

**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Joint Ward Alliance**  
**Notes of meeting held Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014.**  
**The Hoyland Centre**

**Present:** Cllr Chris Lamb, Cllr Mick Stowe, Cllr Robin Franklin, Neil Spencer, Dave Graham, Anne Sanderson

Wendy Slater (Senior Locality Support Officer)  
Joan Whittaker (Alliance Secretary)

**Apologies:** Kate Faulkes, Fiona Tennyson, Albert Bishop, Ian Warhurst, Cllr Emma Dures

Cllr Chris Lamb chaired the meeting.

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Anne Sanderson was welcomed and introduced to the meeting. She will be representing Neighbourhood Watch.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

There have been some positive comments about the television screen and the meeting was informed that Amanda Bradshaw was the person to contact regarding items they wish to appear.

**3. Promotion of Ward Alliance Funding.**

**Bid from Rockingham Band**

Concern was expressed about inclusivity. No evidence was seen that the band is making any effort to reach out into more deprived communities and households within the areas covered by the alliance. Instrument loan and tuition for young people would be beneficial.

There is a perception that the band and its members are somewhat insular and there is no evidence of engagement with the wider community. If there were instrument loan schemes and/or tuition for younger people, then this would be beneficial and evidence a wish to engage with the community.

Concern was expressed as to whether they offer any free concerts within the community. When questioned prior to the meeting the answer was that they do not and, in fact, they charge for all concerts.

After very considerable discussion it was felt that the other ward councillors should look at the bid. If unsuccessful, we should invite them to make another bid addressing the issues raised.

At this point, due to a prior engagement, Anne Sanderson left the meeting.

## **Bid from Forge Community Partnership – Job Club**

Cllr. Franklin declared an interest. Following the presentation at the last meeting, Neil Spencer outlined the things that they had looked at when preparing the application. To aid the discussion a summary of the presentation had been circulated to members.

Neil explained how they had looked at ways they could extend and enhance the work club provision currently offered. At the moment they offer three work club drop ins. One at Hoyland Library on a Thursday, one at Milton Hall and one in Barnsley centre which were developed as targeted intervention for people over 50 returning to the labour market. Part of the application is to strengthen the work club provision by developing volunteers to act as enablers to recruit volunteers, to help anyone new who comes along to the work club to be looked after, meeting and greeting, introduction to how it operates, because at the moment this is delivered principally by John Lang who works on our behalf. John covers all three work clubs.

That raises a point of vulnerability because if John were to be ill, there isn't, at this moment, the capacity for anyone to step into that void and continue the sustained work club activity. Therefore, the enablers would develop that capacity and would provide that provision. We would also seek to enhance what is currently being done by creating a third work club in this area, but the fourth one under Forge, to have a presence in the Rockingham area, so that there is an even spread from Milton Hall to Hoyland Centre, Hoyland Common towards Birdwell, subject to establishing an appropriate venue, to continue to meet people's needs.

This comes at a time when the local authority provision that is funded to operate in Blacker Hill and in the Jump Children's Centre providing advice, information and guidance is much more targeted now to the mandated individuals, so anyone who finds themselves looking at possibly guiding them through the application process. This is what we are aiming to support from our funding submission

Working on a roughly 22% success rate helping people into employment over the previous three years that the work club has been running, it has got a strong track record.

Cllr. Lamb said that the thing that caught his attention when the papers were originally circulated is that the success rates are greater than four times those of the government sponsored work programmes which have a success rate of only 3.5% and are funded by the tax payer. The benefits to our local community are that when people go into work they then spend in local shops. There is clear evidence that where people are working there is more likelihood that their children will develop that work ethos.

It was pointed out that when somebody has been out of work for any length of time, then you are actually scared to put yourself forward for interview. Self confidence is crushed. There is a huge amount of benefit to be gained from nurturing the skills needed to apply for positions in the work place.

Cllr. Lamb said that he felt there was a general atmosphere of agreement in the room to this application. It was also said that this fits the criteria of the Ward Plan.

The bid was recommended to the area council.

**Publicity Flyer.**

Wendy drew to the attention of the meeting that colleagues in the north of the borough had produced a flyer that outlined what the Ward Priorities are and what the Ward Alliance funded. We are being pressed from above about the amount of money that is left in Ward Alliance funds on the grounds that there is a discrepancy over whether we can carry it over or not. The issue is that the council might reduce the budget in future years if the money is not spent in this financial year.

It was agreed that we should publicise it to community groups to encourage them to apply.

Wendy was asked to draft something and email to members.

**4. Love Where You Live**

Prices for Merchandise

Suggest the Ward Alliance should keep merchandise

T Shirts	25 t-shirts	£250.00
Hi Vis Vests	25	£117.50
Woolly Beany Hats	100	£207.00
Fleeces	25	£325.75

All above inclusive of printing, embroidery and delivery.

With t-shirts, it would not be expected that people would hand them back, so we would need to order many more than 25, and in varying sizes. The Hi Vis vests should be handed back after use.

Investigate whether the existing Hi Vis Vests can be printed on.

Agreed to order fleeces and t-shirts in varying sizings

**5. Potential projects to address priorities.**

It was felt that it important to focus on projects aimed at young people. The idea of an internet café was put forward. Another idea was a creative art project and Cllr. Lamb agreed to take this forward. Neil mentioned working with Youth Council – one of the difficulties is looking at impartial venues that could embrace all age groups. Andy Hodgkinson was keen on opening up a Youth Club in Jump but came across legislative difficulties.

**6. Request from Tesco to attend next meeting.**

Tesco has requested the opportunity to address the Ward Alliance. They are keen to become involved with the community. The opening date has been brought forward to 18<sup>th</sup> September. All vacancies are now on web site.

Agreed to invite Tesco to the next meeting.

**7. Section 106 update**

Agreed that this was not for discussion at this meeting.

**8. Any Other Business**

There was no further business.

**9. Date and time of future meetings**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

All meetings at Hoyland Centre at 17.00 hours.