

NEW DEAL NEW HORIZONS

Company Number 4582937
 A Company Limited by Guarantee
 Registered in England

**Minutes of a Board Meeting held at
 Blakenall Village Centre
 on Wednesday 28th May 2008
 at 6.00pm**

1. In Attendance

Tom Perrett - Chair

Directors

Jean Moore - Patch Representative 2
 Mick Taylor - Patch Representative 4
 Albert Hodgkins - Patch Representative 5
 Mervyn Stonard - Patch Representative 7
 Graham Morris - Patch Representative 11
 Roy Jones - Patch Representative 13
 Charlie Robertson - Patch Representative 14
 Shaun Fitzpatrick - Patch Representative 15
 Stan Lyons - Patch Representative 16
 Alan Venables - Patch Representative 17
 Cliff Webb - Patch Representative 18
 Margaret Rowley - Patch Representative 20
 Ray Walters - Patch Representative 22
 Paul Jay - Business Representative
 Bill Smith - Local Trader Representative
 Les Beeley - Walsall Council Representative
 Ian Robertson - Stakeholder Representative
 Jo Byrne - West Midlands Police Representative
 Jean Jevons - Community and Voluntary Sector Representative

Officers

Paul Rowlands - Chief Executive
 Beverley Mycock - Personal Assistant (Minutes)
 Louise Biffin - Finance Manager
 Mike Brice - Neighbourhood Manager
 Dick Hackett - Performance Manager
 Steve Pooni - Housing and Environmental Theme Manager
 Jo Basra - Project Officer (Stan Ball Centre)
 Bob Marsh - Education Theme Manager
 Michelle Parry - Community Involvement Manager

Guests

Ian Cleland - Ormiston Trust

Apologies and Confirmation Of Quorum

Marc Ali - Patch Representative 6
 Christine Hateley - Patch Representative 9
 Keith Meeson - Patch Representative 19
 Doug Gill - Patch Representative 21 (Vice Chair)
 Josh Baggott - Young Persons Representative
 Jamie McDonald - Young Persons Representative
 Tony Stainer - Education Representative

Peter Heath	-	Education Representative
Rob Hughes	-	Housing Representative
Paul Bradley	-	Government Office for the West Midlands
Allison Jarrett	-	Accountable Body
Tim Johnson	-	Accountable Body

It was noted that a quorum was present being one third of the Directors for the time being of whom the majority must be Resident Directors – Article 25.1.

Agenda Item		ACTION
2.i	<p>Minutes of last Board Meeting held on 26th March 2008 The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed:- Stan Lyons. Seconded:- Mervyn Stonard The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
2.ii	<p>Matters Arising from last Board Meeting held on 26th March 2008 The Chair ruled that Paul Jay had attended the above meeting following confusion over his attendance.</p>	
3.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Les Beeley declared an interest in Agenda Item 8 entitled “Wardens Project Update”. ii. Mick Taylor, Jean Jevons and Les Beeley all declared an interest in Agenda Item 10 entitled “Blakenall Community Centre” iii. Les Beeley and Ian Robertson both declared an interest in Agenda Item 11.i entitled “Re-appointment of Council Directors” iv. Jean Jevons and Ian Robertson both declared an interest in Agenda Item 15 entitled “Schools Improvement Fund Steering Group Update” v. Mick Taylor, Jean Jevons and Les Beeley all declared an interest in Agenda Item 16 entitled “Stan Ball Centre and Green Rivers Update”. 	
4.	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Letter of resignation received from Bryan Coney ii. Letter of thanks received from Walsall Lifelong Learning Alliance for sponsoring the 10th Walsall Lifelong Learning Awards. iii. Thank you letter from Sister Dora Friends of Walsall Hospice for allowing members to hold a fundraising tombola in the BVC Atrium, which raised £91 for their funds. 	
5.	<p>Presentation – Ormiston Academy (Shelfield Sports and Community College) Ian Cleland of Ormiston Trust (who is the intended sponsor of the proposed Academy at Shelfield Sports and Community College) gave a verbal presentation to the Board.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the Board:-</p> <p>What will the ‘catchment’ area be? The catchment area will remain the same.</p>	

	<p>What is the admission criteria? The admission criteria will remain the same as it is now, which also includes a 10% admission based on aptitude for sport.</p> <p>What assurances will there be that the community can be involved in the Sheffield Academy? The community will be invited to be representatives on a Sub Committee of the Academy Board, and the academy facilities will be available to the community. A representative from New Deal will be invited to be a member of the Board. It is Ormiston's vision that a "sports village" may be built on the site and if so, this will be available to all sports groups.</p> <p>Will there be support for NEETS children? The catchment has one of the largest numbers of NEETS in the borough and will have a support mechanism for NEETS. The Academy hopes to build pupil self worth from a younger age and will be using the "You Choose" programme to re-engage younger pupils.</p> <p>Will the children be involved in the naming of the School? The Academy will be looking to engage the children in the naming of the Academy but there is no immediate pressure on this issue.</p> <p>There Board resolved to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the proposal to "discontinue" the current Sheffield Sports and Community College on 31st December 2008 and to replace it with a new Academy on 1st January 2009. 	
6.	This agenda item was removed due to unavailability of information at time of Board meeting.	
7.	<p>Sports Development and Physical Activities projects The Neighbourhood Manager reported to the Board the proposals for the development of the sports programme, following an independent evaluation of the project. He reported that the Football Development Project is due to end on 30th June 2008 and whilst it is not proposed to extend the project, the opportunity has arisen to develop a new project which will include the successful elements of the two other existing projects currently running (Sports Coaches Project and Sports Development Project). This one project could deliver the key elements of all three, whilst taking into account the recent developments and changing circumstances in the area such as Leamore Park, and proposals for activities at St Peters playing fields, Stan Ball Centre, Green Rivers and developments with Sheffield College. It was requested that proof of match funding needed to be included in the project.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note that the Football Development project finishes on 30th June 2008 and there will be no extension to this project ii. note the proposals for the ongoing development of the sports programme in the area iii. agree to refer the development of a new project for sport and physical activity to the Health Theme Group to bring forward in the 	

	<p>Autumn for consideration by the Approvals Sub Committee.</p> <p>Proposed:- Bill Smith. Seconded:- Mervyn Stonard The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
8.	<p>Wardens Project Update</p> <p>Les Beeley had declared an interest and left the room for the duration of the discussion.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager updated the Board on the management and delivery of the Community Wardens project by the Housing and Environment Theme Group. He explained that the funding will decrease over the length of the project unless other funding can be found and that WHRA were the managing agents and that they were developing the process to be considered for the duration of the project.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager reported that the Health and Environment Theme Group is proposing the name for the Wardens service to change to the Environmental Community Team (ECT).</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the management and delivery arrangements agreed by the Housing and Environmental Theme Group on 7th May ii. note the publicity and promotion arrangements and the provision date/s for the official launch of the Wardens project iii. agree the new name of Environmental Community Team (ECT) for the new service. <p>Proposed:- Charlie Robertson. Seconded:- Cliff Webb. The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
9.	<p>Succession Strategy – Outcome of Workshops</p> <p>The Chief Executive outlined in detail the outcomes arising from the succession strategy workshops and invited the Board to consider their recommendations. He also reported that each Partnership must submit a Business Plan for their succession strategy to their respective Regional Government Office (GOWM in our case) by 31st December 2008, as a Condition of Approved Grant Funding for the Delivery Plan 2008/09..</p> <p>The Board debated the wording of the long term vision for New Deal and the following wording was agreed:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“[New Deal: New Horizons] will be an enterprising organisation to enable communities to lead in making their area <u>the place where they want to be</u>”</i></p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. agree to postpone the elections planned for this year ii. instruct ACS to prepare appropriate amendments to the constitution to allow this and to bring those amendments for approval to a future meeting 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. agree the proposed long term vision statement as set out in the report iv. agree the proposed long term aims as set out in the report v. agree the proposed priorities as set out in the report vi. agree the proposed key roles for New Deal: New Horizons and New Horizons Enterprises Limited vii. authorise the development of a project to further the succession work, including appropriate funding for the support of New Horizons Enterprises Limited to expand its role viii. instruct officers and ACS to work on the development of a long term framework for Board composition and the election of Resident Directors and to bring a report back to a future meeting ix. note the remainder of the report, in particular the GOWM requirements and deadline of 31st December 2008. <p>Proposed:- Mick Taylor. Seconded:- Ray Walters The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
10.	<p>Blakenall Community Centre Mick Taylor, Jean Jevons and Les Beeley had all declared an interest in this agenda item so left the room for the duration of this discussion.</p> <p>The Chief Executive informed the Board of the most recent developments regarding the supervision of Blakenall Community Centre, which had culminated in the Council requesting Bloxwich Community Partnership (BCP) to take on the responsibility of the Centre. BCP for their part, are pleased to take on this responsibility and are seeking the co-operation of ND: NH to provide 1 member of staff for support up to October 2008. The Chief Executive reported that BCP are also hoping that ND: NH will carry out some consultation work through the Community Involvement Team (CIT). He stated that irrespective of who runs the Centre, ND: NH can still have a part to play on behalf of the local community. The Community Involvement Manager confirmed that the CIT project has provision to carry out 2 consultations per year.</p> <p>The Board voted on each recommendation as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) note that Bloxwich Community Partnership is responsible for the Blakenall Community Centre with immediate effect, pending a more formal review by 30th September 2008 ii) endorse ND: NH's continued membership of the Strategic Partnership with BCP and Walsall Council Votes: FOR = 8 AGAINST = 4 iii) endorse the Community Involvement Team supporting the work required to investigate the potential and feasibility of more permanent longer term arrangements at the Centre Votes: FOR = 8 AGAINST = 5 iv) agree to provide a temporary employee seconded to BCP for the initial period up to 30th September 2008 to support the operation of the Centre Votes: AGAINST = Unanimous 	

11.	<p>VAT Update</p> <p>The Finance Manager informed the Board of a recent development from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) regarding VAT claims. She explained that due to the intricacies of VAT claims, our company auditors, Dains, have been approached to assist in a VAT review. Likewise, Walsall Council, as our Accountable Body has engaged their auditors and a VAT specialist to assist themselves in resolving HMRC's issue, in order to minimise VAT costs.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. approve the continued use of a VAT specialist to bring the issue to a satisfactory conclusion ii. request that when the matter is resolved, a report is given to the next available Board meeting. <p>Proposed:- Charlie Robertson. Seconded:- Mervyn Stonard The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
11.i	<p>Re-appointment of Council Directors</p> <p>Ian Robertson and Les Beeley had declared an interest in this item and so temporarily left the room.</p> <p>The Chief Executive invited the Board to consider the positions of the Council Company Member and the Council Director.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. accept Councillor Les Beeley as the Council Company Member Director appointee of the Council ii. accept Councillor Ian Robertson to be reappointed as a Council Company Member Director for a further 12 months. <p>Proposed:- Stan Lyons. Seconded:- Cliff Webb The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
11.ii	<p>LGA Annual Conference – Production of Video</p> <p>This was a late report tabled at the meeting.</p> <p>The Chief Executive informed the Board that he had been approached that morning by the Local Government Association (LGA) offering the opportunity to promote New Deal: New Horizons as an NDC Partnership of 'best practice' at their Local Government Association (LGA) Conference being held at the Bournemouth International Centre between 1st and 3rd July 2008.</p> <p>The cost of showcasing Walsall's New Deal is £14,750 and the majority of the costs could be found out of the Communications and Promotions budget. The Board was requested to consider whether it wished to take part at the Conference or not. Paul Jay reported that he would rather see the money spent locally and this was seconded by Bill Smith.</p> <p>The Board unanimously agreed to:-</p>	

	<p>i. not support the development of a promotional video to be showcased at the LGA Annual Conference from 1st to 3rd July at Bournemouth at a cost of £14,750</p> <p>ii. not support the additional booking of space in the Exhibition Hall at the conference together with the additional associated costs of the promotional materials at circa £5,000.</p> <p>Proposed:- Paul Jay. Seconded:- Bill Smith The Board voted unanimously</p>	
12.	<p>Contingency Projects 2007/08 The Finance Manager informed the Board of the final outturn of the Contingency Projects which were delivered in the latter quarter of the financial year 2007/08, with brief details of individual projects.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <p>i) note the overall outturn for 2007/08 at £5,670,535 and an overspend of £44,535</p> <p>ii) note the overall outturn of the projects at £576,190 and an overspend of £10,190</p> <p>iii) note the individual outturn of the Contingency Projects as detailed in the Board report.</p>	
13.	<p>Delivery Plan 2008/09 The Chief Executive informed the Board of the status of the 2008-09 Delivery Plan, confirming Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) had accepted our bid and awarded us £6.425 million (£2.4 million capital and £4.025 million revenue) which will allow us to deliver our programme as projected in the Delivery Plan for 2008/09. The Chief Executive reported that CLG has not confirmed allocations for the remainder of the programme but has stated that there may be less funding available in 2009/10 and 2010/11.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <p>i) note that the funding allocation for 2008/09 meets our bid within the Delivery Plan 2008/09</p> <p>ii) note the Conditions applied by GOWM on the Funding Agreement for 2008/09</p> <p>iii) note that CLG have yet to provide spend allocations for 2009/10 and 2010/11</p> <p>iv) note there is the possibility of funds being redirected from underperforming Partnerships to those with a proven track record and the capacity to deliver.</p>	
14.	<p>Accorn Fund Update The Community Involvement Manager updated the Board on the progress of the new £5,000 limit Accorn Grant 'Community Chest' fund from December 2007 to April 2008. The Chair of the Accorn Fund thanked all the panel members for their time.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <p>i) note the report for information purposes.</p>	

15.	<p>School Improvement Fund Steering Group Update Jean Jevons declared an interest in this agenda item and so temporarily left the room.</p> <p>The Education Theme Manager gave the Board the latest update on the progress of the School Improvement Funds, their allocation, take up and progress. The Education Theme Manager stated that he would identify the actual number of NDC children who were pupils of Walsall Academy.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) note that the Primary School Improvement Fund has awarded grants to 12 schools during the period 1st June 2006 and 30 April 2008 for a total amount of £223,085 ii) note that the Secondary School Improvement Fund has awarded grants to 5 schools during the period 1st June 2006 and 30th April 2008 for a total amount of £220,525. 	
16.	<p>Stan Ball Centre and Abbots Street Site. Mick Taylor, Jean Jevons and Les Beeley had all declared an interest in this agenda item and so left the room.</p> <p>The Chief Executive updated the Board on the current position regarding development of the project and progress on key issues including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land assembly, design issues, consultation planning, tendering arrangements, site investigation and other relevant matters • progress in relation to business planning for the project • update on progress relating to linked work on the Green Rivers project, including land assembly, business planning and funding • next steps, proposed actions and a revised time frame <p>The Project Manager stated that a risk assessment would be included as part of a future Board report.</p> <p>The Board resolved to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the progress that has been made on the Stan Ball Project, particularly with regard to the planning application and site assembly ii. note the next steps and actions that will need to be taken to secure a timely start on site iii. note the work that will be undertaken on the business plans for BCP and ND: NH iv. note that detailed consideration will need to be given to project sustainability, the legal and working relationship between BCP, wider partners, ND: NH and the NDC Succession Strategy v. note that the project timetable will necessitate a special Board Meeting to consider approval vi. note that it has been confirmed with Green Rivers Community Association that £500,000 is profiled within the ND: NH Delivery Plan for 2008/09 subject to a satisfactory project and approval by the ND: NH Board. 	

