

One Voice for Blacon
Minutes from the meeting held on
5th December 2011
at Blacon High School, Community Wing



Present:

<u>Residents</u>	
Peter Newman	Karen Smith
Anne Caslin	Alan Smith
Kath Evans	Anne Caslin
Cllr Marie Nelson	Adam Gray
Cllr Reggie Jones (Co-Chair)	Jim Lyon
Phil Boden	June Cambell
Dave Holt	Yvone Jones,
Pat Holt	Margaret Bellis
Gerald Watts	Gus Cairns
Liz Smith	Kristi Penney
Andrew Monkiewicz	Mo Paddock
Paddy Paddock	Andy Scargill,
Mr & Mrs C Dry	Ruth Shaw,
Rosemary Burns	Denise Hitchin (Co-Chair)
Norman Stainthorpe	Mike Clisham
Judith Stainthorpe	Karen Collins
Brian Harris	Ray Shaw
Ray Smith	Aluynne Watts
B O'Neill	Alan Tushingham
Pam Tushingham	Felicity Turner
Elaine Jones	Brendan Doyle
Susan Ingram	Stuart Blythin
R Carter	A Carter
Rose Wild	Cllr Carolyn Graham
Paul Stevens	Frank Meacock
Andrew Dea	Graham Cox

<u>Representatives</u>	
Darren Griffiths, Cheshire Police	Sue Yates – Blacon High School
Ian Wilson, Cheshire Police	Alison Amesbury – Cheshire West and Chester Council
Carson Shanks - Cheshire West and Chester Council	AlisonWhitehead, Chester and District Housing Trust
David Parry, Primary Care Trust	Yvonne Goodwin, Cheshire West and Chester Council – Community Safety
Claire Westmoreland, GP & Health Consotium	Conrad North – JH Goodwin
Janet Gittins, Cheshire West and Chester Council	Lydia Orford – Healthy Living Centre
Rose Wild, Healthy Living Centre	Sally Pritchard, Primary Care Trust
Clare Babbs – Blacon Community Trust	Dave Soothill – Chester and District Housing Trust

2. Apologies

Gladys Phillips, Sue Morgan, Bob Morgan, Fire Service

3. Declarations of Interest – None raised

4. Blacon Parade Development

4.1 Dave Soothill presented the proposals for the Parade Development building on the last 18 months of work between CWaC, CDHT and PCT which is now seen as a deliverable project. The new Parade area will include the refurbishment to the right hand side of the shops, new housing, an integrated community and social enterprise centre, health facility and improved retail space (slides attached).

4.2 David Parry presented the context to PCT changes with local General Practitioners (GPs) now taking control of budgets and planning to ensure local services are needs led. Claire Westmoreland shared a wish list of the extensive health services which they hope to provide from the new facility. The Western Avenue Clinic and all the services from Blacon Clinic will be relocated into the new centre as well as extended services, prevention, information and advice in an 'integrated' facility.

Dave Soothill then shared the initial designs for how the area could look in the future. The next stage is to develop these sketches into plans working with residents, community groups & associations, retailers, architects and planners.

4.3 Janet Gittins gave an update on the creation of Blacon Asset Management Company (BAMCo). The first meeting of the shadow board will take place on 12 December, with nominees from CDHT, CWaC and Blacon Alliance. Ray Shaw a resident of Blacon had been appointed as Vice Chair. The first steps for the Shadow Board will be to complete the partner's agreement to ensure that the company is legal and to develop the BAMCo business plan which shows the viability of the company in managing local assets and services.

Discussion Points:

- Pharmacists and Social Services will be fully involved and consulted.
- Issues around future health service issues can be fed in through communications@wcheshirepct.nhs.uk
- The Parade is being financed through a partnership between CDHT and CWaC with an ERDF bid still being processed. The health facility will be financed through a 3rd party developer, managed through the new Health Consortium.
- The PCT, CDHT & CWaC are working together on a communication strategy to ensure residents are engaged in this process. A future CF/OVfB workshop will be arranged to help develop this strategy.

- The new Parade site will be 'secured by design' which means architects will look to design out crime through good design such as large windows, well managed spaces and improved public realm.
- Previous research, mapping and gapping are being used to develop proposals, designs and service.
- Displaced groups and activities will look to be relocated within the new building or elsewhere in Blacon depending on needs. A full consultation with all parties will take place to work through these issues.

5. Student Village Proposals

Cllr Graham raised the issue of the proposed student village on green belt land just outside Blacon. Over 3000 residents had already signed a petition opposing the development and who want to protect the green belt land. It is anticipated that the developers will be putting in planning permission after Christmas.

- Residents were asked to join the Poets Corner and Parkgate Road Highfield Resident Group on a photo opportunity on 10 December at the land to support their cause.
- Leaflets were distributed about 2 local meetings discussing the development;
 - Resident meeting on 12 December, 8pm at St Theresa's.
 - Developer Consultation event on 15 December, 3pm-7pm at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

6. Minutes from One Voice for Blacon- Matters arising & amendments:

- Nant Peris has not been refurbished but is available to hire.
- The bus shelter on Auckland Road should be in place by Christmas.
- BCT Community awards will take place next year.
- The Gypsy and Traveller myth buster handouts were available at the meeting.

7. Community Forum Action Notes

Matters Arising:

- Highfield House should have occupancy by 20 December.
- Air Traffic Concerns: Representatives to attend the February CF to discuss community concerns. Phil Boden had purchased a nose monitor and was monitoring nose.
- Christmas Activities: Christmas lights competition was to be judged next week. Christmas Social will be held at the Wagon and Horses on Friday 16 December and Christmas Fair to be held at the High School on December.
- BCT had visited 10 Downing Street this week to meet David Cameron in relation to the Big Society award received.

8. Members Budget:

Agreed:

- Gus Cairns to complete the application for funds towards Christmas activities as previously agreed.

- £500 was agreed to URC to complete works with Vintage Blacon on the Silver Screen project.
- £1,500 to be awarded to the Blacon Football teams to support the -12s and -17s girls' football squads in attending competitions next year.

9. Open Forum

9.1 Reggie Jones as this year's Sheriff will be organising the annual Sheriff Breakfast at Blacon High School on Wednesday 28 March 2012 from 7.30 am – 9am. More details to follow.

9.2 The Organisers of the Half Marathon have asked for a resident to put themselves forward to coordinate the water stations and marshals in Blacon on the day. Anyone interested please get in contact.

9.3 Congratulations to Ashley? AND Amy Hollows on their Chronicle awards.

Concern was raised over the new waste management contract that will be coming into use in 2012. This item has already been picked up in the forward plan for meetings to have a full discussion in March 2012.

9.4 Residents who had completed BCT membership forms will be notified shortly to let them know if they have been successful.

9.5 Reggie Jones resigned his post as co-chair of One Voice.

Residents were asked to think about nominees for the March meeting.

10 Dates of next meetings:

Workshop

Tuesday 31st January, 6pm at Blacon High School

Aim: To develop a Communication Plan for the Parade Development

Meetings

Blacon Community Forum: **Tuesday 7 February** 5.30 for 6pm at **Blacon High School Community Wing.**

One Voice for Blacon: **Tuesday 6 March** 5.30 for 6pm at **Blacon High School Community Wing.**