

The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Partnership Steering Group
held at Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX
at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 17th July 2002

PRESENT

Members of the Steering Group

Councillor Merrick Cockell (Chairman) - Leader of the Council (The Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea (RBK&C))
Zrinka Bralo - Representative for Education & Employment (Voluntary Organisations Forum (VOF))
Councillor Timothy Coleridge - Cabinet Member for Housing (RBK&C)
Steve Crow – London Central Learning & Skills Council
Councillor Keith Cunningham - Leader of the Minority Party (RBK&C)
Jed Davies – Forum of Faiths
Pat Deacon - Kensington & Chelsea Residents Association
Graham Downes - Kensington & Chelsea Social Council
Paul Haigh – Kensington & Chelsea Primary Care Trust
Menghi Mulchandani - Action for Disability Kensington & Chelsea
Dez O' Neill - Representative for Children and Young People (VOF)
Celia Rees-Jenkins - The Kensington and Chelsea Societies
Malcolm Spalding - Kensington & Chelsea Chamber of Commerce
Karin Woodley - Representative for Arts and Culture (VOF)

Others in attendance

Mark Beauchamp – Research & Consultation Manager (RBK&C)
Louise Matlock - Government Office for London
Paul Morse - Assistant Chief Executive
Derek Myers - Town Clerk & Chief Executive (RBK&C)
Tony Redpath - Director of Strategy and Performance Improvement (RBK&C)
Colin Richardson - Head of Economic Development & Strategic Partnerships (RBK&C)
Robert Sheppard - Governance Services (RBK&C)
David Winchurch – Winchurch & Chesterman (Consultants)

A G E N D A

A1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Nicholas Paget-Brown (RBK&C) and Ch. Supt. Moir Stewart (Kensington & Chelsea Police).

A2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23RD MAY 2002

The three VOF representatives present asked that greater efforts be made in future to reflect in the Minutes the range of views and comments made at Steering Group meetings. The Steering Group as a whole endorsed this, but agreed that the minutes should not attempt to provide a verbatim attributed record of the points made by members.

Members were reminded, in this connection, that they were most welcome to comment on the draft minutes when these were first circulated (usually around three weeks following a Steering Group meeting).

Action by: Robert Sheppard/Ali Khan

The Steering Group commented that the term 'various needs' was a more appropriate term than 'special needs' in the context of minute 6(v).

Subject to the above, the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2002 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

A3. LAUNCHING THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL STRATEGY

The Steering Group agreed that every opportunity should be taken to raise the profile of, and level of public understanding about, the Partnership and its important role.

The Steering Group agreed that the 'The Royal Borough' newspaper should carry an item on the launch: in this connection the Borough positively welcomed any text that Steering Group members might wish to submit for inclusion.

Action by: RBK&C Communications Dept. and VOF representatives

The Steering Group welcomed the suggestion that the Council explore the possibility of assisting partner organisations to incorporate links, in their existing websites, to the Kensington & Chelsea Partnership website. It was noted that this help might simply amount to clear written instructions on how to effect such a weblink.

Action by: Tony Redpath

A4. DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL STRATEGY

VOF representatives expressed concerns about the effectiveness of the advance consultation with interests other than the Council on this Strategy and asked that consideration be given to how this might be better conducted in future.

The Steering Group agreed with Cllr. Cunningham that specific mention of World's End be removed from the third bullet point at paragraph 2.2, as it might give the impression that this area was the only one that would

be considered for 'priority area' designation after Golborne and St. Charles. A full list would have to also include Colville, Earl's Court and the new Notting Barns Ward.

It was agreed, in relation to transport links (Appendix 1, pages 1-2), that the aim should also be that transport provision should be of sufficient quality, truly accessible to all.

Concerns were expressed that the 'Renewing our Neighbourhoods – Summary of Progress' publication was inaccessible, on account of the colour scheme and small type, to some people with visual impairment. The Council, as publisher of the document, undertook to produce it in an alternative typeface etc. if any individual requested it.

The VOF representatives and Cllr. Cunningham expressed various concerns, in relation to the Action Plan, that 'the train had already left the station' and that the voluntary sector were not yet 'on board': the VOF representatives felt that the voluntary sector had not thus far been sufficiently included in the planning and delivery of the Strategy; that the 'lead partner' allocations had already been divided up between the statutory partners; that hopefully, in due course, some additional resources might flow towards the voluntary sector as responsive, local delivery agents for parts of the Strategy; and that a more meaningful style of 'partnership' be developed, so as to foster new, more inclusive, methods of working between the voluntary and statutory sectors. The Leader of the Council offered further discussions, but said that what was needed was positive suggestions for change rather than reactive criticism.

Mr. Myers, in trying to help, reminded the Steering Group that the Action Plan was not a spending plan for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, but rather a 'shopping list' of the Partnership's priorities for 'bending' the existing and future spend of the main statutory agencies to better address the various challenges identified: this could well incorporate alternative, more effective, ways of delivering existing mainstream services through the voluntary sector; but such ideas needed to be put forward for debate.

The Steering Group welcomed the Chamber of Commerce's willingness to undertake some 'capacity building' amongst businesses in the north of the Borough.

Pat Deacon asked to be sent details of the 'Headstart' programme referred to on Appendix 1, page 7.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted, but that continuing progress on the Action Plan be discussed further at the next meeting.

Action by: Tony Redpath and Colin Richardson

A5. ROYAL BOROUGH REVIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

Malcolm Spalding asked to be sent a copy of the Council's 'Visitor Management Strategy'. He welcomed the proposal at 5(c) on page 6 for the establishment of a development company.

Action by: *Tony Redpath*

Subject to the above, the report was received and noted.

A6. PERCENT FOR ART

The Steering Group thanked Dez O'Neill for his report and asked that, as proposed, a more detailed report be submitted to a future meeting.

Action by: *Dez O'Neill*

A7. PROPOSALS FOR THE 2002 BOROUGH CONFERENCE

A single sheet 'Borough Conference Plan' (a copy of which has been placed on the Minute Book) was circulated round the table. Zrinka Bralo gave Steering Group a brief update on the planning of the Conference, indicating that the six workshops proposed were environment and transport; homes and housing; health; safer communities; learning and leisure; and work and business.

The Steering Group agreed the following:

- That the proposal for the use of prominent local 'Conference champions' be supported;
- That the success of the Conference required that all Partnership members actively promote the Conference in advance within the local community;
- That the induction loop/audio system needed to work effectively;
- That officers consider showing the new Disability Rights Commission video as part of the event;
- That special attention be given to interpretation and signing requirements;
- That possible commercial sponsorship of the event, including sole and/or multiple sponsorship, be actively and responsibly pursued; and
- That Zrinka Bralo and Mark Beauchamp be thanked for their work in planning the Conference.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That, subject to the above comments, the plans for the Borough Conference be endorsed; and

- (ii) That Council officers be asked to pursue commercial sponsorship of the event and to bring back proposals in this respect to the next meeting.

Action by: Zrinka Bralo and Mark Beauchamp

A8. UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIMARY CARE TRUST

At Paul Haigh's suggestion, the Steering Group agreed that this item be held over until the 5.30 p.m. briefing session on 24th September (see minute A9 below).

Action by: Paul Haigh

A9. PROPOSALS FOR THE STEERING GROUP AWAY DAY

A single sheet 'Local Strategic Partnership: Awayday' (a copy of which has been placed on the Minute Book) was circulated round the table.

David Winchurch addressed the meeting. He undertook to send all Partnership members a copy of his note setting out the principal findings emerging from the recent interviews with members. In due course he would produce a matrix showing what were emerging as the important issues for each member.

The Steering Group agreed that:

- 'groundrules' should be drawn up, as suggested, for the awayday;
- Derek Myers and Similola Towry-Coker be also invited to come on the awayday;
- a short session for Partnership members be arranged for a date prior to the awayday to (a) provide members with an outline of what a 'local strategic partnership' is; and (ii) to enable each member to provide a brief 'biography' of their nominating organisation and its role and mission/objectives;
- copies of the Community Development Foundation's 'The Local Strategic Partnership Guide' be circulated to Steering Group members; and
- that it was not appropriate to invite local Members of Parliament to participate in this event.

It was noted that Dez O'Neill would probably be unable to attend the awayday.

RESOLVED-

- (i) That, subject to the above, David Winchurch's proposals for the awayday be endorsed; and

- (ii) That a half-hour session be arranged, as proposed above, for 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 24th September, i.e. immediately before the next Steering Group meeting.

Action by: David Winchurch and Tony Redpath

A10. LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT – PROGRESS REPORT

A single sheet 'Local Public Service Agreement Progress Report – Update on Voluntary Organisation Involvement' (a copy of which has been placed on the Minute Book) was circulated round the table.

The report was received and noted.

A11. REVIEW OF THE ACCREDITATION ACTION PLAN

RESOLVED -

That the recommendation be adopted.

Action by: Tony Redpath

A12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of future meetings, as set out on the agenda, were noted.

The meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman