

NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

**Minutes of an Education Theme meeting
held at the Blakenall Village Centre
on Monday 9th June 2008 at 6.30pm**

In attendance

- Mick Taylor - Patch 4/ Chair
- Shaun Fitzpatrick - Patch 15 Representative
- John Jones -Patch 3 Representative
- Roy Jones - Patch 13 Representative

Officers

- Bob Marsh - Education Theme Manager
- Naomi Peters - Theme administrator

Partners

- Paul Smith - Community Development Worker
- Jan Owen - ContinYou Project Manager
- Lisa Roobottom - Environmental Community Team
- Lindsey Brookes - Project Officer Walsall EBP
- John Price -Walsall EBP
- Paul Mobey - College of Continuing Education
- Craig Murrell - Young Advisor YPIC
- James Tolley - Young Advisor YPIC
- Jamie McDonald -Young Advisor YPIC
- Amy Bettley -Young Advisor YPIC

Apologies

- Graham Morris
- Mervyn Stonnard
- Sue Wedgwood

Agenda item		Action
1.	Introductions MT welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Introductions were made around the table.	
2.	Declarations of Interest None	
3.	Minutes of previous meeting. The minutes from the 14 th April were declared a true record, John Price pointed out that he doesn't work at Work on the Horizon but Walsall EBP (minutes have been amended.)	NP
4.	Matters Arising Celebration of Achievement event took place on 21 st May.	

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	<p>BM said this was a successful event with a large number of learners receiving certificates and photos. The guest speaker from the University of Wolverhampton was excellent and one of the only problems was a few organisational issues that BM will be feeding back to the ACL meeting on 11th June. MT was pleased with the event.</p>	BM
5.	<p>Presentations Smart Choices- This was a presentation by youngsters from Sneyd and Frank F Harrison Schools, relating to what they had achieved whilst on the Smart Choices Project. They have all had access to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Employability skills o Work Experience placements o Bespoke individual Action Plans o Certified courses o Help and Support <p>A project officer goes into schools and spends time with Year eleven pupils who are unsure as to what they want to do next year and engages the youngsters as well as giving support and guidance in making choices.</p> <p>JJ said the project was working well. RJ pointed out that there was lots of variation within the NEET's group and feel this a brilliant project which engages these youngsters.</p> <p>Young Advisors- The Young advisors from the YPIC gave a presentation on what they do and how they are intending to engage young people in the new deal area. They discussed their training and the service they offer. They are based at the YPIC and can be reached on 01922 443 440 or walsallyoungadvisors@hotmail.co.uk</p> <p>PS said that the YPIC advisors had done a really well thought out and coherent presentation at Abbots St and wanted to congratulate them.</p>	
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o School Improvement Primary and Secondary <p>The board is in receipt of an application from Bloxwich C of E school, for funds for a play assistant. This was approved in a meeting just before the Theme meeting. Only one school in the New Deal area has not taken up the offer for funds for improvement. MT wanted to know what would happen to the money if they did not propose a bid. BM responded that the money would need to be redistributed</p>	BM

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	<p>and if they did make a bid next year they could make a capital bid.</p> <p>They have been reminded that there is an opportunity for funding by BM.</p> <p>Project going well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Out Of School Support <p>The project has been running for 1 year and BM made us aware that the evaluation for Out Of School Support is currently out to tender (closing date 16th June 08)</p> <p>BM said there has been some disappointment with the project, as schools have been slow to recognise the clubs as a solution to their problems.</p> <p>The primary homework club is well attended, but the secondary school homework club isn't well attended perhaps due to teething problems at the YPIC.</p> <p>MT wanted to know when the results of the evaluation would be in. BM responded that the report should be in at the end of August.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Access to Learning <p>PM has had an interesting few months. The project is going well.</p> <p>PM has been trying to engage more men onto courses at the College. He has had some success with PAT testing, 3 gentlemen will be taking the test on Fri 13th June.</p> <p>PM also tried to gauge public opinion for a CSCS course, he did not have one enquiry regarding this though and feels that Work on The Horizon have this wrapped up.</p> <p>PM wants to focus on parent and child activities with a view to engaging the parents in to further education.</p> <p>Two activities are planned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Soccer Star/ Soccer Parents. A 3 day activity at Walsall FC's stadium 28th-31st July. o Introduction to Fishing. 8 Family Pairs are going to Carney's Pool in Rugeley. <p>PM also made us aware of a new member of staff; Barbara Quarless took up her appointment as learning mentor on 15th May 2008.</p> <p>Moving forward from the last meetings discussion on delivering courses to a geographical cluster. PM informs us that this should be going ahead and will provide feedback at the next meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ContinYou <p>JO explained that as ContinYou is now in the final months of its project, very few new courses will be introduced; this is due to accredited courses taking longer than the time that is left. It is therefore unfair to learners to start courses they will not be able</p>	<p>PM</p>
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	<p>to finish. JO is pleased that people are coming into the BIC for one to one reading session. JO sees this as a very positive outcome Over the next six months ContinYou will be offering the following courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Digital Photography ○ Computer classes ○ ITQ ○ Crafts ○ Short courses. <p>MT wanted to know what happened if they weren't doing the courses people wanted,JO informed him that they are referred onwards.</p>	<p>JO</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>AOB and Dates of Future Meetings EBP newsletter was handed out by JP BM has suggested another Celebrating Achievement night for those who were unable to attend the first one. By partnering with the College of Continuing education and BCC, BM believes that the night could be motivational in attracting and retaining learners. Monday 11th August 2008 Monday 6th October 2008 Monday 1st December</p>	