

STRONGER COMMUNITIES NETWORK
Minutes of meeting held at 9.30am on Thursday 17 September 2009
Oakham Suite, Old Masonic Hall, Mansfield

Members Present		Organisation
RAH	Richard Hodge	Nottinghamshire County Council (Chair)
PC	Peter Clarke	NCC Communities Department
NC	Nigel Cook	NCC (minute taker)
PR	Paul Roberts	NCC Chief Executive's Department
RE	Richard Edwards	Manton Community Alliance
CG	Cheryl George	Bassetlaw PCT (representing Penny Spring)
AMH	Ann Marie Hawkins	NCC Communities Department
DJ	David Jayne	Gedling Borough Council
ML	Maria Lyle	Government Office East Midlands
MR	Michael Rimington	East Midlands Ambulance Service
SP	Sarah Pearson	Bassetlaw District Council
JR	Jeremy Regan	Mansfield District Council
FS	Fiona Simpson	Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations
AS	Angela Smeeton	NCC Chief Executive's Department
DW	Deborah Widdowson	Ashfield Partnership
SD	Sarah Dawes	Newark and Sherwood District Council
KW	Keith Wood	Newark and Sherwood District Council
WY	Wendy Young	NCC Adult Social Care and Health Department
SW	Sue Wayne	NCC Communities Department
DB	Dominique Black	Nottinghamshire Police
PB	Paul Burrows	Nottinghamshire Police/APAC (Ashfield Partnership Against Crime)

Item	Issue	Action
1.0	Apologies	
	Ian Bradford Colin Handley Phil Lyons Patrick Candler Penny Spring Andy Peacock Dermot Dolan Simon Starr Gill Francis Helen Whitney	Rushcliffe Community Voluntary Service Nottinghamshire Police Authority Mansfield Area Strategic Partnership NCC Communities Notts Primary Care Trust NCC Communities Department NCC Chief Executive's Department Sport Nottinghamshire Nottinghamshire Probation Service East Mids Empowerment Partnership
2.0	Previous minutes and matters arising	
	RAH introduced himself as interim Chair of the Group and invited introductions. He explained that since the last meeting there had been a change of administration at NCC. Although still a County Councillor, previous Chair Glynn Gilfoyle no longer held a Cabinet post. The new	

2.1	<p>Community Safety Portfolio Holder is unable to be involved at present. RAH passed on GG's thanks to the Group for their commitment and involvement. The minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2009 were agreed as a true record.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Working Event</p> <p>PR informed the group that the event scheduled for September 2009 has been put on hold as overshadowed by the dates of other events including the Place Survey results and the Nottinghamshire Partnership Strategic Board. The original 2nd June date was considered to be too close to the elections to engage politicians. The NCC Deputy Leader is the new chair of the Nottinghamshire Partnership. RAH said that as yet NCC had no clear direction from new administration on Neighbourhood Working.</p>	
2.2	<p>NCC Service Level Agreements regarding volunteering</p> <p>WY is pulling information together from quarterly Voluntary Sector returns and the Annual Report on ASC&H Grants on numbers of people volunteering. WY will circulate to Group.</p>	WY
2.3	<p>Communications</p> <p>AMH reported that Clare Morrell had been appointed as Communications Officer and was working on Stronger Communities issues including confidence. She will attend future SCN meetings. A new Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB) Communications Group is to meet in November. AMH asked that communications be a standing item on the agenda to share good practice. A Safer Nottinghamshire Board Newsletter will be produced for November. AMH said NCC CCTV Pilot Scheme was available for all to make use of to share community information. AS will consider using to publicise Young People Citizen's Panel.</p>	
3.0	<p>Place Survey Results for NI 1 & NI 4</p> <p>AS delivered presentation (attached) and circulated handouts and Executive Summary (attached).</p> <p>NI 1: Key issue of local perception emerged. PC conducted small survey in Ashfield and is hoping to repeat in Mansfield and Bassetlaw. 100 responses showed NI 1 seen as more class orientated than a race issue. RE said 4 out of 5 people satisfied message should be emphasised and widely publicised. Communications and local knowledge seen as vital tools to increased confidence. Respect, both for individuals and services, was an issue.</p> <p>NI 4: Need to interact more with public and actively seek citizens' views. Many residents unable to differentiate county and district councils. PC said links between NIs 1 and 4 meant that if you changed one you improved the other. ML said that again it was vital to communicate what we do well. KW said negative media reporting by local press was a problem and could be counteracted by good news stories.</p>	

	AS recommended IPSOS MORI Survey People, Perception and Place. http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/publications/publication.aspx?oltemId=1270	
4.0	Delivery Plans & Progress Reports from Networks	
4.1	<p>NI 1 – Community Cohesion</p> <p>AMH informed that the draft Nottinghamshire Community Cohesion Delivery Plan was submitted for comments at the Community Cohesion Delivery Group (CCDG) meeting on 3 September 2009. The Plan's priorities are:</p> <p>Working with Children and Young People especially at primary level. Improved hate crime monitoring and actions. Locality community cohesion work in the lowest performing areas – Ashfield, Bassetlaw and Mansfield. Three Tension Monitoring meetings are being arranged, bringing together the local county and district community cohesion officers, community safety officers and the BCU inspectors. PREVENT issues include right wing extremism in isolated communities. A successful Back to Basics seminar was held at the Holocaust Centre on 9th September. SP thanked Andy Peacock for organising this and stated what an excellent event it was.</p>	
4.2	<p>NI 4 – Engagement and Decision Making</p> <p>PC hoping to print democracy leaflets for Democracy Week to increase engagement. SP/PC met with Neighbourhood Policing lead Ch Insp Sean Anderson to take forward increasing engagement. Also meeting Divisions individually to discuss Neighbourhood Policing. SC said Working Group meeting has been deferred as more work is needed. RAH said NCC were looking at the role of Parishes and working on new relationships. PB said Police beat questionnaires were being used to identify local issues/priorities to be fed back to Safer Neighbourhood Committees. PC circulated Calor Village of the Year Report and Proposal for 2010. PC thanked CPRE, RCAN, Diocese of Southwell and NAVO for their support last year. It was hoped to clear up any confusion over application process and involve Parish Councils to enable more villages to enter. All to respond to 2010 proposal by end of October.</p>	All
4.3	<p>NI 7 – Thriving Third Sector</p> <p>FS said amber scored this quarter. Loss of LAA officer has caused milestones to slip behind schedule. A new LAA Officer, Zoe Fenwick, has been appointed starting in September. Compact Plus sign up was proving slow with many in the voluntary sector still unaware of its existence. A relaunch is planned in National Compact Week for the morning of 3rd November, combined with NAVO AGM.</p>	

4.4	<p>NI 8 – Sport</p> <p>AMH reported as being on track - green</p>	
4.5	<p>Culture</p> <p>SW reported on key activities planned focusing on Community Engagement and joint activities around Arts and 2012 Olympics involving young people and communities. New safeguarding requirements were being implemented. SD said a Services Accessibility and Engagement event, supported by RIEP, would be held on 20th October on the challenges facing the sector.</p>	
5.0	<p>Intensive Local Engagement</p> <p>ML advised that the scheme aims to improve perceptions of how Government is addressing the needs of communities and engaging with them to tackle any concerns over unfairness in the delivery of service. GOEM's brief was to identify communities in the East Midlands with high levels of deprivation, ethnic tensions, social unrest, crime, ASB, job losses etc. 25 expressions of interest were received and a shortlist of 10 prepared. There may be further opportunities for unsuccessful bids but timetables are short as the funding has to be spent in this financial year. In Nottinghamshire, Gedling and Bassetlaw bids were successful; the areas being Killisick and Harworth, district contacts are David Jayne and Gill Blenkinsop. PC offered support of Community Development Officers. PR enquired how much funding was on offer. ML said around £100,000 per neighbourhood with a menu of services available including support of media consultants, youth workers and school resources. GOEM are arranging workshops in the next three weeks.</p>	
6.0	<p>Governance and Reward Funding</p> <p>PR advised that the consultation on Terms of Reference had gone to the Strategic Partnership Board on 14th September, taking in partner comments, and can be viewed at http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/</p> <p>PR said that the Reward Grant process would begin with a claim submitted in December for £3.1m, this will be subject to audit. Papers recommending how it will be allocated are to go to NP Executive and Board. Current thinking was that LAA Reward Grant would be divided into three portions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% to stay at the centre to fund salary costs of Partnership Officers for Years 2 and 3 35% to go out to districts through LSPs 55% to be shared between themes. 	
10	<p>AOB</p> <p>CG informed Group of LSP Generations Together Event taking place on 4th</p>	

	November. Further details available from sonia.clarke@bassetlaw-pct.nhs.uk	
11	Dates, times and locations of future meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 17 December 2009, 9.30-11.30am – South Forest Leisure Centre NG21 9JF • Thursday 18 March 2010, 9.30-11.30am - South Forest Leisure Centre NG21 9JF 	