

GREENWICH PARTNERSHIP

BOARD MEETING

Held on Thursday 20th September 2007 at 6 PM at Devonport House, King William Walk, Greenwich, SE10

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Peter Brooks, Greenwich Council (Chair) (PB)
Christopher Jarratt, Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police (Chair for second half) (CJ)
Reverend Martyn Coe, Greenwich Community Network (MC)
Rosa Goncalves, Greenwich Community Network (RG)
Steve Nelson, Chamber of Commerce (SN)
Jigs Chana, Chamber of Commerce (JsC)
Jonathan Louth, SE London Chamber of Commerce (JL)
Amanda O'Brien, Greenwich PCT (AO'B)
Malcolm Rodrigues, Learning Skills Council London East (MR)
Mark Maddison, JobCentre Plus (MM)
Adrian Tallett, Change Up Greenwich (AT)

Advisors:

Makhan Bajwa, GCRE (MB)

Observers:

Andy Mitchell, Government Office for London (AM)
Harcourt Alleyne, Acting Assistant Chief Executive (Policy & Partnership) (HA)
Jill Crumpton, Co-ordinator Greenwich Partnership (JC)
Natasha Walker, Office Manager, Greenwich Partnership (NW)
Graham Verge, Greenwich Council, Principle Support Officer (GV)
Mike Hows, Greenwich Council (MH)
Matt Delaney, Greenwich Council, Head of Sports Legacy (MD)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Chris Roberts, Michael Chuter, Greenwich PCT, Wendy Dibdin MBE GAD, and Mary Ney, Chief Executive Greenwich Council.

Minutes of meeting on 21st June 2007

The minutes for the previous Board Meeting held on 21st June 2007 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

(Chronology of Consultation DLR update)

Following a query at the last meeting where Wendy Dibdin asked whether GAD were consulted when the DLR held consultation regarding disabled access.

The DLR had provided a chronology of consultation activities that were circulated amongst the group. The DLR also confirmed that they had not consulted GAD. JC has passed the DLR GAD's details.

2. Main Items

2.1 Greenwich Strategy (JC)

JC introduced the final draft of the Greenwich Strategy and outlined the changes since the last Board meeting in June.

MB had some comments on the Greenwich Strategy. The Chair asked if they could be emailed to JC. The updated Greenwich Strategy 2006-2015 was agreed.

2.2 Greenwich Action for Voluntary Services (GAVS) Update (AT)

AT advised that at this stage GAVS are looking for initial subscribers who will set up the organisation and recruit a Chief Executive in March 2008. To date they have had significant interest from a cross section of people within the sector too.

SN asked if GAVS had a dialogue with East London Business Association (ELBA). He said that ELBA could help find initial subscribers from local businesses.

The Board noted the progress made.

2.3 Local Area Agreement update – (GV)

GV gave a brief update on the LAA. He explained the timetable for negotiating targets to be included in the new LAA from April 2008. The first stage of the process was to establish the local outcome priorities, which will influence the choice of which of the 200 national indicators should comprise our “up to 35” LAA targets. The new national indicator set itself would not be clarified until early in 2008, although “headline definitions” were due to be published as part of the Government’s Comprehensive Spending Review announcements expected in October 2007.

GV advised that the aim was to confirm our local outcome priorities with the Government Office for London (GOL) by the end of the 2007. Discussions on this were being taken forward through the LAA Officer Group and other partnership forums, including meetings of the strategic partnership boards during October and November. It was agreed that the draft priorities would be brought back to the December meeting of the Greenwich Partnership Board for final endorsement.

The new LAA targets will be negotiated with GOL during the first quarter of 2008. The Greenwich Partnership Board would have an opportunity to consider these at its scheduled meeting in March 2008. Once agreed, the LAA outcome priorities and targets will provide the focus for partnership working over the next three years.

AO’B – said it was clear that the LAA will reflect the community strategy and will be reported through the LAA and then the LSP. She was not sure how the structure went for things that are not LAA.

JC said that other decisions will go to the LSP Board. The Partnerships already feed in to the LSP on other things and any partners can ask for things to be added on the agenda at any time. The diagram in the draft Greenwich Strategy should be amended to show this.

GV added the concept of LAA is shifting. LAA targets will be areas for improvements. He suspects the majority will contribute to high level agreement targets and will form part of the LAA.

JsC stated that parts of the Greenwich Strategy will not be in the LAA. The LAA reports back to the LSP. Targets and outcomes would be good to have in order for them to have something to look at, evidence to be seen, targets in line with etc. Making sure each block supported is the only way LSP can be accountable. How do we get targets?

GV agreed there should be key targets on LAA. They will sit as a collection of targets (everyone responsible).

JC stated the initial list of targets will be agreed by LAA officers.

JsC stated it would be good to know in advance what we are agreeing to, regarding the LAA. He added that some council work does get dropped off. He would like to know what are, are not targets. He gave an example that LB Bexley were not doing targeted things. He feels a lot more work is being put forward but it needs transparency.

JC added that we would send the information on LAA out to everyone in advance.

2.4 Greenwich Developments (MH)

MH gave a presentation on Developments in the Greenwich area.

The main areas highlighted included;

The Peninsula – Over and above the residential development at the Millennium Village and MDL, which will provide over 1400 residential properties, the importance of the O2 entertainment centre is an important resource for the South East region. In addition the planning applications for Ravensbourne College and the Peninsula office development which have been agreed and will provide over 2,500 new jobs. Finally, the development of John Roan Secondary School. The Peninsula will take 15-20 years to complete.

The Greenwich Hospital - A site which has been secured by EP and will be developed by First Base. They are working with EP to develop a mixed use scheme with up to 700 new homes and the Council's new service centre for the area. The Greenwich centre will provide access to all council agencies in one place i.e. leisure, health, and library.

Wharf Development - areas of river frontage past its prime and related to the industrial age that is no longer. Planning applications are in place looking at new residential, offices and retail opportunities in order to modernise the waterfront.

Various sites in West Greenwich and around Greenwich Town Centre – A number of sites are either in development, have secured planning approval or are seeking it. The New Haddo site which is the redevelopment of a poorly designed Housing estate around Greenwich Station is an example.

The meeting welcomed the update and noted the considerable amount of leading edge regeneration activity taking place in the area. Some of the issues discussed included:

Transport

- More use to be made of the river
- Noted the impact of the Jubilee Line and DLR
- Need to do more in relation to Car use and congestion
- Timetable for Waterfront Transport
- Need to progress with North South transport links

John Roan School

- Need to understand wider context of BSF proposals in relation to population and future School Capacity

Cutty Sark Gardens and Pier

- Need for an update to be provided – MH agreed to provide.

Chair had to leave and handed the chair over to (CJ).

2.5 Olympic Update (MD)

MD introduced himself to the group and briefly gave an update on plans for the Olympics.

Greenwich is holding a surprising amount of events, our venues are already in place eliminating construction works. Greenwich Park has the very popular equestrian events going on there and the backdrop will look iconic.

O2 currently is a good resource for entertainment with the Basketball finals and other key events being popular. We have a number of youth contenders in the Olympics that will boost Greenwich in areas of Judo and Gymnastics, Shooting will take place at the Royal Arsenal Barracks. Greenwich already has a department that currently co ordinates and ensures buy in from directorates and services. The Olympics team have set up groups; Olympic strategy group with corporate directors, to steer the Strategic plan, which filters into the officers group. Some already deal with Transport etc but they all have a stake in delivering the action plan. Transportation meets with all other groups/services. They all link in via the action plan and delivery. Our Tourist destinations are of world importance.

The journey times within London from North to South at present are difficult. They are currently trying to improve this in line with 2012. The clear vision is to maximise opportunities for people who work and live in Greenwich. They are also working with other partners, trying to strengthen relationships with other agencies.

They are currently working on 17 Key Tasks that the Borough is to deliver as a collective. We will arrange for copies to be sent out to the LSP.

Overall the Olympics have brought a great deal of success to Greenwich. LETF is in place to secure employment, training and sports related programmes and opportunities. The Diversity Toolkit was then created to reflect how all work should reflect diversity. They are looking to raise money for young athletes. The Starting Blocks Charitable Trust is also in place for support for young athletes. The sportathon had 2000 children from over 57 schools participating. Under the Building Schools for the Future programme, they are looking at building 5 new schools and enhancing them, 2 have been done already. Thomas Tallis is looking to build a martial arts centre and gymnasium combined. The facilities in Greenwich are already unrivalled anywhere else, we are the most improved Borough overall. Local businesses have also secured contracts at a low level for the Olympics.

AT raised a question and asked if the voluntary agencies have been involved.

MD responded that they were working with GLLAB through pre volunteering opportunities. The difficulty is timing as they did not want to create a buzz for opportunities and then not have the places for voluntary work, they need to be clear on what the redeployment strategy is first.

AT felt that it was important that the Borough's voluntary groups are linked with that.

JL raised a question on behalf of Wendy Dibdin in relation to wheelchair use.

MD responded that it would be fully accessible.

MR asked about the Basketball Academy proposal. He added that promoting young people has given 2012 a key target.

MD responded they had a strong bid that they were very keen to review. They were currently ironing it out and looking to repush it through.

AO'B asked about stakeholders. Is it an intention to continue to hold low key events/presentations? And what discussions have been held about participation as there seems to be a partnership in place but not using their expertise.

MD added that we needed expertise to help us, and that the stakeholder events can be useful.

CJ asked how liaising with the young people was going?

MD added badly, it's something we would like to put on the ECM agenda, also finding out what youth would like to do and their plans for the future.

CJ suggested the use of the internet.

JsC said local business had secured local contracts. 4 local companies currently contract in the Olympics Park, JsC asked was that all? What specifically is being done to ensure that Greenwich private sector is aware of events that will happen within Greenwich?

MD answered that procurement for contracts was not let yet. The smaller ones are secured and they are looking at how they can work with local business to ensure they work well.

JL suggested adding Greenwich Business' onto the database. He added it was good to have knowledge of the database as to where to start. We hope different types of contracts are secured and also work done around young people who are not academically gifted.

RG talked about community involvement and said that young people would be interested. A youth forum would find interest.

MD agreed with engaging young people more positively.

SN added we should strengthen relationships with the chamber and stated that they were in contact. They are getting regular emails from ODA. Local businesses have to look at sub contracts from other larger businesses.

3. AOB

1. **JL Issue with DLR** – consultation is complete on our side, but it does not stop with 'wheelchair access' they have not chosen materials or designs and that will make a big contribution on consistencies.

JC we have given over details for GAD and suggested that DLR contact them to consult.

JL would like to see a detailed consultation.

2. SN asked what was happening to the Greenwich Pier. It has fallen into disrepair, the Cutty Sark was lost with the fire incident but we need to look at the area more closely to create a powerful impression.

3. Chair asked if we have the site at the O2 for cruise liners.

MH responded saying that it had been considered, but not agreed.

4. JsC added that the perception of crime as to where we are now looks hostile within Woolwich and Greenwich town centres.

Chair responded that he agreed that this could be the case in Woolwich, but was not so in Greenwich. Gun crimes are down 20% this year but they were not succeeding in Vehicle crime and Domestic Violence, they are working to publicise awareness.

5. JsC added that he has seen a rise in the number of 'yellow' incident signs around town and added that they create a perception.

Chair answered that sometimes they are left out too long and most responses are within the first two weeks.

6. AO'B - Health Care for London consulting on changes to local hospital configuration and community settings. Consultation will start later this year, with the NHS setting up a strategy. The NHS is not allowed to consult but the PCTs have to. Work is going on across all PCTs in London. In December consultation will start and Michael Chuter has offered a presentation at the next LSP board meeting. There is very robust evidence around healthcare funding and health model guidance which Michael Chuter will present at the next board meeting.

7. MR said LSC Consult in October with Bexley, Lewisham and Greenwich decision to merge 3 colleges into 1, but still retaining the campus', to look at skills and planning as the budget was getting tighter.

Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.

Meeting closed at 7:45pm.

Venue for next board meeting is likely to be the new Eltham centre.