

Boldon Newtown Action Group

Notes of Meeting held on Monday 2th January 2007 2.00pm – 4:00pm At the Boldon Village Hall

Attendance:

Cllr Alison Strike (Chair), Paul Walker (STC), Maureen Graham, Liz Purvis (all Newtown Residents Association), Maureen Plunkett (Home Housing), Maria Anderson, Mark Burrell, Sharon Charlton (All BN Neighbourhood Management Team), Craig Malcolm, APC (ST), Kevin Thompson (ST Comm. Safety), Inspector Sutton (Northumbria Police), Christine Allen (Home Housing), Doug Payne (Detached Youth), Ann Corrigan (Children's Centre), PC Janet Fraser (Comm. Beat officer) Mick Doyle (South Tyneside Homes) Steve Bartley (STC)

Apologies: Ray Pope (Home Housing), Cllr Joanne Bell, Jamie McDonald (ST Asset Mgt), Ron Weetman (STC), Ian Hunter (South Tyneside Homes)

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>CCTV Camera</u>	<u>Action</u>
1	<p>Kevin explained to the group that he has commissioned a report on the installation of a mainstream CCTV camera installed in the area and the costs are as follows £14,408.14 for the Camera £22K for works in connection with the camera. There would also be associated costs of up to £9.5K for monitoring the camera per annum.</p> <p>He looked at another option given that the camera is only likely to be up for 2-3 years and that the area is not considered a crime hotspot.</p> <p>The other option is to purchase a camera that is fed and recorded by the internet to a local police station. This would cost £3228 for the camera, £850 for supporting works and an annual maintenance charge of £690.</p> <p>Inspector Sutton asked for the perceptions of the area from the residents.</p> <p>They reported a problem at weekend with alcohol related minor offences and Maria reported that 3 people had been in today to complain of similar issues. Doug also</p>	

	<p>voiced similar problems.</p> <p>PC Fraser explained that there has been a drop in recorded levels of ASB in the area and that they have been working with trading standards to tackle this issue of under age drinking.</p> <p>Inspector Sutton asked if people know where they are getting the alcohol from, let the police know, if people also know where they are congregating, report it to them and they will investigate.</p> <p>Craig reminded the group that the camera was originally requested to be erected to protect the new children's centre and the demolition and construction sites, not tackle the neighbourhoods crime problems.</p> <p>Maria stressed she was disappointed that it had taken this long for community safety to come up with costings which were first requested in June last year.</p> <p>The residents inquired what the range and quality of the cheaper option camera is. Inspector Sutton stated it depended on lens type but it should be around 100 yards and it also has good night vision.</p> <p>Inspector Sutton noted that a camera does not always solve the problems. There was an incident recently on a nearby estate where robbery took place but the camera missed it due to it facing the wrong way. He has also put in a bid to purchase a mobile camera from the local LIF fund.</p> <p>Christine Allen believes that the camera should be only part of a plan to secure the area involving wardens and police. Why not get two of the lower cost camera's rather than the expensive option. Could also consider hiring security guards to patrol area when wardens stop at around 11pm.</p> <p>Kevin Thompson explained this will take place once the demolition has begun. He also pointed out that in the region of £5K had been spent on the pole next to the Children's Centre on the advice of experts, so a CCTV should be located there.</p>	<p><u>ALL</u></p>
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	<p>Craig explained there is money in the LIF fund so we could purchase a camera from CSG money and the police could provide theirs if successful.</p> <p>The group agreed to go for this option.</p>	<u>ALL</u>
2	<p><u>Alley gating</u></p> <p>Kevin explained to the group that his team had looked at this option as it was in the neighbourhood plan. The conclusion was that to implement a system now would not be feasible. This scheme should be looked at again after the new development has finished when it would be more effective to establish which areas have problems.</p>	
3	<p><u>Housing Update</u></p> <p>Paul informed the group that there is only one remaining tenant in John Street who still requires a new placement. Most of the properties in Charles Street that belong to Home Housing have been valued and it is hoped to have all offer letter sent out by mid March.</p> <p>The housing brief will be going out next week . We will be giving the developers six weeks to submit their plans and then begin the process of choosing the preferred developer.</p> <p>The group asked what will happen if agreements cannot be reached. Paul stated the council would then have to go down the Compulsory Purchase route. This would be used as a last resort.</p> <p>Christine asked if the council can do this even though no planning permission exist for the site. Have the current tenants also been made aware of Home groups stock nearby?</p> <p>Paul stated the council have the powers based on the intent to develop the site.</p> <p>Maureen explained to the group that she and South Tyneside Homes have been working very closely and the tenants are aware of Homes stock.</p> <p>Maureen asked Paul about the costs that Home can reclaim back for moving people. The max is £3,400 but often Home's costs are more than this.</p>	

	<p>Paul asked if he could speak to her separately along with Mick Doyle on this issue.</p> <p>Maureen explained that 7 voids in Arnold St have now been let and 10 properties are with maintenance and have names against them. There are also another 5 which could be ready soon and there is interest and demand for these. There are still 19 Home voids in Charles Street which are a struggle to fill at present.</p> <p>Alison asked if these properties were being left to fall in to disrepair. Maureen explained that she has voids to renovate across her area and she can only renovate properties where there is demand</p> <p>Christine gave the group assurances that Home is committed to filling all its voids on Charles Street. This unfortunately, might not happen till after the development when the image of the area has been lifted.</p> <p>Maria asked if the SHIP funding has been secured? Paul stated at present everything is still on course to obtain the funding.</p>	<p><u>PW, MP, MD</u></p>
<p>4</p>	<p><u>Cleaner, safer, Greener (CSG)</u></p> <p>Maria explained that the figures she had had now changed given we are not due to spend as much on the CCTV camera. The proposals were explained to the group and the group were asked where the extra money would be spent.</p> <p>There are two options, one is to spend more money on other environmental improvements and the other option is to spend all the remaining money on the Community Park.</p> <p>After a discussion the group agreed to spend all unspent money on the Community Park.</p>	<p><u>ALL</u></p>
<p>5</p>	<p><u>Community Park</u></p> <p>Craig informed the group that planning permission has been secured for the park. It is likely, subject to funding that the initial works will be to landscape and prepare the site and then to install a MUGA pitch at the back of the</p>	

	<p>park.</p> <p>Funding from other sources will then be sought to add a wheeled area and then a play area. It is likely the total project will cost upwards of £500K.</p> <p>Highways have agreed to pay around £20K on street improvement outside the park providing work commences in the next financial year.</p> <p>More information will be brought to the next partnership meeting as costs and plans are being discussed in the sub-group.</p>	<p><u>CM/ MA</u></p>
<p>6</p>	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan Progress</u></p> <p>Maria circulated copies of her report prior to the meeting. Maria asked the group to consider any changes to the format/style of the report or anything they would like to see for example a mini budget summary. The group were happy with the report and thanked the NMI team and commented on the good progress they have made.</p> <p>Doug explained the Detached Youth progress to the plan. This includes survey young people on the proposed café. They have spent around £1K on the garden and have another £300 left from a grant from connexions. They hope to have at least one day when sessions will be held for young people from the estate.</p> <p>A small group of young people from the schools are also currently being worked with. Young people are designing warning posters from the demolition site. There are planned to be displayed around the perimeter fencing.</p> <p>A project to teach music has also been approved which will involve classes of up to 7hrs a week being run.</p>	<p><u>ALL</u></p>
<p>7</p>	<p><u>Feedback From Partnership away day</u></p> <p>A chart was distributed to the group showing the proposed partnership members. The group agreed with this list but suggested additional partners to the sub groups. The actions will be circulated to partnership members with the minutes to be progressed for the next meeting.</p> <p>The group discussed ways in which the partnership</p>	<p><u>MB</u></p>

	<p>should be run but decided that it would be best to defer any decisions until Maria circulated her draft report. This can then be discussed in more detail.</p>	<u>MA</u>
8	<p><u>Criteria for Community Development Budget</u></p> <p>Sharon circulated a draft application form with criteria and explanation of the process, The group agreed with the criteria and the process.</p> <p>Craig raised the issue of the £5K maximum ceiling for decision by the Neighbourhood manager being too high. He felt £1K was enough.</p> <p>Christine pointed out that Home Community development workers can spend up to £10K</p> <p>It was agreed that the ceiling should be £5K and any project over this should go to panel consisting of Neighbourhood Manager, local Councillor and representative of the Residents Association.</p>	
9	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>None</p>	
10	<p><u>Next meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be the 1st March 2007, 2pm till 4pm at the Village Hall.</p>	

**Actions from Boldon New Town Partnership Away Day
on 27th November 2006-11-29**

Theme	Action		Links to Action number	Who	When
Clarify Roles and Responsibilities	1.	Produce pen-portraits booklet and distribute	11	Paul	By end Feb '07
Red Tape slows down development	2.	Establish a programme in the context of NAP		Craig	By end Jan '07
	3.	Organise/run a training day (on details of programme)		Maria/ Sharon	By end Feb '07
Develop the Partnership as a team	4.	'New Starter's induction – Estate walkabout + signing the 'Commitment Statement'	17	N. Asst., Resident Rep., Env. Imp. Off.	As & when
	5.	Partnership walkabout twice a year followed by resident drop in		N.M.T.	April '07 & Oct. '07
	6.	Once a year – special meeting to recognise achievements followed by a social event		N.M.T. & R.A.	First 'Review' in June '07
Capacity Bottleneck	7.	Co-ordinate specific project action plans for existing groups		N.M.T.	Nov. '06
	8.	Review Partnership Membership		Craig & Maria	Dec '07
	9.	Membership agreed	16		By end Jan. '07
	10.	Project proforma for 'special projects'		N.Asst	By end Jan. '07
	11.	Pen Profile	1	Paul	By end Feb '07
	12.	Organise Partnership training about roles and responsibilities		N.M.I.	April '07

Theme	Action	Links to Action number	Who	When	
Some Organisations have poor continuity	13.	Action/issues log within minutes		N.M.T.	By end Jan. '07
	14.	Letter written to organisations asking for named deputy to be appointed	After membership agreed (action 9)	N.M.T.	Feb. '07
Authority to make decisions	15.	Produce 'Action List'/proforma to go out week after meeting	20	N.Asst to produce draft	Jan. '07
	16.	Review membership at meeting	9	All	Jan. '07
	17.	Produce 'Commitment Statement' to be signed	4	Craig & Maria to draft	Jan. '07
	18.	Commitment Statement to be signed by Partnership members	19	All	Mar. '07
	19.	Agenda item on 'Flexible Budgets' for Boldon Newtown from each Partner/Organisation	18	N.M.T.	Mar. '07
People don't understand the importance of their role etc.	20.	Action List circulated within a week of the meeting	15	N.M.T.	Jan. '07
	21.	Partnership Agreement outlining roles and responsibilities	Consider with (19) also 1 & 11	N.M.T.	Mar. '07
	22.	Set meeting dates for 1 year ahead		N.M.T.	Mar. '07