

**Minutes of
BETTER PLACES PARTNERSHIP
Wednesday 12 October 2005 at 4pm**

PRESENT

Core/Key Agencies

Councillor Peter Hillman (Chair), Haringey Council
Anne Fisher, Haringey Council
Ann Marie Connolly, Haringey TPCT
John Brown, Haringey Fire Service
Bob Maltz, HFRA
Dave Morris, HFRA
Philip Dale, HA21 CSG
Ibilola Campbell, HFRA
Pam Moffat, Mobility Forum
Andrew Billaney, Hornsey Housing Trust
Judith Hanna, English Nature
Rebecca O'Shea, Environment Agency
Aisha Burtally, Environment Agency

Observers & Guests

Gill Hawken - (HTPCT & Haringey Council).
Janice Robinson, Haringey Council
Sule Nisanaoglu, Haringey Council
John Morris, Haringey Council
Marcelle Fletcher, Haringey Council
Marion Hoffman, Haringey Council
Zena Brabazon, Haringey Council
Sule Nisancioglu, Haringey Council
Bob Watts, Haringey Council
Nicolas Mattis, Haringey Council

1. APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTIONS (Agenda Item 1):

Apologies were received from Cheri Williams and June Curtis.

2. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS (Agenda Item 2):

None received

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 26 JULY 2005 (Agenda Item 3):

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Better Places Partnership (BPP) meeting held on 26 July 2005 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Agenda Item 3):

The BPP was asked to amend the minutes on page 2 (Agenda Item 3 Terms of Reference and Membership). It was agreed that the BPP "Aims" be re-amended to read as follows:

Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and open spaces, and improvements of the quality of the built environment whilst ensuring environmental sustainability and community sustainability ~~in deprived areas and~~ across the borough, with measurable improvement by 2008.

The BPP was informed that in respect of page 3 (Agenda Item 5 Planning the Work Programme and Activity of the BPP), interested parties would be invited to discuss issues about priorities and also the work programmes in due course.

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5. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND (NRF) (Agenda Item 4)

A presentation was given to the BPP on the draft NRF programme for 2006-08, outlining the stages in the programme and the structure for meeting the criteria for floor targets. A Chairs Actions Meeting was requested in order to consider projects that were currently funded by the NRF. It would then be possible to approve the new programmes for the period April 2006 -08. The BPP was informed that the next step for the NRF fund programmes was to confirm them with the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP). The BPP heard that in terms of the amounts of money being allocated to different themes within the NRF, some £2.4millions would be available. Some initial work had been done by Haringey Council officers which is yet to be approved by the HSP. The BPP briefly discussed how local communities would be engaged in the NRF and were informed that the projects seeking mainstream or NRF post March 2006 and listed in the Report before the BPP were to highlight the projects that were the responsibility of Haringey Council.

6. REPORT BACK FROM THE HarCEN BETTER PLACES WORKSHOP (Agenda Item 5)

The BPP were informed of the three priorities that were drawn from the Workshop held on 28 September 2005. These were:

- (i) Work to improve the image of and perceptions of Tottenham
- (ii) Develop residents groups
- (iii) Improve facilities, shops and front & communal gardens

The BPP heard that HarCEN had not formally commented on these priorities to date.

7. THE GROUNDWORK TRUST (Agenda Item 6)

The BPP was given a presentation by the Groundwork Trust that highlighted its aims and purpose and belief in working in partnership with local communities. It was illustrated that this was also Groundwork's approach to regeneration, however the organisation did not operate in Haringey at present. However, Groundwork had completed a feasibility process in Haringey which was outlined to the BPP. It was confirmed that community organisations were significantly involved in the process of establishing a Groundwork organisation within Haringey and that this was desirable from a self leadership perspective. There was a discussion on what the leadership process looked like and how the organisation would be funded. It was established that there were a variety of funding sources from the public and private sectors and that the use of local networks would ensure leadership and funding were robust. The BPP discussed a range of issues relating to the Groundwork Trust covering how expertise could be introduced into projects and how individual projects would be split up in terms of funding. Also, in terms of engagement and the duplication of work loads. The BPP established that that expertise would be brought in through environmental learning in schools and community groups and raising what the environment is and how it can be protected. With respect to funding, it was established that even splits between projects was rarely achieved, but that local needs would be ascertained and funding distributed accordingly. Regarding concern about duplicating work, the Trust indicated that they were aware of this but that certain areas had already been highlighted and that overlap could thus

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be avoided. The BPP cordially invited the Groundwork Trust to its meeting in March 2006 for an update.

8. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME (Agenda Item 7)

The BPP received the draft Work Programme which it was asked to approve. The Work Programme was created from an exercise at the previous BPP meeting on 26 July 2005. The BPP had a discussion on the exact content of the Work Programme with particular attention being paid to the issue of equalities and the budgeting gap between physical environments and health. Also, it was established that the issue of allotments were important for links to the health agenda, and that the creation of more managed community spaces that are safe and attractive was important. The BPP agreed that this should be looked into further by officers and that in doing this, clarity would be sought on which ideas were for the BPP and which were the Well-Being Partnership Board and to ensure that issues did not get lost between the two theme boards. The BPP was informed that the Community Steering Group would like to be involved in the March 2006 meeting of the BPP which would discuss Sustainability, Climate and Biodiversity. The BPP was also informed that the Mobility Forum would like to participate in the September 2006 meeting of the BPP in order to focus on Older People's leisure programmes and access to it. The BPP was informed that an open spaces group was operating at present which looked at non-users and engaging them into the process. An initiative entitled "Experience Counts" was highlighted as being ideal in terms of engagement.

9. MAIN TOPIC – THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (Agenda Item 8)

The Hornsey Housing Trust made a presentation to the BPP on "Towards Decent Homes and a Sustainable, Well Designed Built Environment". The presentation began by outlining some of the floor targets and expectations of the BPP in terms of contributing to achieving greater levels of decent homes with Haringey. The presentation also laid down the "next steps" in terms of achieving the key targets for the BPP. The BPP was informed that work had been done with ALMOs ensuring commonality and ensuring good communications and possible joint contracts in terms of procurement. The BPP also discussed projects for after buildings had been erected/renovated with attention to management issues during this period. It was felt that particular concern and attention was needed in terms of managing 66% of housing stock in private sector hands, especially in renewal areas, and how to engage private owners in making improvements where necessary – and particularly in securing funding. It was felt by the Hornsey Housing Trust that it would need a back to basics approach in terms of housing management principles. The BPP covered issues relating to the plan and design of housing for people with long-term illness. It heard that a national policy existed to support this and benefit such patients, however, not enough houses were in new stock to support all health sufferers, but lobbying was currently taking place. The Partnership also covered the need to provide a proportion of mobility related stock and considered if this was the case. It identified that stock was provided on needs based approach. The BPP then considered energy efficiency in terms of water and electricity usage, and also the materials used to build and maintain property. During a brief discussion, the BPP was informed that energy efficiency was a large measure of building control which was considered to have a positive impact on efficiency. Water and flooding

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needed more work under a national code for sustainable buildings for energy efficiency. English Nature informed the BPP of an initiative on high quality green spaces. It also highlighted environmental standards and flood risk in the East of the Borough which required sustainable urban drainage. They highlighted a number of issues which the BPP agreed to discuss at length during the 8 March 2006 meeting of the BPP.

10. CONFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE BETTER PLACES PARTNERSHIP (Agenda Item 9)

The BPP confirmed that the new Fire Borough Commander, John Brown, had membership to the BPP. Also that Ellen Struthers would represent London Remade on the BPP. Finally, the current community contacts of the BPP were confirmed as Phil England, Phil Dale and Ruth Todd.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 10)

- (i) The BPP were informed about the *Smoke Free Day* and given an outline of the launch of the campaign whilst being asked to support smoke free environments.
- (ii) BPP members were asked to inform the Committee Clerk of any AOBs before each meeting.
- (iii) The BPP agreed to in future, during each meeting to allow each group of partners to give a 10 minute update to the BPP on issues prevalent to their areas of work. This would ensure involvement in meetings and would be a standard item on all future agendas.
- (iv) The BPP received a tabled update from the Well-Being Partnership Board, a thematic board of the HSP and noted its information.

12. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS (Agenda Item 11)

None

13. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS (Agenda Item 12)

- 4pm - 18 January 2006, venue tbc
- 4pm - 8 March 2006, venue tbc

The meeting finished at 17:45

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Councillor PETER HILLMAN
Chair of the Better Places Partnership

Date.....