

## NEW DEAL : NEW HORIZONS

Charity Number 4582937  
 A Company Limited by Guarantee  
 Registered in England

### Employment Theme Minutes held at Blakenall Village Centre on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 7.00pm

#### **In Attendance**

Mervyn Stonard	Patch Representative 7
Charlie Robertson	Patch Representative 14/Theme Chair
Graham Morris	Patch Representative 11
Debbie Marshall	Patch Representative 12
Alan Venables	Patch Representative 17

#### **Officers**

Paul Capelin	Interim Programme Manager
Bob Crundwell	Economic Development Manager
Jayne Read	Senior Youth Leader
Diane Jones	Minute Taker

#### **Partners**

Peter Whitmore	Future Foundations
Dave Rosser	CAB
John Brewer	Steps to Work
Roy Jones	Work on the Horizon/Steps to Work
Carol Hands	Walsall EBP
John Price	Walsall EBP

#### **1. Apologies**

Paul Jay	Business Stakeholder
John Jones	Patch Representative 3
Jenny Booker	Job Centre Plus
Jean Jevons	Community/Voluntary Sector Stakeholder
Mark Godson	Black Country Chamber of Commerce
Bill Smith	Trader Stakeholder

Agenda Item		ACTION
2.	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b> Minutes of meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2006 were approved as circulated.	
3.	<b>Matters Arising not covered by agenda</b> No matters arising.	
4.	<b>Projects updates</b> <b>a. Work on the Horizon</b> RJ gave a brief précis of the report which had been circulated.	

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	<p><b>b. Workwise</b>                  Following on from the circulated report BC advised that Workwise was due to finish shortly as a project for ND : NH.</p> <p><b>c. Financial Counselling &amp; Benefit Take-Up</b>                  Following on from DR's report in the last few weeks there had been a significant increase in uptake. Leaflets are still being distributed within the footprint and more publicity is required. An article will be going in Chatter., but the project are still having difficulties with posters been displayed. BC to find out about getting leaflets and posters into the Blakenall Village Centre. A new outreach location will be commencing next month at Harden Road Health Clinic. There will now be 4 outreach centres set up.</p> <p><b>d. KS4 Transition</b>                  CH project officer with this project gave a short talk to follow-up on the report sent out with the papers. She is working closely and successfully with the pupils. JP and CH are already preparing for next years pupils that need assistance. As part of the programme 2 pupils will be attending at BVC 19<sup>th</sup> June. BC to arrange photography.</p>	<b>BC to action</b>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>In Work Training (press release)</b>                  This press release was sent with the papers for information only.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Construction Training Update</b>                  JB and RJ both declared an interest in this item.</p> <p>The posters and leaflets are being distributed and there is already a list of 16 – 19 year olds interested in learning construction skills. The group agreed to endorse support in ND : NH helping to meet the cost of the training allowance.</p> <p>WHG are taking over Hollemeadow Centre to turn into a training centre for all aspects of the construction industry, plumbing, building etc. Walcat are very much behind this scheme and will help in any way they can.</p>	
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Incubator Status Report</b>                  BC told the meeting that 3 invites to tender had been sent out, of which 2 did not reply and the 3<sup>rd</sup>, did but not in the format requested. BC to contact them to see what can be sorted out.</p>	<b>BC to action</b>

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<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Where Next?</b></p> <p><b>Driving Lessons</b>                  BC still investigating the issues associated with this proposal. Many companies require extra requirements beyond a basic licence for driving jobs, such as being 25 years old, driving for a certain length of time etc. These conditions are often imposed by insurers.</p> <p><b>Retail Therapy</b>                  BC will speak to Bill Smith before proceeding any further with this idea.</p> <p><b>Care Training</b>                  A careership scheme will be piloted in a number of schools within the Black Country. BC is looking into a scheme working and set-up on the same lines as the Construction Training. It would involve all aspects of care, home visiting, care in the community, nursing care etc. and be targeted at those unable to meet the entry qualifications of mainstream courses.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>What's New</b>                  BC reported of various activities he was involved in, including NEETS, Capacity Building and Worklessness through WLLA and WSP. He advised that Prospects are taking on all Connexions delivery in Walsall. WLLA have developed a board game, a cross between Monopoly &amp; Snakes &amp; Ladders based on a map of Walsall. This could be a useful icebreaker and is available from WLLA.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b>                  BC reported on worrying trends in JSA claimants rates for over 50's and 6 to 12 months duration in Walsall. Data for the footprint is not available. He is meeting with the Job Centre to see if more information about the trend can be determined.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8:15 p.m.</p>	
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Date of Future Meetings</b>                  Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2006                  Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2006                  Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2006</p>	