

**MINUTES OF THE BETTER PLACES PARTNERSHIP (HSP)
TUESDAY, 20 JULY 2010**

Present: Councillor Nilgun Canver (Chair)(Haringey Council), Kenne Amissah (Groundwork), John Forde (MET Police), Judith Hanna (Natural England), Leyla Laksari (Haringey Council), Peter Livermore (Transport for London), Sona Mahtani (CLF), Neil Mawson (MET Housing Association), Richard Mills (Fire Service), Geoffrey Ocen (NDC), Pamela Pemberton (HAVCO), Fiona Wright.

In Attendance: Xanthe Barker (Haringey Council), Martin Bradford (Haringey Council), Councillor David Browne (Haringey Council), Mary Connolly (Haringey Council), Kate Dalzell (Haringey Council), Richard Dominy (Haringey Council), Paul Ely (Haringey Council), Phil England (Sustainable Haringey), Joan Hancox (Haringey Council), Jo Homan, Liz Ixer (Harringay Online), Dale Phillipson (Haringey Council).

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTON BY
BPP84.	<p>APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR 2010/11</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That Councillor Nilgun Canver, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, be appointed as Chair of the Better Places Partnership for 2010/11.</p>	Xanthe Barker
BPP85.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from the following:</p> <p>Niall Bolger - Dale Phillipson substituted Jean Croot - Leyla Laksari substituted Nic Durston - Kenne Amissah Dave Grant - John Forde substituted Susan Otit - Fiona Wright substituted Councillor Antonia Mallett Esther Van Lith Ellen Struthers</p>	
BPP86.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest made.</p>	
BPP87.	<p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>There were no items of Urgent Business.</p>	
BPP88.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That, subject to the inclusion of Leyla Laksari and Geoffrey Ocen within the list of those present, the minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2010 were confirmed as a correct record.</p>	Xanthe Barker

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BPP89.	<p>DEVELOPING THE BETTER PLACES PARTNERSHIP BOARD</p> <p>The Chair noted that this item had been included within the agenda in order to provide the Board with an opportunity to consider how it could refocus its role and purpose with a view to improving its effectiveness. Specialist groups had also been invited to make an input to this discussion.</p> <p>In order to inform discussion a presentation was given on the purpose and role of the Board and information obtained as part of the recent Residents Survey 2010, of relevance to the Board, was also presented.</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p><u>Role of the HSP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Better Places Partnership (BPP) was one of six Thematic Boards that formed the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) and these sat beneath the HSP Standing Leadership Conference.➤ The role of the HSP was to provide Leadership and consensus on strategic issues across the Borough by bringing together agencies such as the Police, NHS Haringey, Fire Brigade and Voluntary and Community groups and others within a forum where priorities and outcomes for the Borough could be agreed and achieved. <p><u>Key Documents</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)➤ Local Area Agreement (LAA). <p><u>Purpose of the Better Places Partnership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The BPP had primary responsibility for the delivery of the following SCS priority: <i>‘An environmentally sustainable future’</i>➤ In April 2008 the BPP agreed that it should focus on the delivery of the Greenest Borough Strategy (GBS) and the related projects and programmes attached to it. The vision of the GBS was: <i>‘To work together to tackle climate change and secure a clean, safe and environmentally sustainable future for everyone living, working, visiting or studying in Haringey’</i>➤ As set out above, delivery of the SCS priority around the environment and sustainability and performance against LAA targets, comprised two key parts of the BPP work. <p><u>Membership, Roles and Responsibilities</u></p>	
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- The membership of each Theme Board was agreed by the Board itself; however there were also commonalities across the each Board, which included the provision of three places for Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), which were elected through the Community Link Forum. A place was also allocated for the Haringey Association of Voluntary and Community Organisations (HAVCO) on each Theme Board.
- The relevant Cabinet Member also sat on each of the Theme Boards.
- In addition to attending quarterly meetings of the BPP it was noted that there was an expectation that members of the Board would communicate between meetings and take forward and implement any agreed actions within their respective organisations.

Annual Residents Survey 2010 – Summary of Information Relating to the BPP

- An overview of information gathered as part of the Annual Residents Survey 2010 was provided and there was agreement that this should be circulated with the minutes.

Group Discussion and Questions

Following the presentations the Board broke into three groups to discuss the questions set out below:

- 1) Does the Better Places Partnership achieve the objectives set out within its current Terms of Reference?
 - a. Recent key achievements
 - b. Any gaps?
- 2) How could the BPP become more effective?
- 3) To what extend does the membership of the BPP need to change to reflect suggestions arising from Question 2?

The Chair asked each group to give a summary of their discussion:

Group 1

The number of Green Flag Awards acquired by parks in the Borough was seen as a key achievement and this was considered to be due, in part, to the relationship developed between the Local Authority and 'Friends of Parks'.

In order to add further value it was suggested that the BPP should

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consider how new areas of partnership working could be developed in order to facilitate shared learning.

Strengthening the relationship between the BPP and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) was suggested as a means of improving the communication between the Local Authority and RSLs (it was recognised that the Integrated Housing Board (IHB) was in place).

It was suggested that the BPP could add value by taking a more strategic role and as part this it should draw together and review best practice and help organisations to work more effectively in partnership. Providing a forum for networking and improving communication between organisations was also seen as a key role for the BPP.

There was agreement that the BPP should play a role in coordinating work already being carried out within the Borough

Engagement with community groups working in the Borough was considered to be essential in order to achieve the BPPs aims and objectives. In order to do this raising the profile of the BPP was considered necessary as many of the community groups working in the Borough were unaware of its existence at present.

With respect to the BPPs membership the group agreed that the involvement of a broader range of community groups was essential to its success.

Group 2

It was suggested that Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) could be used as a tool for identifying good practice and research.

As suggested above the BPP could act as a coordinating body and look at ways of sharing resources and establishing social enterprise projects.

As above it was suggested that further linkages between the IHB and BPP should be developed with a view to look at how the BPP could focus on cross cutting issues with respect to Social Housing.

Follow up work between meetings was considered to be essential to ensure that work was properly taken forward and it was suggested that the establishment of sub groups may be the most effective way to achieve this.

The establishment of an annual Work Programme listing the items the BPP would consider throughout the year would be useful in terms of planning and providing clarity with respect to the BPPs role.

In terms of VCS representation it was noted that the Community Link Forum (CLF) had been established to provide VCS representatives with a democratically appointed mandate to each the Theme Boards. Representatives from the CLF and HAVCO noted that there were

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currently two vacant CLF positions on the BPP and contended that any additional VCS representation should be co-opted via this route.

The Chair noted that whilst she supported the role of the CLF it was important to recognise the desire expressed for the involvement of specialist community based groups.

It was contended that organisations such as Sustainable Haringey, Friends of Haringey Parks and others played such a significant role with respect to work relevant to the BPP that they should have places on the Board in their own right, rather than via the CLF.

The Chair requested that there was further discussion outside the meeting between the CLF, officers and community groups, with respect to the cooption process.

Group 3

There had been agreement that the focus on the GBS was appropriate and that the BPP had done some useful work in establishing this and monitoring its progress.

Again the involvement of additional VCS groups, particularly Sustainable Haringey, was seen as essential and there was agreement that their lack of involvement constituted a gap in the BPPs work. There would be significant benefits to drawing in the work carried out by these groups.

It was considered that there was a gap in terms of looking at the quality of the built environment and the role that the Board could play in improving this. In order to address this it was suggested a representative from the Council's Planning and Regeneration team should be co-opted. Links to the Area Assemblies could also be established in order to obtain a better picture of what was happening locally.

It was suggested that more work should be done in conjunction with residents in order to find solutions to local issues.

The group had noted that a clear understanding of the work carried out by the other Theme Boards, particularly the Enterprise Partnership Board and the Integrated Housing Board, was required in order for the BPP to work effectively. Councillor Canver explained that the Chair of the Enterprise Partnership Board was a permanent member of the Better Places Partnership.

In conclusion the Chair thanked people for participating in the plenary session and for the ideas they had put forward. She advised that she would meet with officers following the meeting to discuss the ideas put forward and that the following items would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting:

- Revised Terms of Reference
- Membership – proposals based on the suggestions made

Pamela Pemberton / Dale Phillipson

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of Vice-Chair • Appointment of Representative to the HSP <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That proposals with respect to the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Board should be brought to the next meeting of the BPP for adoption.</p>	<p>Dale Phillipson / Kate Dalzell</p>
<p>BPP90.</p>	<p>AREA BASED GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS – QUARTER 1 UPDATE</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided an overview of the performance of projects in receipt of Area Based Grant (ABG) funding during the first quarter of 2010/11.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the Government had significantly reduced the level of ABG funding that was allocated to Council’s and as part of this in year savings of £5.3M had had to be made. Consequently some projects currently funded from the ABG would not be extended beyond 2010/11.</p> <p>It was noted that the Street Enforcement Team, established in Autumn 2009, had recently formed a set of Ward based Action Plans that would drive their work. These had been compiled in consultation with residents who had assisted identifying local priorities and the Board was advised that this information was available on the Council’s website.</p> <p>A limited pilot of the Community Toilet Scheme had been undertaken on Tottenham High Road and six businesses, rather than the twenty originally planned, had participated. It was noted that depending on the outcome of the pilot funding allocated for this may be offered as part of the Board’s contribution towards the in year savings required.</p> <p>In addition the ABG funding allocated to the Greenest Borough Innovation Fund had been put forward as a saving and would not continue beyond 2010/11.</p> <p>In response to concern expressed that the areas identified for savings appeared to be attached to many of the locally based community schemes and projects, the Chair advised that the Council had been required to make huge in year savings; in order to achieve these all areas of spending had been reviewed.</p> <p>Given the timescales in place to achieve the in year savings the Government required it had been necessary for the HSP Executive to identify and agree these quickly. As a result it had not been possible to carry out the type of consultation and planning that would generally be attached to this type of decision.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	

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<p>BPP91.</p>	<p>LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided an overview of performance against Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets within its responsibility during the first Quarter of 2010/11.</p> <p>It was noted that there were a number of targets that were recorded on an annual or quarterly basis and where this was the case information could not be provided.</p> <p>A summary was given of the report and it was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Place Survey, which measured public satisfaction with parks and open spaces, was carried out every two years and the next survey was due to be undertaken this year. However, clarification was required from the new Government as to whether this would continue. • The number of Green Flag and Green Pennants awarded would be announced later in July. • NI 195, which related to levels of litter, had not been measured as yet; this was undertaken via a survey carried out by Keep Britain Tidy. Monitoring carried out by the Council indicated that performance in this area was on track. <p>It was requested that future reports should include a narrative with respect to targets in relation to access to services.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Richard Dominy / Kate Dalzell</p>
<p>BPP92.</p>	<p>SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT COMMISSION</p> <p>The Board received a report that set out the plans around the establishment of a Sustainable Transport Commission (STC).</p> <p>The STC would act as an independent body and would draw together research based evidence and engage with individuals and organisations in order to provide advice to the Cabinet on sustainable transport.</p> <p>It was noted that, in addition to the Council, Transport for London (TfL) received funding of approximately £3.5M; however, in light of the cuts to Public Sector funding during this and subsequent years, the overall level of funding available was likely to reduce significantly. Therefore it would be more important than ever for these organisations to coordinate their work and utilise the funding available.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the Commission would be comprised of a panel of experts, local residents and Members, to ensure that the recommendations made reflected the concerns of local residents and the</p>	

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	<p>needs of the Borough. It was anticipated that the panel would meet for four full days to receive and review evidence and another full day to form its recommendations.</p> <p>In terms of the timescale attached it was intended that the panel would meet during the autumn and make its recommendations at the November Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>Support was expressed particularly with respect to the health benefits attached to promoting walking and cycling as modes of transport. It was noted that the socio economic make up of the Borough and the differences in patterns of behaviour that this produced, meant that any messages made would need to be appropriately targeted.</p> <p>In response to a query as to the likely level of costs attached the establishment of the Commission the Board was advised that these were still being estimated at present; however, these would be kept to a minimum.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the Council had commissioned University College London to undertake a study of accidents that had occurred in the Borough during the last three years and how effective the road safety measures deployed by the Council had been.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the Commission would also look at the use and effectiveness of traffic calming measures as part of its remit.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted and that the establishment of a Sustainable Transport Commission be endorsed.</p>	
<p>BPP93.</p>	<p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK UPDATE</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided an overview of the outcomes of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) reviews carried out during 2009/10 and the draft O&S Work Programme for 2010/11.</p> <p>It was noted that a review on Sustainable Transport had been carried out during 2009/10 and these three of the recommendations arising from this had been adopted by the Council's Cabinet.</p> <p>In terms of the Work Programme for 2010/11 two review topics were being considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate carbon reduction (Local Area Agreement National Indicator 185) • Community transport <p>The Chair of the O&S Committee, Councillor Gideon Bull, advised that given the current financial climate and the need for officers to focus on the financial challenges faced by the Public Sector, the O&S Committee</p>	

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	<p>had agreed that it should focus on topics where value could be added. He suggested that, given the Council's commitment around the reduction of carbon emissions in the Borough, there may be more scope to add value in this area rather than Community Transport.</p> <p>The Chair asked members of the Board to forward any suggestions for additional review topics to Xanthe Barker.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	All to note
BPP94.	<p>NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>No new items of Urgent Business were raised.</p>	
BPP95.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p>	
	<p><u>Agenda Planning / Forward Programme for the Better Places Partnership Board</u></p> <p>The Chair noted that agenda planning was essential in order to ensure that meetings were used effectively. Following the meeting she would meet with officers to discuss the work that would be undertaken in preparation for the next meeting.</p> <p>After discussion the following was agreed that the items below should be included as standing items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sustainable Transport Review Action Plan • Greenest Borough Strategy Action Plan • ABG Project Updates <p>It was further agreed that there should be a discussion item at the beginning of each meeting where a presentation would be given on a topic of interest followed by discussion. Suggested topics for the next meeting were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling in the Borough • Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams Environment Audits • Living Under One Sun Project • Car Clubs • Natural England Health and Green Spaces Project at Broad Water Farm • Presentation by the Fire Service on Houses in Multiple Occupation • Air Quality Action Plan <p>The Chair noted that if partners had any further ideas for agenda items they should contact Xanthe Barker: xanthe.barker@haringey.gov.uk</p>	All to note
BPP96.	<p>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</p>	

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	<p>The dates of future meetings, as set out below, were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6.30pm, 28 October 2010• 6.30pm, 24 January 2011• 6.30pm, 12 April 2011	<p>All to note</p>
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The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

COUNCILLOR NILGUN CANVER

Chair