

Minutes of Partnership Meeting

Venue	Monkton Community Hall
Date and Time	6.30pm, Wednesday August 6th 2008
Approved by Chair	

In Attendance

Community Sector:-

Pearl Llewellyn (Chair); Angie Meredith; Ald. Dillwyn Davies; Maggie Hart;

Voluntary/Business Sector:-

Dot Lloyd (Monkton Voice); Pauline Waters (Monkton Priory Church Mother's Union); Liz Jenkins (Priory Farm); Michelle Bateman (Monkton Swifts); Vanessa John (PAVS)

Statutory Sector:-

Sinead Henehan (PCC)

Communities First Support Team:-

James Roach John (Communities First Co-ordinator)(Minutes)

Absent

Community Sector:-

Nicola Cowan; William Rees; Bev Stephens; Tracie Batchelor; Keith McNiffe.

Voluntary/Business Sector

Julie Rice-Harvey; Alison Beaumont

Statutory Sector:-

Pam Owen (Health Challenge Pembrokeshire); Jayne Kemsley (Jobcentre Plus); Pembrokeshire Community Safety Partnership

1. Apologies

Community Sector:-

Michelle Ferrier.

Voluntary/Business Sector:-

Audrey Thompson.

The Chair thanked those members in attendance for giving up their time to attend this Special Meeting, which was called to discuss the future funding of the Communities First projects in Monkton.

The Chair asked all members to ensure that no discussions were held across the table and that the meeting was to be kept in order.

2. Project Expressions of interest.

i). Springboard.

The members expressed their support for the project, with the majority of community members having received some form of training from the project.

It was queried if members were required to express an interest with respect to voting for the project. The Co-ordinator stated that in this case it would be prudent to not to do so, as it would not be possible to take a vote, as insufficient voting members would be available. Sinead Henehan however felt as the Pembrokeshire County Council representative at the meeting it would be appropriate for her to declare an interest as PCC deliver the project. This was accepted by the members.

Discussion followed regarding the level of funding provided, as members felt that the project deserves more support. The Co-ordinator explained that as with previous applications we had been requested to submit like for like funding, and so the figures indicated a 3% increase from the current funding.

Concern was also expressed as the project relies heavily on match funding through Convergence, and if this is not secured it may have a detrimental effect upon the project delivery in the community.

Action – Co-ordinator to contact the Assembly’s regional team to highlight the concerns of the Partnership re funding, and to request the possibility of an increase in the CF provision.

The Chair asked if members were happy to submit the Expression of Interest for the Springboard Project. This was moved by Pauline Waters, and seconded by Ald. Dillwyn Davies. Members voted unanimously to submit.

ii). Tanyard Youth Worker.

The Chair stated that a number of members had points to raise, and so asked members to give their opinions in turn regarding the project.

The following concerns were raised;

- Current funding is for a full time position and Monkton does not receive full time provision in the community. Members therefore feel that the Tanyard is being subsidised by Monkton Communities First, and Monkton should

be getting a better service for the money paid as one night a week in the community is insufficient.

- It was felt that no changes or progress have been seen in the community resulting from the funding. Figures quoted in the Expression form are for the Tanyard, and are not specific enough for the work done in the community itself. The Expression form also uses targets from the Communities First Action Plan, without any project specific targets being identified.
- The delivery in the community has been affected by instances such as the closure of Clouds earlier in the year, with no immediate effort being made to find an alternative venue for delivery. Concern was also raised regarding the lack of provision resulting from illness or holidays. The Partnership felt that this was unfair on the young people of the community, as the CF funds are in place to fund the provision and not the person. If the identified person is unavailable therefore, someone else should be able to provide the service.
- It is believed that the children who currently attend the Tanyard do not attend the Monkton youth club, and so the presence or lack of funding would not have any effect directly upon these young people.
- Concern was raised regarding the level of training and support provided to the community members who volunteer to help the youth club in Monkton. It was felt that no provision was in place if an accident occurred, due to training needs of the volunteers, who undertake an unfair amount of work for no pay.
- Members felt that the original bid was unclear, and now wish for new terms to be considered, as the satellite provision is no longer appropriate.
- It was felt that other venues in the community such as the Church Hall and the Swifts could be utilised for the youth club to meet if the Community Hall is booked, and it is not acceptable for this to be used as a reason for the club not to meet.
- The current reporting structure was stated to be confusing and unhelpful. Members stated that they have requested on a number of occasions for actual figures to be presented in line with the structures used by Springboard, so giving a clear and concise report of what the funds have been used for. The Co-ordinator responded that the project is meeting with the conditions of the current bid, and conceded that changes to the reporting structure are to be made for the whole of the Communities First programme, which are to be presented to the September meeting. Members requested more accurate figures to be provided, including a breakdown of activities.
- Members felt that no effort has been made to engage with the Tenants and Residents Association, which are targets of the current bid, and expressed concern at this. The desired outcome would be a better service for the young people of Monkton.
- It was queried if the local authority would be able to provide any support if the current project was not continued. Sinead Henehan stated that it was unlikely that PCC would be able to help, due to the local youth provision by Tanyard being supported by PCC, but she agreed to discuss with colleagues in the authority report back to the Partnership.

Following this discussion, the Co-ordinator requested the Partnership instruct him regarding the way forward. Members agreed that they were unhappy with the current Expression Form and so were not prepared to submit. It was requested that the Co-ordinator contact the Tanyard with the following conditions for consideration;

- as the application is for full time hours, the members requested an increased provision in the community to 3 sessions per week (including evenings and weekends, to be agreed between the Tanyard and the Partnership).
- concerns have been raised regarding missed sessions as a result of holidays, illness etc as the Partnership is effectively paying for full time provision and not the actual post *per se*. The members are therefore requesting that the provision to the community will be guaranteed for no less than 50 weeks per year, with an agreement that cover is in place for holidays/illness, so ensuring that the weekly provision of 3 community sessions as above will be provided for.
- a breakdown of activities and provision which is provided to young people of Monkton outside of the community (e.g. at Tanyard) is requested. Such a breakdown is expected to include details such as the number of young people from the community supported, the types of activities undertaken and the hours provided for this.

Action- Co-ordinator to contact Hayley Wood regarding the above points, and to request a resubmission of the Expression Form.

Members have requested that this is undertaken by Monday 11th of August, with a meeting scheduled for 15.00 on August 15th at Monkton Community Hall to discuss the revised form. If the form has not been received by 12.00 on the 11th, the Co-ordinator will contact all members with a view to rearranging the meeting for the afternoon or evening of Tuesday August 12th.

Members have agreed that if the revised form has not been received by the Co-ordinator in time for the 2nd meeting as proposed above then they will presume that Tanyard does not accept their conditions, and an Expression Form will not be submitted for continuation funding for this project. This is related to the short time scales for the submission to WAG, and the fact that the Village Fayre is to be held on the 16th of August and so impacting heavily upon the workload of the Communities First Team during this week.

3. Monkton Communities First Core Continuation Funding.

Members queried a few items on the Core Communities First Funding Support Form, which were answered by the Co-ordinator.

One member queried the targets within the submission and how these would be met. Other members stated that the targets linked to the work to be undertaken by the Communities First Action Groups as a method for delivery of the Action Plan, which is already successfully underway.

The figures in the attached spreadsheet were discussed, with members agreeing that they were non negotiable as certain figures were outlined by WAG, and others were being applied for in line with our current premises and

salary provision. With this being the case, the members were happy to agree the figures and Core Funding Application. This was moved by Ald. Dillwyn Davies, and seconded by Pauline Waters. Members voted unanimously to submit.

4. Any Other Business.

The Chair asked Sinead Henehan if she had any further information regarding Clouds, as she was due to contact Julie on behalf of the Partnership. Sinead stated that Julie was on holiday but she will contact her as agreed in the previous meeting and contact the Co-ordinator with information for the members accordingly. It was requested that this be added to the Agenda for the Partnership meeting in September.

With no other business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.