

West Swindon Cluster Forum
Minutes of Meeting
8th November 2010

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Nick Martin (Chair), Mick Bray (Vice Chair), Mary Martin, Steve Wakefield,
Peter Greenhalgh

Police:

Adrian Burt, Tom Turner

Swindon Borough Council:

Bernie Brannan, Chand Hassan, Suzanne Montgomery, Paula Harrison, Pam
Pixton

Other Attendees:

Alex Todd (2011 Census), Dorothy Brown (Credit Union)

Residents:

D Mackie, Gail Feather, David Feather, Pat Henyor, D Seaman, J Hill, Brian
Miller, C Keeble, Russell Tinnion, Anne Wood, Norris Kiddle, Ruth Kiddle,
Steve Martin, Roger Ogle, Jon Dyer, Andrea Parfitt, Carmel Denny, Dick
Hilling

Apologies:

Keith Williams, Michael Dickinson, Garry Perkins

1. Matters from the Floor

- a. Ruth Kiddle – 89 Stamford Close recycling being put in wrong place. BTB to arrange waste wardens. Jackie Moyles to respond on Kiln Park (visit with Ruth).
- b. Cllr Nick Martin announced that the play builder project is now back on the agenda and the work on the Shell Finch play park will now go ahead.

2. Big Lottery, Big Local Fund for Toothill

Paula Harrison gave the following information and timeline on the Big Lottery Fund for Toothill.

July 2010 - The Big Local Trust programme was launched on Tuesday 27 July 2010. Toothill is named as one of 50 Local Areas to receive in the region of £1 million over 10 years starting from 2011.

Aim of Funding:

To enable people to make their communities better places to live in, now and in the future, by helping them develop the skills and confidence they need to identify priorities that matter to them and to take action to change things for the better.

August 2010 – Invitations to tender are opened for one organisation to

- manage the Trust's endowment (Big Local funding pot)
- distribute it through local funding schemes
- help them to share learning and effective practice among themselves
- promote the programme's achievements

November 2010 – **Big Local Trust: Getting People Involved**

BIG want to make sure that Big Local Trust neighbourhoods are well placed to get the most out of the money that is allocated to them. So BIG are making funding available for community involvement activities (up to £30,000) to help put neighbourhoods in a better position to use the Big Local Trust's money, when it is available.

The first phase, **Getting People Involved**, will be open for applications on 1 November. If you are working in Tothill and are interested in applying, you should read the guidance for applicants on how to get an application form.

Organisations will have until 2pm on 26 November to request an application form and then until 2pm on 31 January to submit the completed application (although applications can be submitted before this). A decision will be given within 6 weeks of getting a complete application. Applicants will have 6 months to spend the grant.

BIG will use the information the activities create to inform a research paper to inform the Trust once set up. The research paper will help the Trust understand the current views, priorities, and needs in each neighbourhood.

November – 2010 - By mid November the Big Lottery will announce the successful Partnership to manage the Big Local Trust. A meeting is arranged for **22nd November at Tothill Community Centre, 12.00 – 14.00** with the big lottery to discuss getting people involved and who might want to be a lead organisation.

March 2011 – BIG assess the Trust's detailed application, business plan, and manual of regulations.

June 2011 – Once the Trust's application is approved, work will be underway to set up the Company Limited by Guarantee and Charitable Trust. Funding will then start to be transferred over to the Trust.

June 2011 – The Trust begins work to start delivery in local areas.

Bid Advice Line: 0845 410 2030

3. Setting Police Priorities (Tom Turner, Beat Manager)

Update:

- Several arrests following fairground issues
- Several Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts (ABC's) issued, if breached, they will proceed to Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
- Four possible evictions pending
- 18 drug and these warrants issued.

3.1 Priorities for Toothill

- Drugs
- Anti-Social Behaviour Stamford/Eddington Close

3.2 Tewkesbury Way Priorities:

- Anti-Social Behaviour around Link Centre and District Shopping Centre. Residents asked for this to be extended to the underpasses leading to Toothill and Shaw Ridge Centre (agreed).
- Burglaries in Westmead Industrial Estate.

4. Whitehill Way Safety Scheme

Suzanne Montgomery gave information on accidents in Whitehill Way and a proposal to cut back hedging along the Link Centre of Whitehill Way to improve visibility for motorists and to consider reducing the speed limit between the two roundabouts by Shaw Village Centre from 40 MPH to 30 MPH. The meeting was asked for its opinion on these proposals. The priorities were agreed by the Forum.

5. 2011 Census

Alex Todd, Area Manager for 2011 census gave information on what will be happening in the census next year:

- It will happen on 27th March 2011, and every household will get a form to complete and it will need to be completed. Census will follow-up if they do not receive a form.
- Information is important as it may affect future funding for Swindon if there is a under count.
- The census is used as a planning tool for future requirements (schools, roads. Shops, etc.).
- Used by Central and Local Government, academics, local businesses (supermarkets).
- Information is confidential for 100 years on each household.
- Total cost of the census is 87p per head of population per year £480 million total.
- Forms can be completed online or by form filling and posting.

6. Credit Union (Community Banking)

Dorothy Brown gave an overview of credit unions. They are run by members of the credit union for members of the credit union. Main points are:

- Governed by the same rules as banks.
- They can take savings/repayments from £1.00 up to £10K.
- They are covered with life insurance.
- Any profit is put back into the credit union (returned to members in interest).
- Interest on loans is £6.50 for every £00 borrowed (1% on reducing loan).
- Members have to be saving for 13 weeks before they can take out a loan.
- Clivey Parade is the nearest Credit Union for West Swindon. Also available at Toothill Church on Mondays between 10.30 – 11.30 am.
- Membership has grown by 40% in the past year.

7. Boundary Review

Cllr Nick Martin explained that the Boundary Commission are reviewing Swindon Ward boundaries. It is expected that Swindon will have 57 councillors (currently 59) with 3 for each ward. Each ward will have approximately 2,900 electors per member. West Swindon will have a challenge losing one councillor and fitting the proposal into two 3-member wards and one 1 member smaller ward. Further information will be brought to a future meeting.

8. Government Cutback and Council Tax Implications

The Council is still unsure of detail of the Comprehensive Spending Review. This should be known late November/early December. It may require some services being rationalised or even stopped. But Swindon is in a reasonably good position with its current budget and its budget planning. The Council is planning for a zero council tax increase for 2011/12.