

## **Minutes of the Community Meeting held in Stockwell Community Resource Centre at 7.00pm on 17 February 2009.**

Those present:- Lucy Annan (Chair), David Clarke, Vic Phillips, David Prichard Jones, Neville Fleming, Victor Glaser, Ailsa Newby, Ahmed Omar...

In attendance:- Leah Levane, Francis Saldhana, Gerry Evans (LbLambeth); Sam Potter, Luke Jackson (DSDHA); Ian Sesnan, John McCay (minutes) (Stockwell Partnership)

Apologies were received from: Molly Kenlock, Rebecca Gibbs, Sarah Rose, Cllr Pete Bowyer.

1. The Chair welcomed the attendees and everyone introduced themselves.

### **2. The Report on the Urban II Programme.**

2.1 The Chair introduced Francis Saldhana from Lambeth Council who has replaced Adam Platts as the manager of the Urban II programme.

2.2 FS stated that the programme envisioned to develop an enterprising community had lived up to that lofty aspiration. It was a community led initiative whose key achievements included reduced unemployment, 23,618 square metre of improved public space, over 99% of the £7m budget was spent, and 110 local groups benefitting from small grants.

2.3 FS acknowledged the major part played by Stockwell Partnership in the potential Local Government Chronicle award and beacon status and thanked the management team of Adam Platts, Pal Luthra, Ian Parker and George Wright and the Urban II Board of local community representatives, chaired by Lucy Annan, for their dedication and diligence in screening and selecting from the many funding applications.

### **3. The Future Stockwell Framework**

3.1 Sam Potter introduced the FSF stating that it had sprung from the work of the community researchers who had interviewed nearly 1000 local residents before DSDHA drafted and consulted on the document and the project list.

3.2 SP stated that the project bank focused on potential improvements to the public realm.

### **4. Stockwell Neighbourhood Action Plan**

4.1 Ian Sesnan introduced the SNAP, stating that it was intended to be living document and it proposed how the community would work together under the new neighbourhood arrangements.

4.2 IS announced a community meeting set for 16 March 12.00 – 14.00 to further discuss the details of the FSF and the SNAP.

### **5. Community Buildings Study**

5.1 Sean Creighton presented his study and highlighted the diverse nature of both the buildings and their activities. SC stressed the need for core funding to maintain, service and meet the full running costs of these buildings.

5.2 SC stated that with large development plans for two adjacent neighbourhoods (Vauxhall and Nine Elms) there would be opportunities for income from planning gains made by the developers.

5.3 IS announced that there was a planned meeting of the local voluntary sector groups to discuss the Community Buildings Study on Monday 23 March 12.00 – 14.00.

### **6. Announcements**

6.1 The Chair thanked Adam Platts, Pal Luthra and the Community Researchers for their outstanding contributions to the Stockwell area through the Urban II programme.

6.2 The Chair asked the assembly to tell IS at the break what topics or projects the Stockwell Partnership should champion. It was also suggested that they could write them down and hand in the paper to anyone with a Stockwell Partnership badge.

6.3 IS announced that the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Forum would be at St Anne's Church Hall, South Lambeth Road (opposite Vauxhall Park) on 30 March starting at 18.30.

6.4 Gill Walshaw, a cellist, from the Lambeth Music Service announced that under the "In Harmony" programme awarded to Stockwell and two other locations in England to use music to explore creativity and aid bonding, there would be a Musical Fun Day on Friday 20 February on Lansdowne Green Estate between 14.00 and 19.00. The programme will target pre-school children and their parents. All local people were welcome to attend the Fun Day.

6.5 Oz Khan from St John's announced activity sessions for 8 – 21 years old on Fridays between 18.00 and 22.00 and Saturdays between 14.00 and 18.00.

6.6 Roz Borley added that activities continued at St John's on week days for 5 – 13 year olds having an hour's maths and English tuition in a creative setting and for all ages healthy eating sessions on Thursdays between 10.30 and 12.00 and line dancing on Fridays.

6.7 Zaia Meiabet announced that she is running courses for the unemployed leading to NVQ level I and II in volunteering for the 2012 Olympics at the SCRC.

6.8 Ailsa Newby announced that St Anne's Youth Club were running a youth club on Thursday evenings at which table tennis, football, snooker and homework support were all available.

6.9 Pal Luthra expressed thanks to all of the members of the Urban II Board, mainly local community representatives, for all the valuable time donated to make difficult decisions about applicant projects.

7. The meeting broke for networking and refreshments. Again the band played.

## **8. Lambeth Communities and Neighbourhoods**

8.1 Leah Levane head of Communities and Neighbourhoods at Lambeth Council who stated that her unit had replaced the old town centres and comprised of 14 staff of whom six were neighbourhood development officers and three of whom were area information officers. LL stated that Lambeth Local Strategic Partnership is looking at differing models of neighbourhood working and her unit was targeting "worklessness" for 2009/10.

8.2 LL stated that her unit was seeking information to build a fuller picture of current neighbourhood activities to better match demand to existing provision.

## **9. Community Partnerships**

9.1 Gerry Evans, Lambeth Council Capacity Building Officer in the Active Communities unit stated that she was working with 10 existing partnerships/forums in Lambeth in the Lambeth Forum Network. GE introduced the Norwood Forum who were new to the process and had come to observe.

9.2 GE conceded that there was little funding for her work but that 2 additional staff were being recruited to assist with the task. GE stated that Lambeth Council had plans for 5 Expositions in the borough next year with three pilots, one in each of the three areas.

## **10. Questions from the floor**

Q: Do you agree that forums are a good mechanism for keeping Councillors in touch with constituents?

GE: Yes

Q: Have any themes arisen from the Forum Network?

GE: Yes. A youth engagement sub group has been set up.

Q: Is there a forum for Vassall?

LL: In this area only Myatts Fields is not covered by a forum.

Q: What is the status of the Sustainable Communities Strategy?

LL: It has been adopted by the Council and the LSP is taking it forward.

Q: Do you agree that post credit crunch, worklessness reduction targets can not be met?

LL: The targets were set by the Government Office for London and there are no plans to revise them.

**11. Councillors Panel**

Councillors Imogen Walker (Stockwell); Pete Robbins (Larkhall); Steve Bradley (Vassall); and Robert Banks (Oval) fielded questions from the floor.

**12.** The meeting ended at 9pm with the band again playing