



**Neighbourhood Management Programme
Working Group – Comeunity Opportunities
South and Central Yarmouth
Held Wednesday 18th February 2009 - 10.00am – 12.00pm
At Neighbourhood Centre, King Street, Gt. Yarmouth**

MINUTES

Present

Cora Batley	Resident	Comeunity Forum
Sally Chicken	Chief Executive	Rainbow Saver (Credit Union)
Rosie Marler	Learning Manager	Gt.Yarmouth Community Trust - Priory
Valerie Pettit	Councillor	GYBC
Ben Sampson	Co-Ordinator	Target Opportunities

Also present:

Leon de Beer	Neighbourhood Officer – Facilitator	Comeunity Neighbourhood Management
--------------	--	------------------------------------

Apologies

Christine Chalmers	Training Officer	College in the Community. Community Connections
Paul Cheeseman	Acting Head of Services	Voluntary Sector Partnership
Rob Gregory	Neighbourhood Manager	Comeunity Neighbourhood Management
Julie Stevenson	Project Officer	Rainbow Saver (Credit Union)

- 1. Welcomes/
Introductions** Leon welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table.
- 2. Minutes of last
meeting** The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.
- 3. Matters Arising** January Communication Campaign

Leon de Beer presented group with examples of artwork that went onto Billboards, PIPs and Adshels.

Working Neighbourhood Fund

Leon de Beer reported that Rob is very involved with Working Neighbourhood Fund processes and undoubtedly raised this issue.

4. **Delivery Plan Progress**

Leon de Beer presented group with monitoring update (refer to spreadsheet)

Target Opportunities

Ben provided additional report; and reported that they are now effectively tracking progression routes.

Yourmouth

The group has secured 80% funding for interim edition. The next edition will include a large section about the St. Georges Theatre developments.

Soft Skills Workshops

Rosie Marler advised that these have been very effective and are crucial.

Credit Union

Sally Chicken updated the group, Neighbourhood Management membership is currently at 82. Credit Union will be doing lots of promotional work in February and March, including new leaflets. Valerie Pettit invited Credit Union to the Friends of St. James meeting and asked whether people who joined are immediately eligible for loans. Sally advised that they have to save for 3 months to be eligible for a loan, except in special cases where welfare arrangements apply.

Sally asked why Credit Union was not notified of the Working Neighbourhood Fund registration process.

Action: Leon de Beer to ensure all staff are aware regarding loan eligibility process , should they get asked.

CAB

Leon de Beer explained that this was discussed at the Wellbeing Working group and is probably not going to happen due to costs and training implications.

5. **Delivery Plan 09/10**

Leon de Beer asked group to consider priorities and potential projects for 09/10, bearing in mind very limited funding and Working Neighbourhood Funding commissioning. The following were identified as potential projects:-

- Volunteer Centre

Integrating Volunteer Centre into delivery plan and establishing linkages with projects.

Action: Leon de Beer to invite to next meeting.

Credit Union

This to be moved to the Wellbeing Working Group as it was felt that there are clearer linkages and would benefit more, also linked in better to delivery plan. However, any training and volunteer related matters will continue to be linked into Opportunities Working Group. Neighbourhood Management will continue to provide free desk space as a contribution towards the Credit Union.

Action: Leon will follow up with Rob to confirm this in writing.

Training

For residents preparing for employment (First Steps) offer the following:-

- Soft Skills
- Skills for life (Maths and English)

The group felt this is essentially and Working Neighbourhood Fund should be approach to fund this in the Neighbourhood Management area.

Job Centre Plus

Closer links needs to be established to ensure their outsourcing of contracts are benefiting local residents, and if not, try and improve. Possibly invite to future meetings.

Linkages

The group felt that time should be spent linking training and other service providers up more effectively especially Target Opportunities and Priory but also invite other providers to Working Group meetings as a forum for discussions. The development of a single referral form for agencies working in South Yarmouth was suggested (Target Opportunities to lead)

Training Resources

(Web-based and for reception desk)

Training and opportunities information needs to be easy to use and accessible for local people, hosted on Comeunity website and reception desk in the Neighbourhood Centre.

LSP guide to local organisations

The group wanted to know whether this will be published, and if so, it

could inform some of the work.

It was agreed that a draft delivery plan will be presented at the next meeting to be populated (bearing in mind that there should be more clarification on Working Neighbourhood Fund then.

5. **A.O.B.**

Sally Chicken

EEDA awaiting funding to deliver Financial Capabilities training – CAB could receive this and Rainbow Saver Credit Union to delivery. The Priory was also put forward as a provider.

Sally pointed out that there was a difference between Rainbow Saver-Anglia Credit Union (RSACU) and Norfolk Credit Union and that this sometimes causes confusion for local residents..

Action: Leon de Beer to make staff aware.

Postal Voting

The Co-op is offering postal voting, this involves customer surveys being sent out to people registered on the postal voting, they include questions about community engagement , which could help get money directed to community activities.

Follow the link to web-site below for further information regarding the Co-op and how they can offer assistance to the community.

http://www.eastofengland.coop/data/usercontentroot/incs/membership_and_dividend/Community_Dividend.asp

In 2010 a Government incentive is being introduced to award persons on benefits/JSA/Tax Credits with £300, if they have savings. Leon de Beer suggested this could be a good marketing tool for Credit Union.

Action: This item to be brought to the next Wellbeing Working Group meeting

6. **Time/Date of next Meeting**

Date: 7th.April 2009

Time:10am-12pm

Venue: Neighbourhood Centre.