

NORTH DEVON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Minutes of a meeting of the NORTH DEVON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE held at the Cedars Inn, Bickington Road, Barnstaple on Monday 26th July 2004 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Representing

Community Council of Devon: Mr J. Talbot
Devon and Cornwall Constabulary: Chief Inspector Nutt
Devon County Council: Councillors Cann and Spear
Devon and Cornwall Learning and Skills Council: Mr J. Peart
Devon Fire and Rescue Service: Mr P. Drew
Devon Health Forum: Ms R. Humphries and Mr I. Tearle
Exmoor National Park: Ms T. Blackmore
Job Centre Plus: Mr R. Screech
Local Community Alliances: M. Taylor and Councillor Mrs Sewell
North Devon College: Mr D. Trueman
North Devon Homes: Mr J. Davies
North Devon Volunteering Development Agency: Mr P. Hamilton
Northern Devon Healthcare Trust: Dr J. Roberts
North Devon District Council: Councillors Ms Davis, Lucas and Mrs Shapland (Chairman)
North Devon Primary Care Trust: Ms E. Plastow
Parish Councils: Councillor Fraser-Smith
Voluntary Sector: Mr B. Allen, Ms W. Butler and Mrs D. Bracher

Officers:

Devon County Council

County Community Strategy Officer, Assistant County Community Strategy Officer,

North Devon District Council

S. Pitcher - Executive Director, R. Makeig-Jones - Economic Development Officer, Community Development Co-ordinator (MI) and Miss B. Greenslade - Member Services Co-ordinator.

Also Present:

A. Bell - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty/Countryside Development Officer
Ms L. Blanchard - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Manager
Ms A. Palmer - Community Safety Officer
Ms M. Smith - Anti Social Behaviour Officer
Mr G. Smith - Neighbourhood Manager

18 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th April 2004 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20 **MATTERS ARISING**

(a) Local Community Alliances Workshop - 20th September 2004

Councillor Mrs Shapland reported that at a previous meeting of the Alliance, the issue regarding the strengthening of the relationship between the North Devon Community Alliance and the Local Community Alliances was raised. It was agreed that a Workshop should be arranged to share information between all Alliances. The workshop would be held on the morning of 20th September 2004.

I. Hobbs reported that a letter would be sent to the Local Community Alliances shortly regarding the purpose of the meeting and details of the venue.

(b) Appeals Service - Suspension of Barnstaple Venue

Councillor Mrs Shapland reported that the issue regarding the proposed suspension of the use of the appeal venue located at the Civic Centre, Barnstaple. The Alliance wrote a letter to the Appeals Service objecting to the proposal. She informed the Alliance that a letter had now been received from the Appeals Service stating that it had now reviewed its proposals and would continue to hold its appeals at the Civic Centre, Barnstaple.

She thanks the Citizens Advice Bureaux for bringing this issue to the Alliance's attention at the last meeting of the Alliance.

(c) Northern Devon Healthcare Trust

Councillor Mrs Shapland congratulated the Northern Devon Healthcare Trust in achieving its three star rating at the North Devon District Hospital. She asked Dr. J. Roberts to pass on the Alliance's congratulation for its achievement.

(d) National Energy Action

Councillor Mrs Shapland reported the receipt of a letter from the National Energy Charity stating that it had received funding from D.E.F.R.A. to work with Local Strategic Partnerships for reducing fuel poverty.

She stated that the deadline for the bid was by 20th August 2004.

S. Pitcher reported that North Devon District Council had produced a Private Sector Strategy which would provide supporting information for such a bid.

J. Talbot reported that the Community Council of Devon had recently carried out research on fuel poverty.

Councillor Mrs Shapland requested that this research be forwarded to Miss B. Greenslade.

The Alliance agreed that a bid be submitted to the National Energy Action for funding if possible.

21 HOUSING SUB GROUP: TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Alliance considered a paper regarding the Housing Sub-Group's terms of reference (circulated previously).

S. Pitcher reported that the Housing Sub Group had held its first meeting on 28th June 2004 and had discussed its terms of reference.

I. Hobbs reported that the work of the Sub-Group should be linked to work of the Torridge Local Strategic Partnership and Local Community Alliances as they are also discussing housing issues.

The Alliance noted the Housing Sub-Group's terms of reference as an on-going piece of work.

22 AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY MANAGEMENT PLAN - IMPLEMENTATION

The Alliance received a presentation by Linda Blanchard regarding the implementation of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan. She stated that there was a requirement to produce a Management Plan as a result of the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000. The Plan contained a 20-year vision for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a 5-year action plan. She outlined the themes of the Plan and the aims and objectives for the next 12 months. One of the main issues for the next 12 months was the promotion of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

In response to a question, Linda Blanchard reported that she would be looking at renaming the service in the near future and would be carrying out a "branding exercise". She had been invited to join the Braunton Community Alliance as from the autumn. She stated that Visitor Management was not a priority for this year but will carry out some work on this in the future.

A. Bell reported that he was working with the North Devon Marketing Bureau regarding marketing the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the expectations of how visitors should behave when visiting the area.

The Alliance agreed that an item be brought to a future meeting of the Alliance regarding the progress made on the "branding exercise" being carried out for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

23 NORTH WEST DEVON ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

A copy of the North West Devon Economic Partnership Strategy was tabled.

The Alliance received a presentation by R. Makeig-Jones regarding the North West Devon Economic Partnership Strategy. He outlined the structure of the Strategy and its aims and objectives. He outlined the frameworks for action and the impacts of the Strategy on North Devon District Council and other organisations. The Strategy was out for consultation until the end of September and was available on North Devon District Council's website. A second version of the Strategy would then be produced for circulation. The final version of the Strategy would be produced at the end of November 2004.

M. Taylor raised concern regarding the name of the Strategy as it appeared to exclude certain areas in Devon.

Councillor Mrs Shapland stated that there was a need to consider the name of the Strategy.

24 HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Alliance received a presentation by Rachel Humphries regarding the Health Impact Assessment. A copy of the presentation slides was tabled.

She outlined the concept of the Health Impact Assessment, the development of the screening tool and its aims and objectives and how to use the screening tool.

25 WORKSHOP SESSION

The meeting adjourned to workshops to discuss the Health Impact Assessment using the North West Devon Economic Partnership Strategy as an example.

It was agreed that the facilitators forward the feedback from the workshops to Miss B. Greenslade for collation.

26 DEVON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE ON 14TH JULY 2004

Councillor Mrs Shapland reported on the outcomes of the Devon Strategic Partnership Conference which was held on 14th July 2004. The evolving Community Strategy for Devon was discussed.

She stated that a copy of the "Focus on Devon" would be circulated to all members of the Alliance. The final draft of the Devon Strategic Partnership Strategy would be produced during the autumn and would then be circulated to all members of the Alliance.

27 NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT: UPDATE

Ms. W. Butler introduced Gary Smith, who had recently been appointed as the Neighbourhood Manager, to members of the Alliance.

The Alliance viewed a video regarding a Neighbourhood Management Programme in the North East of England.

The Alliance received a presentation by Gary Smith regarding the Neighbourhood Management Project "Transform". A copy of the presentation slides was tabled. The Neighbourhood Management Delivery Plan would be brought to the next meeting of the Alliance in October 2004 for final comment and endorsement prior to it being submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

28 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY

The Alliance received a joint presentation by Amanda Palmer and Melanie Smith regarding Anti Social Behaviour.

A copy of the presentation slides was tabled.

Amanda Palmer reported that as from 4th August 2004, the service would be renamed and called "Safer North Devon".

29 REPORTS FROM LOCAL COMMUNITY ALLIANCES

The Alliance considered and noted reports of the Local Community Alliances (circulated previously and tabled).

30 DEVON COMPACT: UPDATE

The Alliance considered and noted a paper by Alison Boyd and Penny Jackson (circulated previously) regarding an update on the Devon Compact.

31 PROPOSAL FOR A WORKSHOP

The Alliance considered and noted a paper by I. Hobbs (circulated previously) regarding a proposal for a workshop.

32 RURAL RENAISSANCE

The Alliance considered and noted a paper by R. Makeig-Jones (circulated previously) regarding Rural Renaissance.

33 NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL

The Alliance considered and noted a paper by Karen Evans (tabled) regarding Neighbourhood Renewal.

34 WORKING TOGETHER

A paper was not tabled on this issue, therefore the item was not considered.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 1.22 p.m.