

**Partnership Meeting**

**Notes**

**21st November 2018,**

**St Ambrose’s Social Club,**

**7.00 pm to 9.00 pm**

1. **Present:** Bethany, Jayne, Brenda, Robert, Adrian, Mark, Matthew, Helen, Michael-Conroy Harris

**Apologies:** Siri, Jo, Steve, Susie, Vander, Sarah

2. **Notes** from October meeting read and approved.

3. **Conflicts of interest** on agenda items for this meeting – none

4. **ContinU Plus – Domestic Abuse project** – Michael-Conroy Harris discussed what ContinU was and the project that they are currently working on, looking at the impact of Domestic Abuse in children who are in local schools. Around 15% of 8,000 children in secondary schools are living with Domestic Abuse, out of the eight secondary schools in the area. Michael told us that they were in the process of bidding to the lottery for funding a project specifically for boys and young men in schools, to tackle toxic masculinity and other issues within society including social media and porn, in order to face the issue head on and develop ways to solve the problem at a young age. Creating groups of 6-10 teens from each school, to help them resist negative types of behavior and help nurture them. We agreed that this was a worthwhile project, although questioned as to how the funding that we supplied to ContinU is being spent in the area. Jayne is to get in touch with Rob Chadwick to find out more information and ask for a report to find out what they are doing this year in our area with that funding. It was also discussed that Michael had a lot of great ideas, but no information as to how he would implement them further. Helen also mentioned that in Brookside Big Local, they work with a local programme ‘Freedom’ that targets schools and helps to prevent young people from getting into abusive relationship and helps them to understand what signs to look out for.

5. **LTO St George’s Finance Report** – Robert shared a document with the partnership, showing a clear outline as to where funding is going and how much we are spending per month. They spoke positively about how great it was to finally have a clear idea and agreed that going forward, we will always have a finance report on number 4 of the agenda.

6. **Reviewing the Plan – Update** – We reflected on the success of Saturday’s plan review day and how much progress we had made, particularly in looking at the key themes towards the end of the day. Jayne circulated the key themes, having removed points that aren’t relevant anymore, with plenty of room to add in new points for next year. We decided that it would be useful to group together on an evening to sort out these themes and any other relevant documents. We agreed on a date for our ‘themes evening’ of 29th November, 7pm at Brenda’s house. Jayne/Beth to ask other Partners if they would like to attend. It was also discussed as to how we could ensure that the new plan is right for the local residents and is what they want. The idea of a focus group was put forward and all agreed that it was a fantastic way to find make sure the new plan was for the people. A focus group evening will be planned for January at St Ambrose, in which all groups and individuals that we have given grants out to will be invited to attend. The 7th February was chosen as a date. Beth to email Joel from St Ambrose about this. It was also agreed that we will focus on looking at our new plan for Decembers Partnership meeting.

6. **Sladen View Lease – Update** - Brenda told the partnership about the meeting she had with Home Start Wyre Forest about potentially holding the lease for Sladen View and the Big Print Shop office space. Everyone was delighted about the prospect of this, and felt it would be a really positive outcome, only strengthening our relationship with them. Nick Parker from Community Housing and Brenda are to attend one of Home Start’s meetings on the 11th December to discuss further. Jayne and Beth are to work on an SLA draft between Big Local DY10 HGB and Home Start for both spaces.

7. **Santa in Sion Hill**. Beth confirmed the date and timings for our Santa in Sion Hill event on 6th December, and invited partners to join her and Jayne to help support on the evening by distributing coins to the local children. She explained that like last year, it will be in partnership with Broadwaters SNT, and is currently contacting local supermarkets and high street stores for chocolate coin donations.

8. **Social Inclusion Project – Nancy Begum.** It was discussed by the partners how important it is to get the Bangladeshi community involved in Big Local who live in our area, and to support them where we can, potentially kick starting another local group and helping them learn valuable skills. The request for a social inclusion group was looked at again and ideas were put forward as to how we could lower costs and make the grant more affordable and on the partnership’s terms. A proposal was put forward with the conditions that: the project will take place in Sladen View (therefore there will be no transport costs) in the new year when central heating is put in, Big Local DY10 will purchase appropriate sewing machines which will be stored in Sladen View and be a community asset available for use by other groups and residents, it will be an initial trial period of 12 weeks. Should it prove successful, it may be continued, but at a much lower cost, with the focus on community inclusion. Beth and Jayne will monitor the outcome and visit the group too. It was agreed unanimously.

9. **Item from Grants Committee – Susie - Mental Health First Aid/Mood Masters.** We had been approached by Home Start to put on a Mood Masters course for their families based in Sion Hill and saw this as an opportunity for Susie to teach the course in a safer environment with support. It was agreed by the partnership that we need to do more in Sion Hill and that this would be a perfect way to start, it was also recognized as a need in the area and could be a coping mechanism for everyday issues. A proposal was put forward that Home Start would commission Susie to deliver the Mood Masters course through their organizational structure, to families living in the Sion Hill area. This was proposed by Matthew and seconded by Adrian.

10. **Terms of Reference –** It was agreed to have a fresh look over our Terms of Reference and skills auditing in January’s partnership meeting.

11. **Ben Comm – Update**. After some discussion at the plan review day on the 17th November, concerns were voiced about the idea of the Ben Comm and how we have no way of guaranteeing that the organisation will take on the lease of Sladen View for us. Adrian added to this, reiterating the fact that the partnership will have no say in the Ben Comm and that once it is up and running, it will run itself. The partnership agreed with these points as there are more risks within a Ben Comm linked to the situation in our area and decided to look at other options again which are more suited to us. Helen recommended that we look at the Co-operative’s website for advice in relation to different options and it was also suggested to ask people what they would want our new organization to be during our focus group in February.

12. **A.O.B.**

a) Matt Leach, Chief Executive of the Local Trust has got in touch and would like to do a feature for Big Local on Horsefair and Proud and what they have done for the area.

b) Horsefair and Proud Painting Project – It was unanimously agreed that the partnership are happy to go ahead and support this project, and that it is monumental in regenerating the Horsefair and building positive community cohesion.

Our next Partnership meeting (and last of the year!) will be on the 19th December 2018 at 7pm.