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Minutes of Portsmouth Community Network meeting 22 January 2007 12.30pm – 2.30pm

Present: Martin Affleck, Taki Jaffer, Marguerite Nudd, Katherine Marsden-Broad, Ken Dobson, Nick Ralph, Stephen Morgan, Brenda Cairns, Tunde Bright-Davies, Jennifer Kelsey, Vince Ibbs, Laura Caton, Jan Dod, Paula Walker, Adrian Clee, Charlie Adie, Barry Harmer, Vicky Piper, Catherine Smith, Graham Heaney (Chair), Mary Wishart (minutes)

Apologies: Mohammed Riyami, Charles Burns, David Horne, Philip Hudson, Geoff Philpotts, Jackie Buckley

1. Welcome and introduction

Graham Heaney welcomed everyone, in particular Vicky Piper and Barry Harmer who are guests today.

2. Hot Topics

2.1 Core Strategy

Vicky Piper provided an update on the Core Strategy which can be summarised as follows:

- Extensive consultation took place over Nov/Dec 2006
- Questionnaire responses from this consultation are currently being entered onto database, and the results will be analysed and available after March 2007. The way in which the analysis will be distributed is not yet decided – it was requested that the CN receives these directly for comment.
- Further consultation is planned for November 2007 onwards
- It is hoped that the review of the Core Strategy will be aligned with any review that may happen of the Community Strategy.

Discussion around the following areas was had.

- The issue of building health into planning is being looked at, though not obviously in this first draft of Core Strategy. Planning is working with lead partnership to develop this. It was agreed that the significant health issues in the city need to be incorporated into planning strategies and policies.
- Ethnicity of the questionnaire responses will be analysed
- Those who returned questionnaires will be notified at the same time analysis becomes available

2.2 City Centre Improvement Project

Barry Harmer provided a detailed presentation to the meeting, focussing in the main about the Northern Quarter aspect to the project. Further detail about the redevelopment can be found by accessing

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<http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/living/6419.html>

The main points can be summarised as follows:

The Northern Quarter

- Long involvement by Centros Miller in preparing the scheme: set up Newtrico in Aug 2000, with Taylor Woodrow; Development Agreement with PCC as landowner in March 2003 - established sequence timetable of events, first of which was demolition of Tricorn
- The outline planning permission for the development: resolution to grant Nov 2005 and Actual grant, following completion of s106 legal agreement, in July 2006
- Content of redevelopment granted outline planning permission:
 1. Mix of uses, and max amounts - retail (96,000 sq m), leisure (6,650 sq m) (no specific use agreed yet), residential (200 flats) - 25% affordable, hotel (15 bed), Shopmobility, public toilets
 2. Indicative position of streets, public spaces and building blocks, max height of building blocks, and distribution of uses within blocks
 3. Detailed highway works
- Detailed "reserved matters" applications (siting, design of building blocks and landscape): details of John Lewis building (building block 4) subject of current application; rest of scheme to be submitted in March/April 2007; and hotel in autumn 2007.
- Programme for implementation of scheme: CPO and Road Closure Public Inquiry 27 Feb 2007, decision summer 2007; replacement of Pitt St Gymnastics Centre; Begin highway works Jan 2008 ; begin new build summer 2008; scheme completion autumn 2010 (target).
- Content of section 106 agreement; include contribution of £2.88m for environmental improvements - thus "City Centre Improvements" project of PCC - improvements to Comm Rd precinct and to Edinburgh Rd / Commercial Rd south, including proposed pedestrianisation of latter (currently subject of publicity); need to move buses and to relocate market.

Following the presentation, a number of questions were posed:

- It was asked how discussion between the VCS and Centros Miller, the developers could be arranged. It was acknowledged that previous consultations (organised by the developer) between local community and developers have not been well planned and consultation strategies needed revising.
- There are accessibility issues regarding provision for residents approaching the city centre from the south of the city. The potential relocation of Shopmobilty to the north impacts on this further.
- It was asked whether the leisure provision aspect to the development included accessible and/or free provision for children and young people. Currently there is none planned. This aspect to the development is still

able to be influenced however so it was agreed that a small working group from CN be formed and work up ideas to present back to the developers. SM noted that PCC had recently agreed a communications and community involvement plan to help ensure that the developers involve the community wherever possible, whilst recognising the local authority's planning responsibility which requires it to keep an 'arms length' distance at various planning process stages. A meeting has been arranged with PCCS to take this forward.

Action: Meeting with PCC and PCCS to take place. Following this, MW to arrange initial meeting with KD, JD, MN, NR, SM, KMB, PW, AC, CA

2.2 Portsmouth Voluntary & Community Sector Children & Young Peoples Alliance

CA updated the meeting as to the progress of the Alliance. This can be summarised as follows:

- There have been two meetings of the current steering group which has produced a Terms of Reference and a clear vision for how the Alliance will operate over next 12 months.
- The Alliance will be launched at the Volunteers Fair on 22 February 2007 and will be officially in place by April 2007. There will be an interim steering group of 12 formed of volunteers for 6 months, then a more democratic election process will take place once group established. The ToR sets out clearly the representation needed on the Steering Group.
- There is a wider group of 36 currently on mailing list, and this is set to increase as a mapping exercise is undertaken.
- A series of briefing events are planned which will be focussed around particular issues (i.e. The Children & Young Peoples Plan), which will target as many as possible from statutory and private sectors, not just VCS. A conference is also being considered for March 2008.

Some discussion followed:

- It was asked whether the Alliance has a lobbying role. The group hasn't discussed this as yet, but the creation of the Alliance is certainly something that could be an opportunity for lobbying in the future. It needs to be thought out more carefully, but a campaigning role may be appropriate sometimes.
- How does the Alliance fit with Training and Workforce Development? It was agreed that the Alliance has a role to play in this agenda. Relationships will be built across geographical locations and the group will also provide an information exchange.
- The Alliance is a link between statutory agencies and VCS; it is not replacing any other body, just complementing existing provision. One major benefit is being able to have visible representation on the necessary groups to enable genuine dialogue from VCS.
- It was suggested that the Alliance includes school governors and Council of Portsmouth Students on its mailing lists.

Actions: ToR to be circulated with minutes of today's meeting.

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MW to add KD onto Alliance distribution list and contact CoPS to discuss further.

2.3 Best Value Review of Community Involvement

GH gave the following overview:

- A steering group and working group has been formed to carry out this review. The steering group is comprised of Lynda Fisher, Gerald Vernon Jackson, Jim Patey, Steve Wemyss, Duncan Prime, Nick Ralph, Janice Burkinshaw, Adrian Clee, Fiona White, Stephen Morgan and Graham Heaney.
- The review relates to city's existing community involvement mechanisms and how PCC are delivering the Community Strategy outcome 'Everyone knows how to make their voice heard'.
- Conclusions are due by September 2007
- Next stage is consultation. A number of CN members are already involved and more will be invited to attend focus groups, surveys and presentations.

GH also explained how the CIED team responsibilities had been divided up. Stephen Morgan will now be attending the CN meetings.

Action: Document detailing responsibilities of CIED team to be circulated with minutes (MW)

3 Minutes of meeting 14 November 2006

The minutes were agreed with the following amendments:

- 2.2 Paragraph 2 - ML commented that there would be a lot of conferences and briefings following the publication of the White Paper and anyone who was attending these should feedback to the network.
- 2.3 Paragraph 5 – AC was concerned at the suggestion in the White Paper that elected members taking increased role in the LSP and chairing lead partnerships. He also queried how the recommendation of 3 year funding from local authorities would be managed.
- 4.0 Paragraph 2 - ...There are no Neighbourhood Forums in Buckland and Landport, as residents of this area voted for community boards to replace them.
- 4.2 Paragraph 3 – There had been discussion on the principles of flagship issues, considering those of other councils as part of the debate, and included violence, employability of young people and obesity.
- 8.0 Paragraph 1 – replace 'good eating' with 'healthy eating'

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Matters arising:

- 2.2 A White Paper briefing session is to be held on 7 February 2007 organised by CIED team. Link attached to minutes for more information.
- 2.3 A joint Core Strategy consultation session was held for CN and Portsmouth Society members on 15 December 2006.
- 2.4 Covered in 2.2 today.
- 8.0 David Hart has been approached regarding this by GH, discussion are ongoing.

4 Community Network update

MW explained that she has been working with CN members and colleagues across the city to understand how the CN operates currently, and to see how it could work more effectively. A small working group made up primarily of LSP members is meeting after this meeting to discuss a way forward for CN.

The results of this meeting will be circulated with the minutes of this meeting.

Action: MW to circulate relevant paperwork

5 LSP briefing

5.1 Partnership meeting feedback

Children & Young Peoples Strategic Partnership (CA)

- Draft Parenting Strategy led by Romy Warren, Family Learning is now out for consultation.
Action: SM to provide further detail to MW, then consultation with CN will be organised
- Adolescent health pilot is being led by Charlotte Bemand to inform a 10 year strategy in this area.
- Persistent absenteeism was discussed
- CIPs provision with VCS was being looked at. Marc Rostock will be working with CA and MW to feed into work the Alliance is undertaking.
- Connexions which is currently a statutory body will receive its funding from the LA from April 2008. Mike Fowler is leading on how this will work.

Health & Social Wellbeing (KD)

- The partnership is taking the lead for Wellbeing for Health government initiative. More detail to follow.

Community Involvement Partnership (NR)

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- Due to meet on 24 January, agenda will cover a presentation from Groundworks and also discuss ideas on how to spend the additional £65,000 Neighbourhood Element funding available.

Safer Stronger Partnership (CA)

- Most discussion focussed around substance misuse.

Housing (JD)

- Not met

There was no feedback from the other Partnership reps available.

5.2 Pre-LSP briefing update (LC)

- The documents circulated with the agenda were discussed briefly and it was noted that John Butler has stepped down as Chair of the LSP and John Campbell is interim Chair.

Action: LC to circulate membership of LAA Steering Group for information

6 Future discussion topics

- White Paper – what follows on after briefing on 7 February
- VCS consultation with Centros Miller
- Best Value Review

7 AOB

- VI updated current situation of CAB. There are issues around the lack of trustees and the future of how the Cab will operate in the future. This may also be Vince's last CN meeting. The CN would like to thank Vince for his valued contribution to the CN and wished him well.
- SM reminded everyone about the Local Area Pathfinder event on 23 January 2007. He also advised that Portsmouth was one of the 40 Respect Action Areas receiving Home Office funding of just over £250,000 to address anti-social behaviour in the city, following a visit by Baroness Andrews in the city today.

Further details can be accessed via this link:

http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/8882_9060.html

- Catherine Smith from Age Concern advised the meeting she would be taking the place of Kay Checkley on the CN.

8 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on 19 March 2007 at PCCS. **Please note the revised start time of 10am – 12.30pm. Lunch will not be provided.**

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