

NEW DEAL: NEW HORIZONS
Minutes of a Housing and Environment Theme meeting
held at the Blakenall Village Centre
on Thursday 4th October 2007 at 6.30pm

In attendance

Alan Venables - Theme Chair / Patch 17 Representative
Vicky Hodson - Patch 1 Representative
Jean Moore - Patch 2 Representative
John Jones - Patch 3 Representative
Mick Taylor - Patch 4 Representative
Albert Hodgkins - Patch 5 Representative
Cliff Webb - Patch 18 Representative
Margaret Rowley - Patch 20 Representative
Doug Gill - Patch 21 Representative
Ian Robertson - Local Councillor

Officers

Steve Pooni - Housing and Environment Theme Leader
James Daniels - Administrator

Partners

Maxine Turley - Walsall MBC
Steve Rowley - Walsall MBC
Don Williams - Walsall MBC

Guests

Paul Myers - Christ Church, Blakenall
Vic Bates - Christ Church, Blakenall

Apologies

Roy Jones - Patch 13 Representative
Charlie Robertson - Patch 14 Representative
Stan Lyons - Patch 16 Representative
Bill Smith - Local Trader Representative
Rob Hughes - Walsall Housing Group
Elaine Weston - Walsall Housing Group
Manvinder Sehmbi - New Deal for Communities
Julia Morris - Neighbourhood Nature / New Deal

Agenda item		Action
1.	Declarations of interest There were none to declare.	
2.	Minutes of the previous meeting The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
3. 3.i.	Matters arising <u>Bovis Homes / Goscote Corridor</u> It was stated a consultation had been arranged by the LNP (Local	

NEW DEAL: NEW HORIZONS

3.ii.	<p>Neighbourhood Partnership) taking place at Sneyd School on Monday 22nd October 2007.</p> <p>JJ stated he had visited the Bovis Site in Pleck along with several other Board members on Wednesday 3rd October and found the work there very impressive.</p> <p>SP added that Bovis would be asking for a letter of support from New Deal.</p> <p><u>Christ Church</u> SP introduced the item and handed over to Vic Bates, Church Warden. VB explained the Church were looking for funding to re-tarmac the ground surrounding the Hall and to install new and better lighting. He added that they had a quote for £7,925.</p> <p>The group discussed this and whether the Theme was the appropriate forum for this to be discussed. It was decided the most appropriate way forward was to arrange a meeting with Mike Gaffney (Walsall Council External Funding Officer) and representatives from the Church to discuss funding streams. SP to arrange.</p>	
4.	<p>Walsall MBC Heating and Insulation Scheme (Affordable Warmth) Steve Rowley gave a presentation and talked through the scheme.</p> <p>The group asked how people qualified for assistance. In response it was said the scheme was means tested on household income. SR emphasised the fact that personal savings were not taken into account when assessing qualifying.</p> <p>The group discussed marketing and ways in which to encourage uptake of this programme in the area. The following recommendations were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the New Deal logo be used on the questionnaires / publicity material, ○ an advert be placed in the ChTatter magazine, ○ Board members could be briefed on the scheme so they were better able to spread the word and identify those who maybe eligible for assistance. 	
5.	<p>Update of approved projects <u>Blakenall Village Phase 2</u> <u>Highway Junction</u> MTurley informed the group that WHG had agreed the transfer of land which was necessary for the re-alignment. The design had now been completed and was now going out to tender.</p>	

NEW DEAL: NEW HORIZONS

	<p><u>Colonnade / Garage area</u> MTurley stated Mr Bradley had confirmed in writing that he did not want to proceed with the colonnade extension or the demolition of the garages at the rear of the shops and had put this in writing to the Council.</p> <p><u>Blakenall Garage</u> MTurley stated a scheme had been developed and agreed by all parties and this had now gone out to tender.</p> <p><u>Leamore Local Centre</u> <u>Black Horse Public House</u> MTurley stated Legal Services had exchanged correspondence with Marston's Brewery regarding the Indemnity Agreement of the Black Horse and Marston's were unwilling to ensure their tenants complied with the agreement. In addition, they would take no responsibility if any damage was caused to the improvements. The Council's legal department had informed MTurley not to correspond further with Marston's.</p> <p><u>649 Bloxwich Road</u> MTurley reported she had met with the owner of 649 Bloxwich Road and this had now been included in the tender.</p> <p><u>Small Shops</u> MTurley stated a plan on the developments for Selman's Hill would be presented to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Blakenall Village Phase 1</u> MTurley stated an order had been placed with BJ Landscapes for the outstanding remedial works. Now awaiting a start date.</p>	
<p>6. 6.i.</p> <p>6.ii.</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>Red Route</u> SP stated Stuart Everett had attended the last meeting of the Bloxwich Town Centre Steering Group and an update on the Red Route would be presented to the next Theme meeting.</p> <p><u>Living Streets</u> SP stated he was in the process of arranging a 'special theme meeting' to discuss the Living Streets project.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Date and time of the next meeting The next meeting of the Housing and Environment Theme meeting will be held on 6th December 2007 commencing at 6.30pm at the Blakenall Village Centre.</p>	