

**SPELTHORNE TOGETHER EXECUTIVE
MINUTES**
Venue: Council Chamber, Knowle Green
22 November 2010 15.30-17.30



Present

Sue Robertson (Chairman)	Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals Trust
Andrew Evans	A2Dominion
Danny Kington	CAB
Andy Burns	Easttwest
Ruth Hutchinson	NHS Surrey
Tim Griffiths	Residents' Association – North
Richard Hewitt	Residents' Association – South
Kathleen Croft	Residents' Assn – Stanwell/Stanwell Moor
Paul Mitchell	SCDT
Mike Wylie	Spelthorne Business Forum
Roberto Tambini	Spelthorne Borough Council
Richard Smith-Ainsley	Spelthorne Borough Council Deputy Leader
Louise Punter	Surrey Chambers of Commerce
Paul Mitchell	Surrey Community Development Trust
James Painter	Surrey County Council
Denise Turner-Stewart	Surrey County Council - elected member
Les Dodd	Surrey Fire & Rescue
Sharon Bush	Surrey Police - Supt

Also in attendance

Brian Harris	Spelthorne Borough Council
Joanne Jones	Spelthorne Borough Council
Terry Collier	Spelthorne Borough Council

Apologies

Claudette Curtis Jenkins	Residents' Assn – North
Liz Borthwick	Spelthorne Borough Council
John Packman	Spelthorne Borough Council
Alex Tribick	Spelthorne Business Forum
Sue Metcalf	Age Concern
Elizabeth Moore	VAIS

1	Apologies	Noted
2	Introduction of new community representatives Tim Griffiths and Richard Hewitt were introduced, then Kathleen Croft who arrived after the start of the meeting. Apologies had been given for Claudette Curtis Jenkins.	
3	Notes of meeting held on 12 July. Amendments: Matter arising, Item 12, Youth Issues – youth needs assessment would go to the December SCC meeting (not October as published)	Agreed with amendment

4	<p>Matters arising: Item 8 - Bus consultation: Sue Robertson had asked for the bus company website details to be added to publicity literature.</p> <p>Item 6, ii) Spelthorne Together Assembly: Brian Harris reported back that secondary schools had indicated they were happy for students to attend future events.</p> <p>All other actions had been undertaken.</p> <p>Dates for 2011 meetings were acceptable – NB - subsequent clash in November means change from 28 November to 21 November</p>	
5	<p>No conflicts of interest</p>	
6	<p>Spelthorne Together Assembly</p> <p>Brian Harris introduced the report contents page (<i>attached</i>) as an indication of what was covered.</p> <p>Richard Smith-Ainsley said it was good to see so many elected members in attendance, while Tim Griffiths said he would like to see more public there. He also suggested the confederation of schools could help the distribution of invitations to the public, via school newsletters etc.</p> <p>Everyone was happy with Kempton Park as a venue.</p>	<p>All groups to be asked to spread invitations to the public - JJ</p>
7	<p>Update on</p> <p>i) <u>Targeted support funding.</u> Joanne Jones outlined the spend on projects so far (<i>breakdown attached</i>). Denise Turner-Stewart thought there was an over-emphasis on Stanwell projects. Brian Harris explained that of the £10k targeted support funding, £5k had been allocated specifically for Stanwell as a Priority Place. The Neighbourhood Watch allocation was shared across the borough. Denise Turner-Stewart asked if the money could be spread more. Joanne Jones replied that the theme groups had been canvassed for suggested projects and a task and finish group had selected the final projects from a list of about a dozen.</p> <p>Sue Robertson asked about the other Priority Places and these were outlined – Merstham, Maybury, Westborough (Guildford). James Painter suggested that projects could be considered for Ashford North and Sunbury Common.</p> <p>ii) <u>Progress through Partnership.</u> Joanne Jones reported on the spend (<i>attached</i>). Denise Turner Stewart questioned the value of spending on capacity-building for the 2 newest theme groups. Also see minutes 9a) and b). The website/comms allocation has been set aside to support the 5 projects which did not win the Assembly Make It Happen vote.</p>	
8	<p>The Big Society</p> <p>James Painter showed a Powerpoint presentation on The Big Society – Implications for Spelthorne Together.</p> <p>Discussion followed on how the Big Society would work in practice and who would be involved and responsible. While it was thought voluntary organisations would play a major role, a change of outlook would be needed by everyone – to get beyond the “what’s in it for me?” attitude. Individuals coming forward to take part needed guidance to contribute – so mechanisms should be in place and working. Big Society means more consultations – and more results acted upon.</p> <p>Richard Smith-Ainsley commented on Surrey and thought it was impressive.</p> <p>The near future would bring opportunities for community involvement, including the royal wedding, 2012 Olympics and Queen’s Diamond Jubilee.</p> <p>Richard Hewitt pointed out that it would not be a case of volunteers taking on the work of the public sector.</p>	<p>JJ to send out details of Surrey and James Painter’s presentation</p> <p>James Painter to supply copy of presentation on the national perspective by Irene Lucas, CBE, formerly Director General, Communities and Local Government</p>

	<p>Discussion followed on how to take the Big Society ideas forward, including publicising examples of successes and encouraging the community to take part. Issues to bear in mind included the fear that volunteers might be seen to be taking work from paid employees (eg in libraries).</p> <p>The LSP was identified as a forum to push forward ideas; looking to its own future was a starting point.</p> <p>Roberto Tambini said the big challenge was finding ways of doing more for less – and identifying initiatives and ideas which work elsewhere. Central to this is identifying priorities and using innovative ways to achieve them.</p>	
9	<p>Progress on themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Housing, Infrastructure & Environment: Had not met in the meantime. Had taken part in the second PtP capacity-building event, which had been very useful. The focus was on not following targets which the group could not influence – instead go for things which <i>could</i> be achieved. This would necessitate environmental audits. Tim Griffiths was keen to see young people involved. b) Economic Development: Mike Wylie presented the update (<i>attached</i>) and thanks for the contributions by Pauline Hedges and Bill Norris were recorded. The theme group capacity-building events had been very useful, allowing the group to focus and set goals. c) Safer Stronger: Roberto Tambini presented the update (<i>attached</i>). The message was that there was a need to operate at the same level with less funding. Sharon Bush agreed funding would be an issue for the upcoming year. Denise Turner-Stewart commended the CS partnership for making good use of resources. d) Health & Well Being: Sue Robertson gave a verbal report. The breast cancer sub-group was still active; alcohol group looking at crime and disorder and lifestyle changes; mental well being for older people group had the Big Coffee Morning to focus on. e) Community Involvement (formerly NI4) – Sue Robertson said the task and finish group would be working on plans to address this. The challenge for the LSP was to have a regular feed of stories focussing on what the partners are doing together which could not be achieved alone. Partners were urged to think ahead so any partner initiatives could be duly covered and recorded. f) Children and Young People – Update presented (<i>attached</i>). Brian Harris added other events which had involved young people – Young Citizen, Young Citizenship, Education Business Awards, The Apprentice at Matthew Arnold School. Tim Griffiths emphasised the importance of involving young people in community matters. 	
10	<p>Voluntary Sector issues:</p> <p>Age Concern: Joanne Jones gave a verbal report on behalf of Sue Metcalf. Funding cuts experienced from all the traditional funders - borough and county councils, NHS. GP commissioning was still an unknown quantity. Age Concern was trying to gear up for a further hard winter; had received a small amount of funding which was earmarked for helping mobile home occupants with heating repairs and bills. Trying to improve the discharge process from St Peter's Hospital by providing</p>	

	<p>emergency clothing and information about any available help. This was currently going well and the hospital is allocating a small grant. Trust volunteers were also being approached to join the initiative. The merger with Runnymede Age Concern was also going well; members would be asked for final approval in January 2011.</p> <p>VAIS: A drop-in session at Staines Library was ongoing while the volunteer centre at Elmsleigh Centre is shut. It was hoped to get a vacant shop in Elmsleigh Centre after Christmas.</p> <p>CAB: Enquiries were up 7% in the last quarter. Funding bids – seven in the year – had been unsuccessful. Bids had been very detailed concerning tackling deprivation; no outreach funding is available for immobile people. While there is never a lack of volunteers, funding is needed to train and pay expenses. James Painter asked if extra funding would be allocated once certain statutory bodies disappeared. This was unknown, but Danny Kington predicted more queries would be directed at CAB which would formerly have gone to Consumer Direct.</p> <p>Easttwest: Andy Burns reported the charity was on course with its growth strategy to increase supported lodgings beds from 6 to 15 within 3 years.</p>	
10	<p>Communications Joanne Jones thanked the fire and rescue service via Les Dodd, for the co-operation in securing a story and photo relating to partnership working, between the service and Age Concern. A presentation on suitable stories and pictures was pencilled in for the January meeting</p>	JJ
11	<p>AOB Louise Punter said there was £1.4b funding available for regional growth, likely to be allocated in £1m chunks. She suggested Surrey could bid for some; it would require a very strong partnership led by the business sector. Andy Burns expressed sadness at the closure of Connexions in Staines – affecting 400 young people.</p>	
12	<p>Next meetings: Monday 24 January, 3.30pm, Council Chamber, Knowle Green, Knowle Green. Then 21 March, 23 May, 25 July, 26 September, 21 November. All meetings 3.30pm except 26 September – 2pm after Assembly. NB: Change of date for November – now 21st.</p>	