



**Minutes of Meeting of Worthing Together held on
24 January 2006 in the Gordon Room, Worthing Town Hall**

CHAIR	✓	Farhang Tahzib
SECTORAL GROUPS		REPRESENTATIVE
Voluntary Sector Forum	✓	Julia Carrette
Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership	✓	Roy Barraclough
Worthing First	✓	Roger Foregard
Local Planning Group for Community Health and Social Care (& Housing)	✓	Tony Chasteauneuf
Worthing Learning Network	✓	Trish Tame
Culture and Leisure	A	Jo Hutchinson
Transport and Environment	A	Richard Wells
INVESTORS IN WORTHING		
Worthing Community Partnership	A	Jane Claxton
Area Investment Framework	✓	Paula Welland
YOUTH ORGANISATION		
WSSC Youth Service	✓	Shirley Robinson-Viney
FAITH GROUPS		
Churches Together in Worthing	✓	Mike Tyler
NEIGHBOURHOOD CHAMPION		
Worthing Council of Community Assns	✓	Ian Richardson
LOCAL AUTHORITIES		
Worthing Borough Council	✓ ✓ ✓	Cllr Ann Barlow Cllr. Bob Smytherman Tim Everett (non-voting)
West Sussex County Council	✓	Cllr. Colin O'Neill Phil Edwards (non-voting)
OTHER MAJOR ORGANISATIONS		
Adur, Arun & Worthing PCT	✓	Catherine Scott
Worthing & Southlands Hospitals Trust	A	Martin Pearson
Sussex Police	✓ ✓	Insp Steve Eldridge (from 10.45 am) Sgt Andy Westwood
OBSERVER		
GOSE	A	John Crow
SUPPORTING OFFICERS		
WSSC	✓	Clare Gardiner
WBC	✓	Tina Favier
WBC	✓	Julian Carrington
WBC	✓	Anne Jones
WBC	✓	Clare Mangan (from 11 am)

1. The **Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 October 2005** were agreed as an accurate record.

2. **Matters arising not on the Agenda**

There were none.

3. **LSPs – Shaping their Future (ODPM Consultation)**

i. **Headline issues and arrangements for responding**

Julian referred to the briefing note circulated with the agenda. He commented that it is encouraging that LSPs appear to be here to stay. The consultation covers their role, status, governance, accountability and capacity to do what is required. The duty of local authorities to initiate and facilitate the community planning process is emphasised. Partners' attention was drawn particularly to page 3 of the briefing note, 'Key Implications for *Worthing Together*'.

There was some discussion around the proposed 'duty to co-operate' and 'duty to involve'. These terms are also used regarding the new Children Act duties and there seems to be some latitude in their definition and interpretation, depending on whether one is an 'involving' or 'co-operating' organisation.

Farhang emphasised that partnership working stands or falls by the commitment of the partners, not the amount of resources at the LSP's disposal. Partners do have money – the need is to focus resources on the Community Strategy key priorities. It was, however, agreed that in some organisations there is a tension between delivering government and local priorities.

Mike raised the need for better external communication and collaborative research amongst partners. The consultation paper also suggests that district LSPs may be the best organisation to facilitate engagement of local neighbourhoods.

It was agreed that a future meeting of the steering group should address the issue of neighbourhood engagement.

Concern was also expressed that the West Sussex Local Area Agreement was shortly to be signed and that it would therefore be difficult for a refreshed Community Strategy to impact on it.

ii. **Feedback from National Event**

Julia distributed some 'Notes for LSP from ODPM LSP Consultation Event January 2006' further to her attendance at an event in London on 17 January. Headline issues included:

- the divergence of LSP agendas and the 4 LAA blocks (Children & Young People, Healthier Communities & Older People, Economic Development & Enterprise and Safer and Stronger Communities)
- shared performance management across LSP Partner organisations is helpful to the process as are pooled budgets
- many LSPs need to work harder to involve the private sector.

Action by all partners: Comments on the consultation document to Julian by **Friday, 17 February 2006** for inclusion in *Worthing Together's* joint response. Partners were requested not to follow the questions in the document but to give their reactions to the main proposals.

4. Progress on West Sussex Local Area Agreement (LAA)

Farhang updated the meeting on the LAA. There are 22 broad outcomes and target areas. District LSPs are the lead organisation for Outcome 22: 'To improve the quality of life in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods'. In Worthing these are Central, Heene, Selden, Durrington and Northbrook wards. West Sussex has £1.5 million pump priming money and £7-10 million reward grant (from PSA 1 targets successfully met). *Worthing Together* will be involved in working on a geographical focus to the LAA which currently comprises whole county targets. The LAA, particularly Outcome 22, will need to be taken into account in the emerging LSP Programme of Work.

Catherine briefly outlined the Rapid Appraisal work Brighton University is undertaking in conjunction with the PCT. This will triangulate available information from health, housing, CDRP etc with new interviews with key informants to provide an evidence base for action in deprived neighbourhoods. A report will be produced by April.

Action: Farhang to bring paper on implications of LAA for *Worthing Together* to next steering group meeting

5. Feedback from Partnership Event

Thematic group representatives (aka sectoral groups) have been requested to take the feedback from the Partnership Event to their thematic groups and identify whether the three priorities identified are 'high' level where multi-agency partnership working can add value and fill gaps or 'low' level which address the 7 goals identified in the Community Strategy but do not require the input of additional partners to succeed.

Action: Thematic group representatives to feed back above information to Community Planning team as soon as possible

Ann Barlow commented that she would like to see the next annual *Worthing Together* event to be held in a deprived ward and to be open to the community.

6. Feedback from Transport Sub Group

i. Taking Forward the Transport Priorities

Roger reported that the transport sub group meeting had met in November and January. A report had been circulated with the Agenda. The group is also seeking to make contact with the Worthing 1st transport group lead to avoid duplication. Julia will also be addressing a future meeting of the transport sub group on community transport.

Building on the 22 November Partnership Event, four potential areas of activity have been identified:

Lobby Government regarding the A27

Lack of bus provision in the evenings and at weekends
Encouraging walking and cycling
Investigate a re-trial of late night bus scheme (see next item)

Farhang commented that the PCT has money to take forward the Active Worthing Project to encourage everyone to walk and cycle more.

Action: Dr Jeff Lake to share information on Active Worthing Project with partners and indicate areas of co-operation.

Tim commented that the Masterplanning process should lead to a more integrated transport system and attention was drawn to the public consultation event in the Guildbourne Centre on Saturday, 28 January.

There was some discussion on the recommendations that the Transport sub group requested that *Worthing Together* submit to the Masterplanning process and it was agreed that the recommendation should come from the sub group rather than the steering group.

Action: Roger to write a letter to EDAW with the Masterplanning suggestions and a letter re the A27 to the Highways Agency

Farhang commented that it was very useful for sub groups to feed back to LSP steering group meetings.

ii. **Late Night Transportation**

A summary report concerning late night transportation and a copy letter from the CDRP and Cllr Ann Barlow to the Campaign Co-ordinator of the 'Remember Hayley Campaign' for reinstating the 'night bus' had been circulated with the Agenda to the meeting. Tina outlined the reason the CDRP had made a formal request to the steering group of *Worthing Together* to consider the issue of late night transportation in developing its transport proposals. Roy had attended the January meeting of the Transport sub group where the issue of late night transportation for vulnerable intoxicated young people had been discussed but it had been agreed that this was greater than just a transport issue and agreed with the CDRP's referral to *Worthing Together* as a whole.

Those present agreed that this was indeed more than a transport issue and also involved educating people to take responsibility for their own behaviour and journey home and reinforcing the duty of pubs and clubs not to serve intoxicated individuals. There also seems to be a need to educate people on other ways to have fun apart from getting drunk. It was also suggested that 'the evening economy' needs need to be mapped before specific options like a night bus are discussed. Tim said that there is a need to find out the impact of the new licensing laws on the local night time economy to establish whether the current licensing controls are right.

It was agreed that

- a) a re-trial of the late night bus scheme was not appropriate as the CDRP, *Worthing Together's* source of expertise in this area, had found that the scheme did not meet wider community safety concerns.
- b) *Worthing Together's* Transport sub group would continue to research the provision of late night public transport.

c) the wider issue of the safety of young people generally could be looked at in taking forward the LSP Youth Focus (see below)

7. **LSP Youth Focus**

Tina explained the background to her request to consider the issue of youth work co-ordination in developing the LSP's future programme of work. She is concerned that there is no forum for youth projects in the voluntary sector to share information and to work together. There also seem to be gaps in certain age ranges, geographical areas and types of provision.

There are also a number of county-wide initiatives eg the current consultation on the Children's and Young People's Plan and the implications of the 2004 Children Act to take into account.

Farhang suggested that a 'Youth Summit' with service providers and young people might be a good way forward.

Action: CP Team to organise a meeting to explore this idea.

8. **Communications Sub Group**

Farhang reported that Hannah Goss at the PCT is working hard to pull together an LSP Bulletin. Deadline for receipt of articles is 26 January 2006.

Partners were also reminded to publicise the *Worthing Together* website www.worthingtogether.org

9. **West Sussex Stronger Communities Fund (WSSCF) Update**

Farhang reported that no one had attended the planned meeting and therefore a further meeting would be arranged to bring a proposal to the steering group for spending this money.

Action: Julian to arrange a further meeting

10. **Standing Items**

i. **Local Development Framework**

Clare Mangan gave a powerpoint presentation on progress so far. The deadline for comments on the LDF Issues and Options 'Core Strategy' and 'Unlocking Development Potential' Consultation Document had now passed. *Worthing Together* will draw together a collective LSP response to the Preferred Options paper which is being prepared on the basis of the consultation responses at the Steering Group meeting in May.

ii. **Worthing Masterplan**

Julia distributed a paper on progress so far – the consultants, EDAW, are currently consulting on 3 possible scenarios involving low, medium or high levels of change. The report will be publicised in March. Worthing First is intending to hold a Big 50 Employers Conference in early April at which the Masterplan can be publicised to local businesses.

iii. **Area Investment Framework**

Paula reported that the AIF Board Meeting agenda will be circulated to LSP Chairs and Co-ordinators 14 days before the meeting to facilitate input from LSPs via their nominated representative on the Board (Melva Bateman from Chichester District Council)

iv. **Worthing County Local Committee (CLC)**

Phil Edwards reported that 40 people attended the first meeting in December which tackled mainly highway issues including 'joy riding' at Splashpoint and footway servicing. The next meeting will be held at Durrington Community Centre at 7 pm on Tuesday, 31 January. Cllr O'Neill is the link between the Worthing CLC and Worthing Together.

11. **Any Other Business**

i. **Annual Report**

Julian encouraged partners to distribute copies of the Annual Report to their networks.

ii. **Appointment of LSP Business Manager / Partnership Support Officer**

Farhang reported that he is still actively working on a job description for this post.

iii. **Partners' Events**

15 Feb Youth Advisory Group meeting – Julia will circulate details

2 March Anti Bullying Conference – details from WBC Community Safety

iv. **Recovery Project**

Tony reported the good news of successful lottery funding for this project. However, funding continues to be an issue.

8. Dates of Future Meetings

All meetings will commence at 10 am and will be held in the Gordon Room, Worthing Town Hall.

Tuesday, 7 March 2006

Tuesday, 16 May 2006

Tuesday, 11 July 2006

Tuesday, 19 September 2006

Tuesday, 14 November 2006