



barnsley  
progress through partnership

**Date: 11 March 2009**

**Item: 2**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 January 2009**

**at The Core, Barnsley**

**Present:**

Cllr Houghton	BMBC (Chair)
Ade Robinson	South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
Helen Gorer	LSC
Helen McMullen	GOYH
Ian Hanks	Job Centre Plus
John Lewis	Barnsley Chamber
Naeem Jarral	BBEMI
Paul Pascoe	Yorkshire Forward
Penny Stanley	BCVN
Tracey Lally	Barnsley Chamber
Colin Booth	Barnsley College

**Supporting:**

Diane Tweedie	Secretariat
Ian Rooth	BMBC Finance
Shaun Jones	BMBC PIU
Teresa Williams	Secretariat

**Presenting:**

Martin Cantor	BMBC
Chris Partridge	BMBC Information Services

**1. Apologies**

Phil Coppard, Ailsa Claire, Tom Sheard, Iris Howard, David Wilford, Steve Wragg.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting on 5 November and Matters Arising**

2.1 Diane Tweedie explained that a report on the Council's neighbourhood arrangements as referred to in paragraph 6.3 of the minutes was being prepared within the Council and partners would be consulted shortly.

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) **The minutes from the meeting of the 17 December 2008 be accepted as an accurate record;**
- 2) **Other matters arising would be covered on the current agenda.**

**REPORTS FOR APPROVAL**

**3. Review of Delivery Partnerships**

3.1 Diane Tweedie presented the report, explaining that the future of the delivery partnerships do not now need to be agreed prior to the submission of the annual refresh of the LAA, and, also, as many Board members could not make the 10 February, that the Away Day be postponed to a future date.

3.2 Diane explained that the report highlights three models, of which, one (or a hybrid of them) needs to be agreed upon at the future Delivery Partnerships Away Day.

3.3 Diane explained that the notes from the One Barnsley Away Day held on the 13 January were used to contextualise the thoughts behind each of the models.

3.4 The models are made up of:

- 1) A similar model as present, but with minor refinements in the current arrangements; an additional Delivery Partnership would be added to cover Ambition 11 of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS).
- 2) Disregard the current model completely, and replace with Task and Finish Groups which are based upon the 89 local area agreement targets.

- 3) A reduction of the number of Delivery Partnerships; all of which would have core functions that ensured they were fit for purpose.

The models will undergo a SWOT analysis to demonstrate strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats so that an informed decision can be made.

- 3.5 John Lewis commented that Ailsa Claire had made a useful comment at the Away Day about the relationship between the private and public sector's roles being very different, and this needs to be considered.
- 3.6 John also commented that the frequency of the meetings need to be addressed; and there needs to be a separation between what is strategic, and what is delivery.

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) Board Members note the report;**
- 2) A new date for an Away Day will be arranged.**

**4 Forward Plan**

- 4.1 Diane Tweedie presented the report, explaining that each Board Member is requested to provide a list of 5 key strategic areas which potentially could be included in the Forward Plan. The list will be considered by the Board at its next meeting.
- 4.2 Diane explained that the ideas should be linked to the SCS. They should also demonstrate how other partners can support the delivery, or develop the issue, and show how the partnership can bring added value to the issue.
- 4.3 The Chair explained that the role of the Board is to agree the SCS, and the LAA. If just those objectives are met then that is great, however, if work beyond that, that is even better.
- 4.4 The Chair further explained, that knowing and planning for these ideas will enable the Board to know why things are on the agenda, and real business discussions can take place. Each partner will know what they can get out of the Board, with a view to knowing what is going to happen next.
- 4.5 Penny Stanley commented that the BCVNetwork would like to bring a discussion which could influence volunteers week, so that it could be become a sector wide week, rather just a VAB week.

**Secretariat  
to organise**

- 4.6 Helen McMullen added that the Board should know if the plans are delivering or slipping. There has to be some tough talking and challenge across the table otherwise aspirations of Barnsley will not be met.
- 4.7 Paul Pascoe commented that the idea is similar to the growth plan as it helps to focus people's minds.
- 4.8 Diane Tweedie explained that it will also ensure structure and strategic direction, and that it will identify key pieces of work and how to handle effectively manage the LSP business. Helen McMullen added that the Board has a clear role if the Red, Amber, Green (RAG) system is used, but with a list of actions identified for the Board. Diane Tweedie highlighted that challenges should be made at the Delivery Partnerships, but that the discussion should not be duplicated at the Board. Tracey Lally suggested that problems should come to the Board even if they have been discussed at the Delivery Partnerships, so that support can be given.

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) **Each Agency provides a list of up to 5 key strategic areas that the partnership can add value to developing during 2009/2010 to the Secretariat by 20 February 2009**
- 2) **That the Forward Plan for 2009/10 be agreed at the 11 March 2009 meeting, and that this will provide the basis for future Board meetings agendas**

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**5 Dearne Valley Vision**

- 5.1 A presentation was delivered by Martin Cantor on the Dearne Valley Vision. He explained that the Dearne has set out to develop a new vision to give it a purpose and long term future. The proposal is for the Dearne to become an eco valley. It will have a vibrant and sustainable economy, and become an exemplar for the UK and the wider world. The Dearne is looking to have the lowest carbon footprint of any comparable place in the UK within the next ten years.
- 5.2 Additionally the plan is to have a new economic model with high quality and low carbon infrastructure, with a focus on environmental technologies and economic sectors. It will bring about renewal of natural assets, quality of life, tourism and stewardship. Strong communities with purpose, identity and cohesion will be grown. The delivery plan is being developed and Board members need to consider how they can contribute to this process.

- 5.3 Steve Houghton commented that this transformation will raise people's aspirations, and give people identity. It also fits into the Urban Centre for Regeneration; it will be complementary.
- 5.4 Penny Stanley queried whether the Sheffield City Region should take an overview of the 3 split management.
- 5.5 Steve Houghton explained that at the moment there are three different Authorities involved, (for example, planning) each with different procedures, and so perhaps to take this forward effectively the project should have its own national planning department. Paul Pascoe commented that National Parks are all powerful in terms of their parks, which means if Local Authorities give up all their ownership to the plot it will mean making some tough decisions.
- 5.6 Martin Cantor added that the Governance arrangements need to be strong enough to say no to new development ideas if they do not fit within the vision. Steve Houghton added when making decision we need to be precious about the place, but that they are not also taken in isolation as there are strong links to other areas.
- 5.7 Paul Booth commented that having the Campus would provide new methods and opportunities which would address the massive skills shortage in the area. We need opportunities that align with this. Penny Stanley commented that if the Campus is built then the skills can be offered. Steve Houghton suggested that if Europe invested too, then we could get the eco valley to be an international destination.
- 5.8 Ian Rooth queried what kind of financial resource the project is looking at. Martin Cantor explained that there is no sense of scale at the moment. Public money could run to tens of millions, but with private money investment it could run to hundreds of millions. Ian Rooth stated that with transport links added, the project could be looking at multi millions.
- 5.9 Naeem Jarral queried whether there would be an international conference to discuss this project as well as explore connection with the universities. Martin Cantor explained that once the idea is further forward then it may be possible to get international sponsors to discuss a conference.
- 5.10 In terms of participating in a forthcoming event to shape the delivery plan for the vision, Martin Cantor explained that if there is a delay in engaging further with Doncaster and Rotherham, then an event may just be held for Barnsley in the interim. Steve Houghton commented that progress is good, and that it has been well received so far. Helen McMullen commented that involving young people could move the project further.

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) **The vision for the Dearne Valley as an eco valley be endorsed**
- 2) **One Barnsley partners participate in the forthcoming event to shape the delivery plan for the vision.**

**Secretariat  
to liaise with  
Martin  
Cantor**

## **6 Digital Barnsley Initiative**

6.1 A presentation was delivered by Chris Partridge on the Digital Barnsley Initiative. He explained that digitally connected is an integral component of Ambition 9 of the SCS, and is also a theme in the Economic Growth Plan. He explained that Barnsley needs to undergo a transformational change, and there needs to be an element of risk for that change. Barnsley has to be open to more shared services to ensure that Digital Barnsley works effectively.

**Tracey Lally took the role of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.**

- 6.2 Diane Tweedie queried what the next steps and timescales for the Initiative are.
- 6.3 Chris Partridge explained that a half day session should be convened to provide actions for the next steps. The session should be about service delivery and how they will transform the way things are done, and not about actual IT expertise. He explained that it is necessary for the right people to be identified to attend, so a timescale for the session could be anything from one month to three months away, dependent on diaries.
- 6.4 Paul Pascoe commented that there is a danger that seeing 'Digital', managers will send IT people, and really this is about a buy in to the platform, so a mixture of people are needed. He also mentioned that the session would probably need more than three hours. The session could be billed as two events, and some parameters need to be set before the day to ensure that outcomes are achieved.
- 6.5 Tracey Lally suggested that the session needs to be simple. The important first step was to identify the appropriate people. A briefing needs to be sent to Board members so that interested partners can be involved, and an agenda needs to be agreed so that outcomes are agreed. This needs to be done within the next three months.

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) **Diane to liaise with Chris Partridge and produce an initial briefing note which will in turn be circulated to a task and finish group led by**

**Secretariat  
to liaise with**

**Paul Pascoe. This group would also determine the agenda for the away day.**

- 2) The Secretariat to send out a request seeking nominations for the Task and Finish group.**
- 3) Two half day workshops be convened to take forward the identified opportunities and agree specific actions to develop shared service projects.**

**Chris Partridge and also establish the Task & Finish Group**

## **PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

### **7. Second Quarter Performance Management Report LAA**

- 7.1 Shaun Jones presented the report, explaining that the information provided is the second performance management exception report which incorporates data from quarter two. Shaun explained that there is still data missing from some areas, and so a more detailed report will be presented once that information is available.
- 7.2 Tracey Lally queried whether the issues with the data are national or local issues. Shaun Jones explained that they are national issues, but that the information will be received shortly.
- 7.3 Diane Tweedie asked the Board what type of information they would like to receive in the future once that data has been published. Tracey Lally commented that the reason partners are around the table is so that explanations and actions can be offered. Helen Gerner added that it is essential that the discussions do not duplicate that of the LAA Delivery Group, as they may actually have a specific issue under control, and so the Board do not need to focus on it. Tracey Lally added that if there is an issue, but there is an action plan behind it, then the Board do not need to address it.
- 7.4 Diane Tweedie commented that once the Board receives information there needs to be confidence that there is significant progress made against the outcomes, and that if there are problems that are highlighted the Board know that they need resolving as discussions beforehand have not been able to address them.
- 7.5 Tracey Lally commented that specific questions should be directed to the Board. John Lewis suggested that not only should unresolved problems come to the Board, but also issues that are working excellently should be highlighted so they can become known as good practice as this will bring added value elsewhere.

- 7.6 Ian Hanks commented that more in depth information of who is doing what should be provided. For example BDA are doing an excellent job on worklessness, but it is not highlighted that other partners are also working to help the targets. John Lewis suggested that the report should actually come from each lead agency so that they are accountable for performance.
- 7.7 Diane Tweedie suggested that one indicator could be brought to the next meeting and explored so that Board Members can see the process of how it comes to the Board, and decide whether it is appropriate.

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) **One indicator be used as an example of the process for reporting, and a longer discussion on how this is effective for the agenda of the March meeting.**
- 2) **The Annual Review Report for 2008/09 was received.**

**Secretariat  
to liaise with  
PIU**

**GENERAL BUSINESS (FOR INFORMATION)**

**8. Future Business**

- 8.1 Tracey Lally outlined the Future Business listed on the report.
- 8.2 Diane Tweedie confirmed that she would liaise with partners to discuss details for re-arranging the Away Day.
- 8.3 Shaun Jones requested that the Board agree delegated power for the Chair and Vice Chair to sign off the LAA Annual Review on behalf of the Board.

**Secretariat**

**It was agreed that:-**

- 1) **The Chair and Vice Chair be given delegated powers to sign off the LAA Annual Review on behalf of the Board**
- 8.4 Shaun Jones reported to the Board that the visit from Right Hon. Hazel Blears MP was successful. The Minister meant real people, and positive feedback has been received from CLG.

**Secretariat**

### **Date and Time of Next Meetings**

**11 March 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in the Cabinet Room

**22 April 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in Cabinet Room

**3 June 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in Cabinet Room

**21 July 09** – One Barnsley Conference 1pm – 5pm Venue tbc

**22 July 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in Cabinet Room

**9 September 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in Cabinet Room

**12 October 09** – One Barnsley Away Day 1pm – 5pm Venue tbc

**28 October 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in Cabinet Room

**16 December 09** – One Barnsley Board Meeting 4pm in Cabinet Room

**11 January 10** – One Barnsley Away Day 1pm – 5pm Venue tbc