

NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937
A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered in England

Employment Theme Minutes of 10th August held at Blakenall Village Centre at 7.00 p.m.

In Attendance

Paul Jay	Stakeholder – Business Representative
Bill Smith	Stakeholder – Trader
John Jones	Patch Representative 3
Graham Morris	Patch Representative 11
Charlie Robertson	Patch Representative 14/Theme Chair

Officers

Bob Crundwell	Employment Theme Manager
Paul Capelin	Interim Programme Manager
Diane Jones	Theme Administrator

Partners

Dave Rosser	CAB
Peter Whitmore	Future Foundations
Jenny Booker	Jobcentre Plus
Louise Powell	Walsall MBC
Ann Ruddy	Steps to Work
John Price	EBP
Roy Jones	Work on the Horizon

1. Apologies

Cllr. Kath Phillips	Walsall MBC
Debbie Marshall	Patch Representative 12
Jayne Read	Senior Young Persons Liaison Worker
Alan Venables	Resident

Agenda Item		ACTION
2.	Introduction The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions made around the table.	
3.	Declarations JP declared an interest in item 6 (d).	
4.	Minutes of Last Meeting A couple of minor amendments which were Item 5 © should read Benefit not Better and 8. Care Training should be “a number of schools	

NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937
 A Company Limited by Guarantee
 Registered in England

	<p>within the Black Country” not 4 schools within the Walsall Borough.</p> <p>The minutes were then recorded as a true record. Proposed John Price and seconded by Graham Morris.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Matters Arising Retail Therapy – arrange a meeting with BS & BC to discuss.</p>	<p>BC to action</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Project Updates</p> <p>d. KS4 Transition JP gave a short briefing on his report. All pupils in the scheme have now left school but the work carries on with them. All youngsters are logged on the Prospects database. Names of new pupils to enter the programme have already been arranged with the various schools. A meeting was held with Shelfield school to iron out the problems that occurred last year. All current youngsters in the programme must by the middle of September be back in school, college or work otherwise they will be classed as NEETS.</p> <p>c. Financial Counselling DR asked if the report he had produced was how the theme required it. BC said that it was just what the theme required. DR says that the new outreach venue at the BVC was now working well and in the last 2 weeks they had received 50 contacts. A meeting with A Bradley had taken place about advertising and a new advert was to be put on the revolving sign over the main reception desk. BS said that the project was value for money and it was a great progress report. He asked if Pinfold was still holding counselling sessions. DR replied that it was but was not part of this project, although they do not run sessions in August so he was doing a leaflet drop in the Pinfold area to let them know about the sessions and venues that are held in the ND area.</p> <p>b. Workwise AR asked if reports were still required as the ND project was now finished. BC replied that none were now required as Workwise was not been taken up in the ND area. . RJ said that Workwise was still been run from Steps to Work and anyone requiring assistance were advised about it and were to visit. He also asked that on the monitoring returns Workwise and Work on the Horizon were on the same monitoring returns and should this now be separated. BC will speak to Louise on this issue as they are two separate projects.</p> <p>a. Work on the Horizon RJ that WotH has had an increase in repeat users but that new users from the footprint had fallen slightly. 317 ND residents had found employment. At Bloxwich carnival old clients had paid visits to the</p>	<p>BC to action</p>

NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937
 A Company Limited by Guarantee
 Registered in England

	<p>Steps Bus to say thanks and tell the team how they were progressing and they had also received three new clients. RJ that at present the Jobcentre in Walsall was undergoing refurbishment and that they were not receiving people from the Jobcentre. JB will check on this tomorrow and find out why.</p> <p>RJ explained that 2 new projects had been started with WotH but that these schemes were being run through the Education theme. PW asked if statistics were kept and RJ replied records were kept and clients could be tracked.</p> <p>BC handed out data graphs on JSA and SDA's to illustrate the difference between Walsall and the ND area. ND is still above Walsall but it is improving. BC explained that the benefit system would be reconstructed by Christmas and the challenge would now be getting employers to accept previously incapacity registered people as future employees. PJ from the Leamore Enterprise Business Park would ask his members to encourage employers to use the WotH shop.</p> <p>BC explained that LP from WMBC had visited the shop and wanted to use the model of the WotH in other areas of the borough. This would be good publicity for ND.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Construction Training Update This scheme commenced 10th July and 22 youngsters were recruited on to this scheme. 20 actually started this project and now 4 weeks later there are still 18 progressing on the programme. Phase 2 on the scheme will begin 11th Sept with 2-day placements at college, WHG for 10 weeks. Phase 3 will commence after this with ILM.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Incubator BC is in discussions with one of the tenderers who had submitted a proposal. The incubator would be based on performance of new businesses with ½ the money given to them at the start up of the business and the other ½ half after they are still in business 12 months.</p> <p>BC hopes to bring to the next meeting the proposal and appraisal.</p>	<p>BC to action</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Where Next – Driving Lessons BC explained that in this years DP there is a proposal about driving lessons for getting employment. He had done a lot of research and this and sought advice from several organisations. Most companies required that the driver is over 25years of age, have driven for over 6 months and some companies had their own assessors.</p> <p>The proposals madder were:</p>	

NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937
 A Company Limited by Guarantee
 Registered in England

	<p>1. WoTH to add to their portfolio – driving lessons. Only available after clear evidence would training be available.</p> <p>2. Advanced driving training available if necessary through ADI. RJ reported that this was already available.</p> <p>AR said that this had been done at Steps to Work and it had become unworkable as people found ways round all the safe guards set-up. BS did say that the scheme would have to be thought out carefully and the wording had to be clear and concise.</p> <p>The whole group agreed that this project was unworkable and a report was to be sent to the Board on this subject.</p> <p>Advanced driver training was approved. No further action.</p>	<p>BC to action</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>JP advised the theme on a Discovery Day event to be held at Bescot Stadium on 4th October. This was a franchise starting your own business event.</p> <p>BC advised that a Black Country Island Challenge based on the TV programme “Dragons Den” was also going to begin shortly. RJ stated that this was already advertised in the WoTH shop.</p> <p>RJ presented CR with a Health and Safety certificate which he had successful taken and achieved.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 10th October 2006</p> <p>Thursday 7th December 2006</p>	