



**Neighbourhood Management Programme
Working Group – Comeunity Together
South and Central Yarmouth
Held 3rd. March 2009 - 11am – 12.30pm
At Neighbourhood Centre, King Street, Gt. Yarmouth**

MINUTES

Present

Michael Blank	Resident	Comeunity Forum
Vincent Gray	PCSO	Norfolk Constabulary
Rob Gregory	Neighbourhood Manager	Comeunity – Neighbourhood Management
John Holmes	Councillor	Norfolk County Council
Jamie McGarrity	Resident	Comeunity Forum
Jo Macintosh		SeaChange Arts
Holly Notcutt	Community Development Worker- Facilitator	Comeunity Neighbourhood Management
Valerie Pettit	Councillor -Chairperson	GYBC
Sarah Rowley	Resident	Comeunity Forum
Heather Wright	PSCO	Norfolk Constabulary

Apologies

Valerie Cadmore	Community Cohesion Officer	GYBC
Chrissy Chalmers	Team & Development Coordinator	Community Connections
Michael Collins	Community Development Team Leader	Community Connections
Joy Cosaitis	Resident	Comeunity Forum
Lisa Crook	Tenants Participation Officer	Community Housing - GYBC
Sarah James	Programme Manager	SeaChange
Raychel Marcus	Lead Youth Support Worker	Norfolk County Council – Youth Team

1. **Welcomes/ Introductions/ Apologies** Valerie Pettit chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Minutes of last meeting** Agreed and approved as accurate
3. **Matters Arising** **Mayors Civic Awards. Previously Item 4. Project reports – Pg 2, brought forward to Matters Arising on last minutes. (05/01/09) St. Nicholas Recreation Ground – Revolution Skate Squad**

Enquiries have been made re the Skate Squad, but so far no response has been received.

My Place Bid Item 4, Project Reports, Pg.3.

It was suggested that the group work to encourage links between the My Place project bid, St. George's development and Great Yarmouth library. This is to ensure all works are co-ordinated and complimentary. Potentially include in the 09/10 delivery plan.

4. Project (08/09) progress Reports/updates

- **Youth Engagement Worker**

No report received.

Action:

- **Community Development**

Targets were explained and discussed. So far there has been an emphasis on getting new residents involved in the programme activities.

Target of 150 new residents is short by 11 people. Discussion resulted in recognising the actual number reached has been an achievement, and deciding that 150 should not be aimed for just to reach the target.

Jo Macintosh suggested linking in some Comeunity Forum activities with the Café culture project through SeaChange.

- **Cohesion**

The consultation on the strategy is out. It will be launched at the VSP conference, and activity commissioning to be determined next year.

Events

TCMF – Town Centre Music Festival

Concerns were raised regarding the management of the event and also the finances. Monitoring returns are currently incomplete.

Concerns around financial management of future events. Suggestion to work on a new format if future events are to be funded, ensuring there is not a repeat of the current experience. Agreed that it still needs to be accessible for community based groups but could potentially include the following:-

- Checklist for small groups
- The scale of the event should be deemed manageable for the coordinating group.
- Track record needs to be taken into account, and potential support given where possible.

OutThere Festival

Jo Macintosh reported the outcomes of the project and highlighted the successes and plans for next year.

Out There International Festival 2008 report

- GYBC investment levered in additional £115k external funding (NB this would have been £0 without the local investment in the core festival)
- Additional EU funding may still be levered in via retrospective Interreg bid
- Over 30,000 people saw events over the whole week (despite terrible weather at weekend)
- Over 600 local people taking part as performers, volunteers, workshop participants ranging from 3 to 85 years old
- Very extensive press coverage across several preceding months + event itself
- 95% of audience surveys rated acts as 'excellent' (most common comments 'too short', 'would like more' etc)
- Audience analysis shows wide mix of ages, cultural groups, economic groups, Borough residents and visitors
- Audience survey - over 80% recognised diverse mix of cultures and agreed celebrating diversity and internationalism was positive and relevant for Great Yarmouth
- Local businesses (market traders + range of cafes/bars/hotels) involved report positive impacts
- Trust built with local communities and particularly Portuguese cafes etc - e.g. Forum Coffee House reported increase of English visitors to its otherwise migrant-worker clientele following its presence in Festival Tent and talking with local people
- Festival has acted as gravitational focus point for communities and artists (e.g. professional set designer from National Theatre Lisbon working Bernard Matthews working on Dende project), which has otherwise been lacking
- Use of international artists in residencies also building trust with local communities
- Most common comments: "fantastic", "what Yarmouth needs", "why has it taken so long", "do it every year"

Strategic Development in 2009 and beyond

- Interreg bid - 592,000 Euros for GY (from 2008-2011), matched in principle largely by GYBC - outcome in June
- St George's/King St - direct strategic relationship between this landmark capital development of a Cultural Quarter and festival
- Opportunities for domestic UK tourism to benefit from downturn but English Tourism study has highlighted that in this climate the 'free public cultural offer' that individual resorts

offer will play an important part of their ability to compete with each other - Out There good example

- Event move to Sept 19/20th (better weather)
- Cultural Partnership/SeaChange launching pilot 'cafe culture' programming and marketing project to sell GY's diverse and good value cafe offer (partners including English and international cafes/bars in place following festival - some of these struggling and welcome any support during downturn)
- Role of Cultural Partnership/GYBC in building the event as a key focus (greater involvement of sports + heritage) in context of longer term development of stronger year-round culture/events offer
- More use in 2009 of Market Place, Regent rd, Seafront (ie InteGreat performance spaces and links) and St George's Park
- Building of year-round programme of projects, training and volunteering leading to festival (strength of 2008)
- Strong emphasis on building of local skills and employment in this programme (building on good models from elsewhere)
- Continued emphasis on building community ownership and involvement in festival, working with professional artists (e.g. plans for huge choreographed parade with over 1000 local people to launch festival + other participatory events)
- Orchestral series - other events being built along side festival and PROOF that cultural offer can find a market here for non-traditional GY visitors that has been undeveloped for 30 years (visitors from as far as Hertfordshire)
- Need to galvanise long-term strategic support (links with Interreg and St George's vital) - to maximise potential growth, external levered investment and benefits to GY - events of this scale are traditionally programmed and developed in excess of 1 year in advance in order produce best event, biggest audiences and financial return to the local economy and community involvement (so we need to get cracking!)

- **Facilities**

St. Nicholas Skate Park

The plan was presented to the group and a brief update given on current status of project. Group are currently awaiting the start date to be confirmed.

Middlegate

Dorset Close refurbishments have commenced. Middlegate Community Association is underway with works on refurbishing the Tolhouse Street building.

- **Capacity building and skills for empowerment**

The sessions held in 08/09 were useful but more needs to be invested into building the capacity of local residents.

5. **Delivery 09/10**

The group covered a brief list of priorities, highlighted in the chart below:-

Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth • St. George's project
Development and Capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD Work – additional focus on distanced travelled. Include more qualitative targets. • Training – Emphasis on ensuring new residents have the capacity to get involved further.
Cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory Budgeting pilot – need to look at how we could allocate funds. • Emphasis on cohesion and ensuring local people can influence the spend of cohesion money, relating to what they think is cohesions. • Events.

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

None

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

Date: 5th. May 2009
 Time: 10.30am-12.00pm
 Venue: Neighbourhood Centre.