

Sketty Park Communities First Partnership

Notes of Meeting

Meeting Title:

Communities First Partnership Meeting

Meeting No:

17

Chair:

Heather Elphick

Minutes taken by:

Nasir Shahzad

Date of Meeting:

Monday, 12th December 2011 at 6pm

Venue of Meeting:

Sketty Park & District Community Centre

1. Attendance:

Heather Elphick (Resident), Paul Downer (Resident), Karen Rees (Resident), Ivor Rees (Resident), Delyth Rees (Resident), Gillian Gregory (Resident), Eric Gregory (Resident), Albert Rogers (Resident), Mark Ball (Resident), Julia Mitchell (Community Centre), Maggie Woods (Hanover Parklands), Councillor Paul Meara, Councillor Cheryl Philpott, Kevin Hedges (Sketty Park Online), Jason Williams (Communities First), Nasir Shahzad (Communities First), Mark Parker (PCSO), Katryna Evans (PC), Orla Banville (C1st).

Apologies:

Councillor Mike Day, Councillor Huw Rees, Councillor June Stanton, Lauren Howlett (SCVS), Pam Williams (Hazel Court), Cathy Evans (Resident), Timothy Gale (Resident), Mark Davies (Resident)

Introductions

Heather Elphick opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking all for attending. Everyone was asked to introduce themselves.

2. Previous minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

Following the Swansea Community Regeneration Unit's Consultation about the Future of Communities First, detailed at the last Partnership meeting, 6 Partnership members completed feedback forms with the overall majority generally agreeing to the Council's proposals.

Key principals for the inclusion on the new Communities First Areas map are 1) Must be within top 10% most deprived according to WIMD (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation); 2) Must be an Existing Area; and 3) Specific areas with specific issues

Castle was suggested, by the Partnership, as a more suitable option, and there were suggestions that some of Cockett might be included in a cluster model. There is likely to be no more than 4 clusters although this is not guaranteed. It was suggested that links with Castle enhances Sketty Park in terms of Jobs, Transportation, Retail, Library and Central resources.

The Partnership was informed that not all applications for transitional funding may be granted but the Council would hopefully hear from the Welsh Government on their decisions before Christmas.

Concern was raised regarding staff, if new people join in for the area then there was a fear that it might not work so effectively. Partnership was informed that there will be £5million less for the national programme

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from next year; mainly cuts will be on management staff rather than ground work staff. Staff setup will be different and there will be more targeted initiatives. However, there is a commitment to continuing existing C1st areas within the cluster arrangements.

The Partnership was informed that the Welsh Government will confirm cluster structures and teams by the end of June 2012. Different organisations may be involved in cluster formation, not just local authorities.

Cluster managers can potentially be sub-contracted and councillors, staff and partnerships will be kept informed of changes and plans. A regional management team will be established.

It was asked when Sketty Park will be able to liaise with Castle. Jason replied that hopefully we will have transitional funding approved for Sketty Park by 23rd December 2011. We will then submit a Work Programme for transitional period by 13th January 2012, and this is when we will be looking into liaising with Castle.

Question was raised that who would be Grant Recipient Body for the clusters? Council name was mentioned by Welsh Government in one of the meetings, as they want to keep one GRB (Grant Recipient Body) per local authority area.

3. Workshop for 2012 Transitional period

Workshops took place giving those present, opportunities to discuss and add more to the next step of development and progression for the 6 months of transitional period from April-September 2012 in each of the following work areas:

- Intergeneration Activities
- Environment concerns
- Employment and Training
- Youth Provision
- Community Safety
- Health and Wellbeing

4. Date of next meeting

The next Partnership meeting will be held on Monday 6th February at 6pm in the Sketty Park Community Centre