

SSP OVERVIEW & MONITORING GROUP MEETING

Minutes of Meeting – 17th April 2007

Rosemary Power (RP)	Faith Representative (Chair)	Tom Charnock (TC)	WALC
Joe Backshell (JB)	Equalities Representative	Alison Chamberlain (AC)	SBC
Renee Smith-Gorringe (RSG)	GOSW	Ruth Hursey (RH)	Renewal Task Group
Cllr Colin Lovell (CL)	SBC	David Dewart (DD)	Forward Planning
Matthew Pearce	SBC		

Apologies for Absence:

Matt Gott (MG)	SBC	Steven Richards (SR)	SWRDA
Geoffrey Hammond (GH)	Environment Representative		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
1	<p><u>Minutes and matters arising</u></p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed off as a true record, with an action for Alison to raise with Community directorate to ensure Paula Harrison's role would continue to be supported and that NRA role is not minimised.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC has met with Chris Lau about raising complaints against the Compact. Also advised that we would assist VAS with pulling document together ready for launch at the SSP Forum. JB requested it to be submitted to the SSP before the conference in June. Agreed it would come to the May meeting. RH wants to know that officers as they prepare documents for consultation have a tick-list. AC has discussed this with Sophie Duncan – this to be discussed at the next meeting. • RP supplied notes via e-mail from her meeting with Leader of the Council prior to this meeting. • RP talked to the group about the Faith elections which are being held during April/May. • Flyer sent out to advertise the Conference on 28th June. • Future meetings on Tuesday's discussed – Jan to check with Geoff on availability and any changes will be highlighted to the OMG group by e-mail. 	<p>AC Done 18.4.07</p> <p>JEB</p> <p>JEB done 24/4/07</p>

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2	<p><u>Swindon Community Empowerment Network</u> Caroline Cooper was unable to attend the meeting, but submitted a report. The group discussed the report and were concerned about the lack of clarity about what the network is for. AC to meet with Caroline Cooper to discuss.</p>	AC – e-mail sent to group 3/5/07
3	<p><u>Central Area Action Plan</u> David Dewart joined the group to talk about the Central Area Action Plan and ask the group to agree in principle with the consultation document. A discussion about consultation time took place as an 8 week consultation is inline with public consultation guidance for Planning, but does not comply with Compact guidance. TC was concerned that 50 promises appear regularly within the plan, but not the LAA. DD replied that Community Strategy was used as a template and that the new draft Community Strategy was also taken on board. DD confirmed it is not a Community Strategy, but a planning document for the built infrastructure of Swindon Action: a response to the consultation be collated at next meeting in May. Group asked that in future hard copies of large documents need to be printed, not sent for home printing to members.</p>	AC
4	<p><u>New Sustainable Community Strategy</u> AC gave update on NSCS. Dilys has now left the Authority but the conversation on the NSCS document continues. RH thought the document was too high-level and aspirational and probably not achievable. Gap analysis for chairs of the blocks to look at the themes booked for 23/4/07. Partnership Board has also had a copy of the draft for comment. Document will come back to SSP in May for sign off, then printed for consultation during consultation in July, August and September. A project officer within Chief Exec's Unit will co-ordinate the work and consultation. Document will finally be launched at November conference. JB concerned that all major documents should link.</p>	
5	<p><u>Rural Issues</u> TC updated the Board on his meeting with the Leader of the Council. The only document in existence is a</p>	

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	<p>Wiltshire Rural Strategy which is 6 years old. There is no officer, or Cabinet Member with rural responsibilities within their portfolios. Matt Gott suggested that we don't need a rural strategy, as it can be encompassed within some of the proposed Neighbourhood Plans. General agreement this would be wrong and unacceptable. One solution is for more meetings with rural partners to be held. RP thought ambition in future is to have a rural chapter in each strategy.</p> <p>Action: Clarification sought from Matt on where rural issues will sit. Rural Issues could become more of a challenge from GOSW who are looking at offsetting carbon footprints and provision of employment. RGS will find out about funding issues and pots of money available and look at what other Councils/areas are doing and report back to the group.</p>	<p>AC RGS</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RP updated the group on Future of the LAA following a conference in Taunton which she attended with the Leader of the Council. • Conference – group discussed the agenda and agreed that Community Cohesion/re-engagement with neighbourhoods/neighbourhood management would be a good item to have on the agenda. Alison to speak to Chris Sivers about speakers etc. They also felt that as we would be launching the Community Strategy Consultation at the Conference – we should use the workshops as part of the consultation as well as using workshops to fit in with the 'topic' of the day. • Feedback from Chairs meeting – Rosemary updated the group on meeting with Cllr Bluh. • Group asked for an extra meeting in June to focus on Performance – discussed – date for this is 5th June. • Ruth drew attention to LAA outcome 12 (4) which is a family stability project and highlighted 2 successful projects which have been taking place with no cost to the Borough. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The first is the 'Lush Project' this trial is taking place at Greendown School and talks to young people about feelings and morals and is run by the Youth for Christ and Swindon Pregnancy Crisis Centre. The training takes the form of a 90 minute presentation and classwork . 225 year 9 pupils have received the training so far. There has been very good feedback from Community & Voluntary organisations. ○ The second project is run by Stepping Forward in the Park North area and is working with disadvantaged young people and children. They are working with parents of teenage children 	<p>AC / CS</p> <p>All</p>

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	<p>who are at risk of exclusion and with parents whose young children are in care. They also run course about relationship skills, money matters, sexual health, substance misuse and anger management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group discussed problems with the funding for Voluntary Organisations. RH gave example of Threshold who work with vulnerable people and have been disqualified from the Council bidding process – they have been working for 30 years and want to work with drug users but because they have charitable status its increasingly difficult to meet the Government criteria for funding. Group concerned that groups like Threshold may be put out of business because of funding decisions from Government (Central and Local). Discussion about funding regulations – Alison to ask Chris Lau to raise at Partnership Board. 	Done 20.4
7	<p><u>Date and time of next meeting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 22nd May 2007 – 4.00-6.00 pm – Committee Room 5, Civic Offices Extra meeting 5th June 07 4.00-6.00pm Committee Room 3, Civic Offices 	

Agreed and signed as a correct record: Date: