSHIP FORUM UPDATE**

This item was withdrawn.

SDP/21. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was asked if there were any provisions within the District for helping people learn budgeting skills, which were very important, particularly in the current financial climate. It was understood that some work had been done in this area. However, there was currently no funding for this project. It was believed that a bid was being put together with Lloyds TSB, but this was unconfirmed. It was also reported that local banks were currently providing tutorials free of charge for young people. It was requested that this be considered as a future South Derbyshire Partnership Project.

R. WHEELER

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 11.45 a.m.