



charnwoodtogether
making life better

**CHARNWOOD TOGETHER BOARD EXECUTIVE
14TH JUNE 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor Mike Preston (Chair) – Charnwood Borough Council
Tony Stott – Action for a Better Charnwood
Neil Lambert – Voluntary Action Charnwood
Geoff Parker – Charnwood Borough Council
Chris Woodward – Leicestershire Police

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

S. Boud – Leicestershire County Council
V. Graham – Charnwood Borough Council
S. McIntosh – Leicestershire County Council
S. Phipps – Charnwood Borough Council

APOLOGIES: V. Griffiths, A. McInnes, C. Thomas, J. Walker and E. White

I. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2010 were confirmed as an accurate record.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Disclosures of Personal Interest were made as follows:

- (i) by N. Lambert – a personal interest in item 4 – Participatory Budgeting – as Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Charnwood.
- (ii) by T. Stott – a personal interest in item 4 – Participatory Budgeting – as the Chair of Governors at Longslade Community College.

3. CHARNWOOD PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

An update report in respect of the Charnwood Partnership for Children and Families was submitted, together with draft Development Plans for 0-5s and 5-19s tabled at the meeting. S. Boud made reference to the following:

- The total spend and commitment was the same figure as the predicted spend.
- Some allocations were outstanding, for example other health issues, including mental health and well-being and domestic abuse. Officers were working on specifications for those areas.
- The draft Development Plans were working draft documents. The 5-19s was being developed with key priorities identified. A sub-group would be meeting on 15th June 2010 to consider new actions.

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

- (a) The proposed commissioning budget had been over programmed to ensure all the available funding be used.
- (b) Officers needed to view the progress of commissioning to decide if a quick win process should be introduced to use all the available funding.
- (c) At the current time none of the funding had been identified as being at risk by the Government.
- (d) Forest Schools were a way of working outdoors with children, using the outdoor environment for exploration and free play.
- (e) The development plans would be tied in to the figures when they were finalised.

AGREED

1. that the spend on the commissioning budget up to 31st May 2010 be noted;
2. that the revised financial allocations for 2010/11 be agreed;
3. that the allocations made by the Charnwood Partnerships for Children and Families in respect of PAYP and RIRP funding be noted.

4. PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

An update report in respect of participatory budgeting was submitted for the consideration of the Executive. S. McIntosh made reference to grant applications which were requesting approval and those which required more specific consideration as follows:

LOUGHBOROUGH NORTH WEST AREA FORUM

(i) Jubilee BMX and Youth Shelter

The grant application had not been supported by local residents and a further meeting would be held on 26th June 2010 to consider an alternative application for youth provision in the area.

Reference was made to liaising with the Integrated Youth Support Services (IYSS) to consider alternative proposals.

(ii) Boothwood School Soft Play Area

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £4,000 BE APPROVED.

SHEPSHED AND HATHERN AREA FORUM

(iii) Shepshed ABC Noise Insulation

If planning permission was granted the grant application could proceed.

N.B. Following the meeting officers ascertained that a planning hearing had been held on 8th June 2010, the outcome of which was expected within seven weeks.

(iv) Hathern Half-pipe

The Parish Council was in support of the scheme.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,558.18 BE APPROVED.

Should the Executive approve the application the matter would be referred back to the Parish Council for final confirmation.

SOUTH CHARNWOOD (SYSTON, THURMASTON AND WREAKE VILLAGES)

(v) Thurmaston Boxing Club

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE APPROVED.

(vi) Syston and District Volunteer Centre

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE APPROVED.

(vii) East Goscote Skate Park

The Parish Council had not supported the scheme and discussions were taking place in respect of an alternative site.

LOUGHBOROUGH SOUTH WEST AREA FORUM

A number of schemes were awaiting input from the Highways Department.

BRADGATE, ROTHLEY, MOUNTSORREL AND BIRSTALL

(viii) Mountsorrel Youth Cafe

Officers were trying to progress the application.

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

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £5,000 BE ALLOCATED.

(x) Portable Speed Control Signs

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £3,000 BE ALLOCATED.

QUORN, BARROW SILEBY AND THE WOLDS

(xi) Sileby Minibus for Young People

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £2,500 BE ALLOCATED.

(xii) Noticeboards

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £1,000 BE ALLOCATED TOWARDS THE SILEBY PROJECT.

(xiii) Wymeswold Trim Trail

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT £1,847 BE ALLOCATED.

AGREED

I. that the following grants be approved:

Loughborough North West Area Forum – Boothwood School soft play area - £4,000;

Shepshed and Hathern Area Forum – Hathern Half-pipe - £5,558.18;

South Charnwood (Syston, Thurmaston and Wreake Villages) – Thurmaston Boxing Club - £5,000;

South Charnwood (Syston, Thurmaston and Wreake Villages) – Syston and District Volunteer Centre - £5,000;

Bradgate, Rothley, Mountsorrel and Birstall - Friends of Birstall Swimming Pool / Longslade Community College - £5,000;

Bradgate, Rothley, Mountsorrel and Birstall - Portable Speed Control Signs - £3,000;

Quorn, Barrow, Sileby and the Wolds – Sileby Minibus for Young People - £2,500;

Quorn, Barrow, Sileby and the Wolds – Noticeboards - £1,000 for the Sileby project;

Quorn, Barrow, Sileby and the Wolds - Wymeswold Trim Trail - £1,847.

2. that information in respect of ongoing grant applications be noted.

5. LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE REPORT

S. McIntosh made reference to a report submitted to Leicestershire Together on 14th June 2010 (copy filed with the agenda). He stated that following the Government announcement on 10th June 2010, the LAA reward grants would be cut back, as would the CAA regime. It was unclear at the present time what would replace the CAA or the number of funding streams that would cease. Leicestershire County Council had made cautious assumptions for its medium term financial strategy, but they may not be prudent enough. The situation appeared to be severe, however LCC wished to work with partners in consideration of outcomes.

Officers stated that a view in respect of current projects needed to be taken as soon as possible.

AGREED that the information be noted.

NB Following the meeting S. McIntosh circulated the following information:

As part of the local government funding cuts announcements today the new Government has decided that they will be paying only half of the original reward grant promised from LAA1. In Leicestershire's case this looks like we will only get £4.2m of the £8.4m originally promised. We are presently looking at the implications of this for the Leicestershire Together financial strategy. However, some of the current year 2010/11 LAA2 expenditure is funded on the basis that this reward would be payable.

Our advice at the moment is therefore not to commit to any new expenditure in relation to posts/appointments or contracts until the financial strategy and priorities are reviewed. There is no need, from what we know at present, for concern about the need for the partnership to withdraw or stop existing activity that is currently committed and underway.

6. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND LEARNING DELIVERY GROUP

The item had been included on the agenda to consider the future plans for the Economic Growth and Learning Delivery Group and ways forward. At the invitation of the Executive, Paul Fileman attended the meeting to assist with the consideration of the item.

P. Fileman stated that following concerns in respect of the delivery group he had raised the issue at the last meeting of the Board, as the Group had not met for six months and the Loughborough Chamber of Trade and Commerce was keen to see the group re-energised. He made reference to the work being undertaken by the Head of Regeneration and current trends, which, should they continue result in the Borough being a dormitory town.

The following issues were raised and comments made by members of the Group:

- (i) Reference was made to the County wide Economic Development Strategy and the Charnwood Strategy which would be submitted to Cabinet shortly. Members should be cautious of the net outward migration figures, however there was a planning issue in respect of available employment land in the Borough, which would form part of the Local Development Framework. Given the Government's recent decisions, officers needed to learn more of the new regime and planning framework with new timescales.
- (ii) There were large areas of education to be addressed by the group, as well as the issues raised in respect of business.
- (iii) The membership of the Group could be widened to undertake the work of the Group.
- (iv) A representative from Prospect Leicestershire had attended a previous meeting of the Board and it was anticipated that they would cover the void left by the retirement in August 2010 of the Director of Loughborough Regeneration.
- (v) The Delivery Group required administrative support.

AGREED

1. that the concerns raised in respect of the Economic Growth and Learning Delivery Group be noted;
2. that G. Parker take steps to re-energise the Economic Growth and Learning Delivery Group.

7. CHARNWOOD TOGETHER BRANDING AND LOGO

A verbal update report in respect of work being undertaken to promote Loughborough through branding and a logo was given by G. Parker.

A branding project had been established. A consultation process with partners had taken place, with the support of Martin Peters of Leicestershire Promotions and a proposition was being compiled. Once the proposition was completed a further consultation event would take place with partners. Once the branding had been finalised logos would follow.

To date the feedback from the proposals had been positive.

AGREED that the information be noted.

8. ASTRA ZENECA UPDATE

This item had been included on the agenda to allow the Executive to consider the current situation in respect of AstraZeneca. G. Parker made reference to the following:

- A structure was taking place:
Strategy and Delivery Groups, chaired by EMDA
Communications Group, Chaired by Charnwood Borough Council.
- Preparation of an economic assessment of the closure of AstraZeneca was being undertaken by SQW.
- AstraZeneca did not anticipate a serious change in the number of employees until the end of 2011.
- Work was being undertaken in respect of property related options for the future of the site.
- An interim report was expected during June 2010. Following that report a task force would meet.
- The closure would impact on the supply chain and local economy.

S. Boud reported that because of the situation at AstraZeneca M. Hanney was unable to continue as a Board representative on the Charnwood Partnership for Children and Families and a replacement would be required.

AGREED

1. that the information be noted;
2. that an item be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board to nominate a representative on the Charnwood Partnership for Children and Families Group.

9. OLYMPICS 2012

A verbal update report in respect of local plans for the Olympics 2012 was given by V. Graham. She stated that the Council Olympic Group would meet on 17th June 2010 to consider matters further.

Members were requested to consider the establishment of a Charnwood Together Olympic sub-group, ensuring there would be links with existing groups.

AGREED

1. that the information be welcomed;
2. that a Charnwood Together Olympic sub-group be established.

10. LOUGHBOROUGH IN BLOOM

It was reported that the judging date for Loughborough in Bloom 2010 would be Tuesday, 6th July 2010.

AGREED that the information be noted.

11. 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 future meetings of the Executive:

- The future of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and relating County SCS, including the Charnwood Chapter of the County SCS. To be considered either at the July or August 2010 meeting.
- The Charnwood LSP Strategy be brought forward. To be considered at the September 2010 meeting.
- Government funding decisions could affect major schemes in Loughborough, for example the Loughborough Eastern Gateway. An update report to the next meeting of the Board.

AGREED

1. that items for future meetings of the Executive be as follows:
 - The future of the Sustainable Community Strategy, the County SCS and the Charnwood Chapter of the SCS be submitted to either the July or August meeting of the Executive;

- The Charnwood LSP Strategy to the September meeting of the Executive;
2. that an update report in respect government funding decisions taken in respect of major schemes in Loughborough be submitted to the September meeting of the Board.

9. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Dates for future meetings of the Executive had been agreed as follows:

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

AGREED that dates for future meetings of the Executive be noted.