



charnwoodtogether
making life better

**CHARNWOOD TOGETHER BOARD EXECUTIVE
19TH APRIL 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor M. Preston (Chair) – Charnwood Borough Council
Tony Stott – Action for a Better Charnwood
Neil Lambert – Voluntary Action Charnwood
A. McInnes - William Davis Ltd
G. Parker – Charnwood Borough Council

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:
S. Boud – Leicestershire County Council
V. Graham – Charnwood Borough Council
S. McIntosh – Leicestershire County Council
S. Phipps – Charnwood Borough Council

APOLOGIES: N. Newell, J. Walker, E. White

I. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2010 were confirmed as an accurate record, subject to the following amendment:

Minute 6 – Astra Zeneca Update to read:

‘Three main issues had been identified as follows: ‘

2. OUTLINE PLANS FOR THE CHARNWOOD TOGETHER AGM

This item had been included on the agenda to consider items for the Charnwood Together Board AGM, to be held on Wednesday, 12th May 2010.

Following discussions at previous meetings of the Executive on the matter, S. Phipps tabled a report (copy filed with the agenda) detailing proposals of three items to form the core business of the meeting, in respect of the potential future of Charnwood Together and links with Leicestershire Together:

- Achievements against the Charnwood Sustainable Community Strategy;
- Review of the Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy;
- Review the Charnwood Together Structures.

With the agreement of the Executive, officers would develop reports to submit to the Board's AGM.

In respect of concerns raised that the proposed changes would result in the Board having less to consider or influence, comments were made as follows:

- (a) The proposals to link in to Leicestershire Together should not be seen as an attempt to remove localisation but rather an opportunity to create an overarching strategy, with Charnwood retaining a local focus while ensuring there was no duplication of work being undertaken at County level.
- (b) There were concerns in respect of Charnwood Together not identifying key local issues and there would be a need to ensure that the correct links were in place to influence County structures, by ensuring strong representation on the County wide groups.
- (c) The Board should ensure that it did not lose its links with the wider local public in addressing issues that had local as well as county focus, for example climate change.
- (d) Increasing emphasis was with Total Place. The proposed paper should focus on the local issues to address with details of the machinery to deliver.
- (e) It was important that the Board be able to show what it delivered, therefore it needed a mechanism to judge what was being achieved. There were a number of issues to address across the County, some of those were parochial to the Borough or parts of the Borough and the Board should reflect that.
- (f) There were opportunities for private sector organisations to link in to Leicestershire Together.

In response to question in respect of a smaller number of delivery groups, S. Phipps stated that the report would suggest that the following delivery groups be established:

People and Places
 Crime and Disorder
 Children and Young Persons
 Health
 Regeneration

Other issues would be mapped into LAA agendas to allow the Board to comment in other forums.

The Chair proposed that the suggested reports be submitted to the Charnwood Together Board AGM.

At the meeting of the Community and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, held on 20th January 2010, an item was considered in respect of 'Retail Business Update – Christmas 2009', where it was proposed that the role of the Charnwood Together Board in respect of co-ordinating future Christmas events across the Borough be explored. Members of the Executive were requested to consider including an item on a future Board agenda to explore this proposal further. Members made comments as follows:

- (g) Co-ordinating advertising for Christmas events across the Borough would be appropriate, through Charnwood News rather than the responsibility of the Board.
- (h) Town and Parish Councils had precepts to fund events.
- (i) The Board could promote events to its members and publish details on its website.
- (j) The Board had no funding to co-ordinate Christmas events across the Borough.

AGREED

1. that the following issues form the core business of the agenda for the Charnwood Together Board Annual General meeting:
 - Achievements against the Charnwood Sustainable Community Strategy;
 - Review of Leicestershire Together Sustainable Community Strategy;
 - Review of Charnwood Together Structures;
2. that the Board promote Christmas events across the Borough on its website and to its members;
3. that Charnwood News was the appropriate vehicle to advertise Christmas events across the Borough.

3. CHARNWOOD PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

An update report in respect of the Charnwood Partnership for Children and Families was tabled at the meeting (copy filed with the agenda). The report provided information in respect of the Commissioning budget 2009/10, expenditure 2009/10 including reserve creditors/debtors, estimate of creditors to reserve at LCC and the total predicted spend for 2009/10, together with a summary of commissioning at April 2010.

Officers were working to set financial allocations for 2010/11 and members were asked to approve the proposed new commissioning budget indicative allocations submitted within the report.

In response to issues raised and questions, S. Boud stated:

- (a) It was not the failure of the Board that there had been an under spend for the financial year 2009/10. Officers had worked to spend the available funding, but organisations had not spent allocated funding.
- (b) In respect of the current year, there were ongoing contracts and agreements from 1st April 2010, which would be a more positive start to the year.
- (c) A new monitoring framework had been introduced to encourage applicants to spend their allocated money.

AGREED

- 1. that the information be noted;
- 2. that early spending at the beginning of the financial year be encouraged.

4. PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Reports from Leicestershire County Council in respect of Participatory Budgeting were submitted as follows:

- (i) Updated information following a report submitted to the previous meeting of the Executive in respect of Loughborough East, Loughborough North West, Shepshed and Hathern and South Charnwood (Syston, Thurmaston and Wreake Villages) Area Forums.
- (ii) Proposals for the three Area Forums not available at the previous meeting of the Executive.

The Executive considered the schemes as follows:

LOUGHBOROUGH EAST AREA FORUM

- (i) Sidings Park Residents Association

£7,500 Funding approved at the previous meeting of the Executive.

- (ii) Chapman Street Gardening Group

To provide tools and equipment to help a newly formed gardening group improve the local environment. Officers had sought clarification on possible synergy / overlap with similar project ideas in the area by meeting with

representatives of those schemes, Charnwood Borough Council and Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £2,000 BE APPROVED.

(iii) Shelthorpe Community Gardening Scheme

A scheme to be delivered through CIC to loan out tools and 'labour' to people who had difficulty maintaining their own garden. Officers had sought clarification on possible synergy / overlap with similar project ideas in the area by meeting with representatives of those schemes, Charnwood Borough Council and Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT UP TO £5,000 FOR SPECIFIC ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT, ASSUMING NO DUPLICATION BE APPROVED.

(iv) Shelthorpe Informal Play Area

To redevelop a site situated between Farnham Road and Beaumont Road or if the original idea can not be achieved the money be ringfenced to benefit young people living in Loughborough East.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,500 BE RINGFENCED TO BENEFIT YOUNG PEOPLE IN LOUGHBOROUGH EAST.

LOUGHBOROUGH NORTH WEST AREA FORUM

(i) Jubilee BMX and Youth Shelter

To provide either a new youth shelter or BMX track situated in Jubilee Park or if that were not achievable the money be ringfenced to benefit young people in Loughborough North West. Further work was required; therefore officers proposed that funding be committed until 31st May 2010.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT IF THE ORIGINAL PROPOSALS WERE NOT FEASIBLE, £9,000 BE RINGFENCED TO BENEFIT THE YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN LOUGHBOROUGH NORTH WEST.

(ii) The Hut Kitchen Refurbishment

To rebuild and re-equip the kitchen.

£5,000 funding approved at the previous meeting of the Executive.

(iii) Booth Wood School Soft Play Area

To provide a soft play area. Further work was required for all partners to finalise contributions prior to the release of funding.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £4,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010 WHILST INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUE.

(iv) Youth Zone

To provide equipment, including computer games.

£2,000 funding approved at the previous meeting of the Executive.

SHEPSHED AND HATHERN AREA FORUM

(i) Shepshed ABC Boxing Club Noise Insulation

To provide noise insulation at the Club. It was reported that the Police were supportive and that a planning decision was expected in June 2010.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £3,600 BE RINGFENCED SUBJECT TO A PLANNING DECISION BEING MADE.

(ii) Hathern Half Pipe

To install a half pipe on recreation land owned by Hathern Parish Council. Further work was required for all partners to finalise contributions prior to the release of funding. Hathern Parish Council would be considering the matter at its next meeting.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,558.18 BE RINGFENCED TOWARDS THE SCHEME.

(iii) Shepshed Volunteer Centre

To support the Shepshed Volunteer Centre. It was reported that an agreement had been reached with Voluntary Action Charnwood as to how best the funding be utilised and specific targets had been set.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,500 BE APPROVED.

(iv) 4th Shepshed Scouts – Roof Replacement

£5,341.82 funding approved at the previous meeting of the Executive.

SOUTH CHARNWOOD (SYSTON, THURMASTON AND WREAKE VILLAGES

(i) Thurmaston Boxing Club

Funding towards new premises. It was reported that further fundraising was required.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(ii) Syston and District Volunteer Centre

To develop services in conjunction with Voluntary Action Leicestershire, to secure long term funding. It was reported that East Goscote Parish Council would be considering the matter at its next meeting.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 30TH APRIL 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(iii) East Goscote Skate Park

To provide funding towards equipment for the skate park.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 30TH APRIL 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(iv) Syston Bowling for the Disabled

To provide £3,000 for a new specialist wheelchair or £1,000 for a reconditioned specialist wheelchair.

£3,000 funding approved at the previous meeting of the Executive.

(v) Thurmaston Old School Project

Funding to part fund a programme of refurbishment.

£1,400 funding approved at the previous meeting of the Executive.

(vi) Thurmaston Events Team

Funding towards a programme of events to engender community spirit. It was reported that following the last meeting of the Executive a meeting had been held on 19th March 2010 to clarify how the funding would be spent.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £600 BE APPROVED.

LOUGHBOROUGH SOUTH WEST AREA FORUM

(i) Improved Footpath Access to the Outwoods

To encourage usage and access to the Outwoods by improving safety. It was reported that the Borough Council supported the project and that further work was required to clarify exactly how the money would be spent and that all partners had finalised their contributions prior to releasing the funding.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £9,645.40 BE ALLOCATED UNTIL 31ST JULY 2010 PENDING FURTHER DEVELOPMENT WORK.

(ii) Footpath Linking Mountfields Lodge and Ashmount

Improve access to Mountfields School from Ashmount School to extend facilities for children with special needs.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT UP TO £5,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST JULY 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(iii) Glebe House Allotment Project

To develop an allotment, including the creation of raised beds, hardcore paths and install sheds.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £4, 854.60 BE ALLOCATED.

(iv) Improving Cycle Racks Provision

To enhance cycle provision in Loughborough East.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £500 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST JULY 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

BRADGATE, ROTHLEY, MOUNTSORREL AND BIRSTALL AREA FORUM

(i) Mountsorrel Youth Cafe

To contribute funding towards a kitchen as part of a development to provide an after school meeting place and a base for clubs.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £10,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST JUNE 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED. IF THE ORIGINAL PROPOSALS WERE NOT FEASIBLE, THE MONEY BE RINGFENCED TO BENEFIT THE YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN MOUNTSORREL.

(ii) Woodhouse Eaves Multi-Use Games Area

To complete a MUGA.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £1,403.80 BE ALLOCATED.

(iii) Friends of Birstall Swimming Pool / Longslade Community College

To provide a pool cover.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(iv) Portable Speed Control Signs

To provide one vehicle activated warning sign, to be rotated around 'hot spots' in Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £3,000 BE ALLOCATED.

QUORN, BARROW, SILEBY AND THE WOLDS

(i) Barrow Graffiti Wall

To create a graffiti wall at the King George V playing fields in Barrow. It was reported that the funding had been successfully applied for through the Community Cashback Scheme.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE FUNDING BE ALLOCATED TO OTHER PROJECTS IN THE FORUM AREA.

(ii) Sileby Minibus for Young People

To purchase a second-hand vehicle to provide transport for young people to access opportunities in other parts of the Borough.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £2,500 BE GIVEN TO VOLANTARY ACTION CHARNWOOD AND BE RING FENCED FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE. AS FURTHER WORK WAS REQUIRED TO CLARIFY DETAILS ALLOCATION BE DEFERRED UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010.

(iii) Narrowboat Access at Pillings Marina

To provide a landing stage for wheelchair access.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £1,500 BE ALLOCATED.

(iv) Sileby, Barrow and Wymeswold Notice Boards and Planters

To provide a 3rd noticeboard / map and planters. It was reported that the original idea had included Barrow and Wymeswold.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £1,000 BE ALLOCATED AND A FURTHER £2,000 BE SET ASIDE UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010 TO ENABLE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD WITH BARROW AND WYMESWOLD PARISH COUNCILS RE THEIR ALLOCATION.

(v) Barrow Church Community Centre

To provide kitchen equipment as part of the development of a community centre attached to the church.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £2,000 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 30TH JUNE 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(vi) Safe Cycle parking in Villages

To provide cycle stands in villages outside public halls, recreation halls and grounds to encourage cycle use.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £1,000 BE COMMITTED (ACROSS THE FOUR VILLAGES) UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

(vii) Seagrave Cemetery Garden of Remembrance

Provision of a new garden and seating.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £750 BE COMMITTED UNTIL 31ST MAY 2010 AND THEN BE REVIEWED.

In response to issues raised and questions, S. McIntosh stated:

- (a) The allocated funding would be distributed through the Charnwood Borough Council accounts.
- (b) The sums of money would be released with monitoring forms to track the spending streams.
- (c) There had been no additional costs to oversee the Area Forum grants. The work had been undertaken by the existing members of the Community Engagement and Neighbourhood Management teams.

AGREED

1. that in respect of Loughborough East Area Forum:

- Chapman Street Gardening Group – up to £2,000 be approved;
- Shelthorpe Community Gardening Scheme – up to £5,000 be approved;
- Shelthorpe Informal Play Area - £5,500 be ringfenced to benefit young people in Loughborough East and committed until 31st May 2010;

2. that in respect of Loughborough North West Area Forum:

- Jubilee BMX and Youth Shelter – if the original proposals were not feasible, £9,000 be ringfenced to benefit the young people living in Loughborough North West;
 - Booth Wood School Soft Play Area – £4,000 be committed until 31st May 2010;
3. that in respect of Shepshed and Hathern Area Forum:
- Shepshed ABC boxing Club Noise Insulation - £3,600 be ringfenced subject to a planning decision being made;
 - Hathern Halfpipe - £5,558.18 be ringfenced towards the scheme;
 - Shepshed volunteer Centre - £5,500 be approved;
4. that in respect of South Charnwood (Syston, Thurmaston and Wreak Villages) Area Forum:
- Thurmaston Boxing Club - £5,000 be committed until 31st may 2010;
 - Syston and District Volunteer Centre - £5,000 be committed until 30th April 2010;
 - East Goscote Skate Park - £5,000 be committed until 30th April 2010;
 - Thurmaston Events Team - £600 be approved;
5. that in respect of Loughborough South West Area Forum:
- Improved footpath access to the Outwoods - £9,645.40 be committed until 31st July 2010;
 - Footpath Linking Mountfields Lodge and Ashmount School – up to £5,000 be committed until 31st July 2010;
 - Glebe House Allotment Project - £4,854.60 be allocated;
 - Improving Cycle Racks Provision - £500 be committed until 31st July 2010;
6. that in respect of Bradgate, Rothley, Mountsorrel and Birstall Area Forum:
- Mountsorrel Youth Café - £10,000 be committed until 31st July 2010 and if the original proposals were not feasible the money be ringfenced to benefit the young people living in Mountsorrel;
 - Woodhouse Eaves Multi-use Games Area - £1,403.80 be allocated;
 - Friends of Birstall Swimming Pool / Longslade Community College - £5,000 be committed until 31st May 2010;
 - Portable Speed Control Signes - £3,000 be allocated;
7. that in respect of Quorn, Barrow, Sileby and the Wolds Area Forum:
- Barrow Graffiti Wall – the funding be allocated to other projects in the Forum area;

- Sileby Mini Bus for young People - £2,500 be given to Voluntary Action Charnwood and be ringfenced for purchase of a vehicle and further details be clarified by 31st May 2010;
- Narrow Boat Access at Pillings Marina - £1,500 be approved;
- Sileby, Barrow and Wymeswold Noticeboards - £1,000 be allocated and a further £2,000 be set aside until 31st May 2010 to enable negotiations to be held with Barrow and Wymeswold Parish Councils in respect of their allocations;
- Barrow Church Community Centre - £2,000 be committed until 30th June 2010;
- Safe Cycle Parking in Villages - £1,000 be committed across the four villages until 31st May 2010;
- Seagrave Cemetery Garden of Remembrance - £750 be committed until 31st May 2010.

5. LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE REPORT

S. McIntosh gave a verbal update report as follows:

Building Schools for the Future Programme

Following an unsuccessful bid for funding, officers continued to consider a system whereby students would not change schools at 14 years of age, to ensure efficient schools and no surplus places. To that end officers would be meeting with Heads and Chairs of Governors of the affected schools to discuss the matter further.

In response to issues raised and questions, S. McIntosh stated:

- (a) Those Authorities successful in the last round of bidding had submitted more than one bid. Should another round of funding become available, it was anticipated that the County Council would submit a further bid, building on the lessons it had learnt from the previous application.
- (b) Officers continued to look at options for a new Special School in the area.
- (c) When applying for BSF funding, the rules specifically excluded details of planned growth in residential properties in the area.

AGREED that the information be noted.

6. ASTRAZENECA UPDATE

This item had been included on the agenda to allow the Executive to consider the current situation in respect of AstraZeneca.

G. Parker stated that a structure had been established for partners and stakeholders to work together. Strategic and Delivery Groups had been established, chaired by EMDA and a Communications Group, chaired by the Borough Council.

The Communications Group had met on Friday, 16th April 2010 to visit the site and develop practical ideas for the future when AstraZeneca vacated the site.

EMDA would run central co-ordination of the site, and an extranet site was being established.

AstraZeneca had explained how it was keeping its staff informed of developments, however details still had to be put in place for its supply chain.

An Economic Impact Assessment had been commissioned, the preferred consultant was expected to be appointed by 23rd April 2010, following which preliminary results were expected within six weeks, identifying options for the future of the site. The assessment would also consider the spending power of the workforce, the supply chain and its impact. It was possible that the majority of the workforce lived outside the Borough, for example in the Rushcliffe area.

In respect of the site closure, that was still planned for the end of 2011.

Further meetings would be held in May 2010, the critical group would be the Delivery Group as it worked with partners to address the main issues.

AGREED that the information be noted.

7. FUTURE EXECUTIVE AGENDA ITEMS

This item had been included on the agenda to consider items for future meetings of the Executive.

Officers made reference to the following items for inclusion on the agenda for the Executive meeting to be held on 17th May 2010:

- Olympics 2012 – with the announcement that Team GB would be based at the University an update report be submitted. V. Graham stated that there was an internal group established at the Council to consider issues relating to the impact of the Olympics locally.

V. Graham proposed that a sub-group of the Executive be established to consider local issues relating to the Olympics.

Reference was made to the Corporate Games to be held in Loughborough in 2011 and the opportunities that could create for the Borough.

In response to questions, G. Parker stated:

- (a) He would check that the shortfall for the Loughborough Eastern Gateway project had been met from the Capital Plan.

(b) To ensure the involvement of local partners the Council Group could be opened to include such representatives.

- Participatory Budgeting.
- Delivery Plan for Children and Young People
- Loughborough in Bloom – invite Andy Rush from the Loughborough Echo.

AGREED

1. that officers speak with J. Hale and C. Traill in respect of inviting partners to join the internal group considering the impact of the Olympics locally;
2. that officers discuss the establishment of a sub-group of the Executive to consider local issues relating to the Olympics;
3. that officers confirm that the shortfall in funding for the Loughborough Eastern Gateway project had been met from the Capital Plan;
4. that the following items be included on the agenda for the meeting of the Executive, to be held on 17th May 2010, taking account of decisions taken elsewhere in the meeting:
 - Olympics 2012
 - Astra Zeneca update
 - Participatory Budgeting
 - Charnwood Partnership for Children and Families
 - Loughborough in Bloom – invite Andy Rush – Loughborough Echo

8. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Dates for future meetings of the Executive, if required were agreed as follows:

17th May 2010	20th December 2010
14th June 2010	17th January 2011
19th July 2010	21st February 2011
16th August 2010	21st March 2011
27th September 2010	18th April 2011
25th October 2010	23rd May 2011
22nd November 2010	

AGREED that dates for future meetings of the Executive be held as follows:

17th May 2010	20th December 2010
14th June 2010	17th January 2011
19th July 2010	21st February 2011
16th August 2010	21st March 2011

27th September 2010
25th October 2010
22nd November 2010

18th April 2011
23rd May 2011