

STRONGER COMMUNITIES NETWORK

Minutes of meeting held at 9.30am on Thursday 17 December 2009
South Forest Leisure Centre, Edwinstowe

Members Present		Organisation
RAH	Richard Hodge	Nottinghamshire County Council (Chair)
PC	Peter Clarke	NCC Communities Department
NC	Nigel Cook	NCC (minute taker)
RC	Rob Crowder	Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire
SB	Shannon Burns	NCC Chief Executive's Department
DD	Dermot Dolan	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
DM	Rev David McCullough	Diocese of Southwell
PL	Phil Lyons	Mansfield Area Strategic Partnership
MR	Michael Rimington	East Midlands Ambulance Service
AP	Andy Peacock	NCC Communities Department
JR	Jeremy Regan	Mansfield District Council
CH	Colin Handley	Nottinghamshire Police Authority
SS	Simon Starr	Sport Nottinghamshire
FS	Fiona Simpson	Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations
KH	Kay Hannah	Volunteering Nottinghamshire
ZF	Zoe Fenwick	Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations
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

Item	Issue	Action
1.0	Apologies	
	Ian Bradford Penny Spring Maria Lyle Gill Francis Lindsey Narey Sarah Pearson	Rushcliffe Community Voluntary Service Notts Primary Care Trust Government Office East Midlands Nottinghamshire Probation Service Nottinghamshire Probation Service Bassetlaw District Council
2.0	Previous minutes and matters arising RAH, interim Chair of the Group, invited introductions. He advised that Mick Murphy, the new Community Safety Portfolio Holder, is unable to take on the chair at present. The minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2009 were agreed as a true record.	
2.1	NCC Service Level Agreements regarding volunteering WY advised that she had circulated to ASC&H Annual Report Group containing numbers of people volunteering. WY hopes next year's report will cover whole of	

	County Council as most of the focus is on ASC&H.	
2.2	NI 4 – Engagement and Decision Making PC reported all in favour of Village of the Year proposal for 2010.	
3.0	<p>Nottinghamshire County Council Budget</p> <p>RAH advised that there were significant financial constraints with the change of administration and there was a new direction for NCC. Priorities were Safeguarding Children and Adult Care. Budget proposals were out for consultation and RAH encouraged partners to respond. Further information can be found at http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/your_council/financeandthebudget/budgetforthefuture.htm</p> <p>RAH advised that in particular two elements of the proposals affected the SCN, the impact on Stronger Communities Team and changes to Voluntary Sector Support. Change in political direction means Stronger Communities Team reduced in size from 10 to 6 Community Development Officers and £85K commissioning support for neighbourhood groups and initiatives stopped. PC advised that an option would be for a county community development “virtual” team and districts need to consider this. Smarter working with partners is needed in future. WY gave overview of Budget proposals impacting on Voluntary Sector. ASC&H to reduce VS Budget by 10%. ASC&H were reviewing Granting Aid priorities. Financial support for Community Transport Teams will see a 60% reduction next year and may then disappear altogether. Other proposals included 50% reduction in Welfare Rights Advice Service support. WY said budget proposals for 11/12 would have bigger impact. All reductions would have cumulative affect on VS.</p> <p>PL said CAA report contained clear expectation of shared services. RC said reduction of partnership support in one area may affect others and consultation beforehand was vital. RE said impact assessment of cuts was needed as 3rd Sector involved in of LAA targets and delivery.</p> <p>RAH said that NCC Budget Planning for 2011/12 and 12/13 would start in January and Budget Planning should be an agenda item for next meeting.</p>	
4.0	<p>Safer Neighbourhood Team Engagement</p> <p>PC advised that the Police still finalising Safer Neighbourhood structures in light of Policing Pledge. PC reported positive meeting with Ch Supt Helen Jebb and Ch Insp Sean Anderson. Police aiming for 60 minute response. AMH said if local priorities were based on communities’ real priorities a big impact would be made on creating more cohesive communities. Meeting again on 5 January to look at engagement and standardisation of priorities. PC will update at next meeting.</p>	PC
5.0	Delivery Plans & Progress Reports from Networks	
5.1	<p>NI 1 – Community Cohesion</p> <p>AP informed that the draft Nottinghamshire Community Cohesion Delivery Plan was approved at the Community Cohesion Delivery Group (CCDG) meeting on 17 November 2009. AP/AMH meeting with Police, City Council and CDP to discuss Hate Crime Monitoring in New Year. A range of community cohesion training packages for schools available. Need to identify which schools would most benefit. Primary issue around hate crime incidents is ongoing, everyday level of</p>	

	hostility and harassment towards individuals and families for which the term 'hate crime' can be unhelpful. There is a need to encourage partners to challenge such behaviour and recognise it as 'hate crime' before incidents escalate and more serious incidents occur.	
5.2	NI 4 – Engagement and Decision Making PC said democracy leaflets were distributed during Democracy Week. Re Ashfield, Mansfield and Bassetlaw Intervention money spend: Ashfield funding worker and intense area based work. Mansfield - BME groups and commissioning intergenerational work, parenting support and anti bullying re disabled and SEN children. Bassetlaw – Caribbean and New Communities Groups. Future blockages include no funding and community groups disenfranchised.	
5.3	NI 7 – Thriving Third Sector ZF said Compact Plus relaunch postponed until April 2010 due to lack of engagement. FS to take to LAA Management Group. PL suggested all lobby to raise Compact profile and he will raise at NP Executive. DD will help support this. OP Network meeting 18 December.	DD
5.4	NI 8 – Sport SS reported Q3 figures show no progress on baseline. SS can analyse and breakdown stats to district level. SD said potential funding/resource pressures will impact on any health gains and long term objective to embed as family activity from early age. PL said partnership should focus on 0 to 1 sedentary gains and could include in Community Strategy. Potential blockages include Local Authority Leisure Services budget cuts. DD to look at links to health.	DD
5.5	Culture SW reported Customer Insight Project to start in January. 2012 Olympics Report prepared by Patrick Candler. SD said Active People data imminent. SW looking at Arts participation audience figures.	
	RAH praised good work, energy and commitment and said there was recognition of themes competing for time, money, resources and people. RAH felt quarterly progress reports need a sharper focus on performance and outcomes in future.	All
6.0	Intensive Local Engagement DJ said initiative now called Connecting Communities with £75,000 to spend in 3 months. Neighbourhood priority areas to be targeted include worklessness and skills agenda, community cohesion, health, intergenerational work and RSL housing allocation. Secondary targets are Youth Crime and ASB underreporting issues. Using for pump priming around engagement, 1 steering group and 3 themed groups have been set up with a residents group progressing community cohesion agenda. Killisick health profile to be commissioned and health events to take place around healthy eating, smoking cessation and mental health issues. DJ is looking for wider partnership engagement and support around Community Leadership Training, Promoting Volunteering and Youth Engagement.	
7.0	Sustainable Community Strategy RC reported the good news that Newstead Parish Council had taken over ownership of tips land in the village with help from RCAN. Newstead is in the	

	<p>Village SOS Final and a chance of £400K Big Lottery bonus and filmed by BBC. RC thanked all who fed in partner comments to SCS. Draft Strategy went to NP Partnership Board after event in November. PL said Board discussed for 45 minutes. Consensus was that SCS was worthy, comprehensive document but lacks focus. It needs to prioritise and emphasise mid term planning before sign off. Preventative/early intervention and cross cutting issues e.g. health need to be stressed. Executive sub group are to look at and take back to NP Board. RAH suggested update and discussion at next meeting. DD/RC will circulate SSC to Group for comments.</p>	<p>DD/RC</p>
8.0	<p>Nottinghamshire Partnership Governance and Reward Funding</p> <p>DD is to post minutes, update Group membership and ToR on Nottinghamshire Partnership website. AMH said SCN Performance Group would review SCN Chair, membership and purpose at next meeting. DD said that NP Strategic Board approved Reward Grant of £6.9m for 2010 with a 50% Capital, 50% Revenue split. £139,600 will go to each district and £973,000 is to be shared between 7 themes. £2.86m weighting to be allocated by NP Finance Working Group. DD will circulate report to Group and update SCN Performance Group in January. AMH advised that the SCN Performance Management Group would discuss the way forward for commissioning PRG.</p>	<p>DD</p>
9.0	<p>Older People Survey Results</p> <p>DM circulated Survey information giving flavour of Diocese work with OP and volunteers and said results would be fed into OP Partnership Board. He explained the C of E template of discerning God, enabling change, valuing people and serving communities. PL said Survey showed important evidence of 3rd Sector activity. FS will take to NAVO OP Network. SG said Church led Intergenerational work done in Lincs. RAH suggested NP look at Group work with Faith Groups.</p>	<p>FS DD</p>
10	<p>CAA Improvement Plan</p> <p>AMH circulated document and explained relevance to Group. Focus on Ashfield issues, crime, community cohesion and hate crime. AMH to contact leads to discuss quick wins and addressing confidence issues. Performance Reward Grant. AMH will update at next meeting.</p>	<p>AMH</p>
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>CG will share Intergenerational Event Report/Action Plan with Group. PC said Intergenerational work was common across LAA themes and suggested representation on Delivery Group. DD is to look at this. RAH is to be seconded to Police Authority as Joint Interim Chief Executive and will not chair next meeting. He thanked all for contribution to SCN and wished everyone a Happy Christmas.</p>	<p>CG DD</p>
	<p>Dates, times and locations of future meetings</p> <p>Thursday 18 March 2010, 9.30-12.30am – Committee Room C, County Hall Wednesday 16th June 2010, 9.30-12.30 – The Exchange, County Hall Wednesday 15th September 2010, 9.30-12.30 - Committee Room B, County Hall Wednesday 8th December 2010, 9.30-12.30 - Committee Room B, County Hall</p>	