

## NEW DEAL: NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937  
A Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registered in England

### Employment Meeting Minutes held at Blakenall Village Centre on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2006 at 7.00p.m.

#### In Attendance

Bill Smith	Trader Stakeholder/Theme Vice Chair
Debbie Marshall	Patch Representative 12
Graham Morris	Patch Representative 11
John Jones	Patch Representative 3
Charlie Robertson	Patch Representative 14/Theme Chair

#### Officers

Bob Crundwell	Economic Development Manager
Paul Capelin	Interim Programme Manager
Diane Jones	Theme Administrator

#### Partners

Sarah Lindsey	Business Park Coordinator
Dave Rosser	Citizens Advice
Becki Floyd	Citizens Advice
Tamara Crutchley	Programme Manager Steps to Work
Peter Whitmore	Regeneration Manager Future Foundations
Cllr. Kath Phillips	WMBC
Paul Jay	Business Stakeholder
John Price	Walsall EBP

#### 1. Apologies

Jayne Read  
Jenny Booker

Agenda Item		ACTION
2.	<b>Introductions</b> CR sent his apologies that he would be late attending the meeting, so BS took the chair.  Introductions were made round the table. There were no Declarations of Interest.	
3.	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b> These were accepted as a true record. Proposed John Jones, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Paul Jay.	

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<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising</b>                  Jenny Booker – Jobcentre Plus had sent an email to BC in response to point 6 of the minutes. She will clarify and update at next meeting. Paragraph 3 about the benefit system there are changes in the way the Job Centre will roll out the services.</p> <p>Item 9 Driving Lessons – following the Board Meeting this item has now been withdrawn from this theme group.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Projects Updates</b>  <b>Work on the Horizon</b>                  No questions to the report.</p> <p><b>Financial Counselling &amp; Benefit Take-Up</b>                  No questions to the report. BC did point out that this project is going from strength to strength and thanked Citizens Advice for the good work that they are doing.</p> <p><b>KS4 Transition</b>                  No questions to the report.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Construction Training Update</b>                  This project commenced on 10<sup>th</sup> July with 20 people, in its 7<sup>th</sup> week and there were 18 people still on the course. Phase II which is run by WHG commenced with 16 people and only 1 person has left. Phase III will commence soon with 15 people all having ILM placements for 26 weeks.</p> <p>BC commented that 5 had fallen by the wayside but that there were still 15 on the course was excellent. Lessons had been learnt on how the programme may be improved. People starting this course must understand the ground rules and be prepared to abide by them. Also, an alternative route would be sought for the 5 drop outs. One who has already been back to Work on the Horizon and is now in employment.</p> <p>The 5 spaces on the construction training have been taken up by 6<sup>th</sup> formers from Frank F Harrison.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Incubator Development Status Report</b>                  BC said that the proposal sent out with the papers was now ready to be sent to an appraiser after having long discussions with Business Link on the project. PJ asked about the £44,000 over 2 years and the way it was worded. The group agreed to the project going to an appraiser with a clearer explanation of the finances.</p>	<b>BC to amend</b>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>PMR Update</b>                  PC asked the theme whether they wished to have a special meeting to discuss this or at the next theme meeting. The group agreed to discuss this at the next theme meeting starting the meeting half an</p>	

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	hour earlier.	
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Bit &amp; Bobs</b>                  A database of retail business in the Bloxwich High Street, Leamore, and Blakenall has been compiled and letters have been sent out inviting retailers to a meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> November to form a Bloxwich, Leamore, and Blakenall Retail Forum (BLBRF).</p> <p><b>Business Park Link</b>                  The business park link coordinator and Work on the Horizon are now working closely to establish more contact with employers to help in job placements. JP asked about work experience in the various businesses in the business park and this will be looked into.</p> <p><b>Hollemeadow</b>                  WHG are intending to move their Skills Centre into Hollemeadow. WHG have approached ND to provide funding towards the fencing. The meeting agreed that this would be acceptable. BC to arrange paperwork when required.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b>                  Bellway have taken on 7 apprenticeships through WHG and 6 are still employed by them.</p> <p>JP said that the Coop had approached him about sending 40 New Deal youngsters to an Outward Bound Course and donating £5,000 towards this. Match funding has been granted by Community Empowerment.</p>	
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b>                  Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006</p> <p>commencing at 6.30 p.m.                  Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.                  Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.                  Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.                  Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.                  Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.                  Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.                  Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2007 commencing at 7.00 p.m.</p>	