

**Buckinghamshire Pathfinder  
Wycombe District Community Engagement Pilot**

**News Bulletin No 8 – November 2008**

**What's it all about?**

The Wycombe District Pathfinder Community Engagement Pilot is seeking to:

- Make it easier and simpler for communities to engage with the whole Public Sector;
- Develop and strengthen community engagement and partnership arrangements based on geographical communities within the Wycombe District; and
- Focus on actions and service improvements to meet local priorities.

<b>LEVEL 1: PILOT COMMUNITY ACTION GROUPS</b>
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**Downley & Disraeli 1<sup>st</sup> Pilot Community Action Group meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October.**

- 40 people attended
- 41 comments/issues/questions were recorded – issues currently being looked at by partner agencies
- Results to be fed back at the next Neighbourhood Action Group Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Key points to highlight:

- The meeting was jointly chaired by the Police and a District Councillor (in her Ward role) with public sector agencies present, showing an excellent example of joined-up working.
- A willingness from the Parish Council of Downley to reach out and assist with the development of the Disraeli community, which is unparished.
- An increased attendance from the community than at a normal Neighbourhood Action Group meeting for the area, although (as expected) the Disraeli community remains under-represented as do the youth of the area. It was hoped however that the launch of the Disraeli & Downley Youth Working Party will help to address this.
- The business conducted demonstrated that it could probably cover the work of both the Neighbourhood Action Group and wider issues and included three elements
  - focus on local issues and priorities with action points
  - feedback on services provided by agencies (questionnaire approach)
  - consultation opportunity from Amersham and Wycombe College on their plans for a site in the community area of Downley and Disraeli.
- Issues on Health, transportation and young people were identified, which interestingly are a wider set than the existing set of NAG priorities.
- Quick wins have been identified and are being actioned, for example,

- £300 has been secured for a joint Newsletter covering the Downley and Disraeli Community [further discussions to be held to see how this can be taken forward] and a desire to include Disraeli in the Downley Day event next year.
- Establishment of a social networking site (Wycombenetwork.com) to engage people in the Downley and Disraeli area to offer views.
- Encouragement to the Downley Parish Council to prepare their Parish Plan and work will start in early 2009.

**Stokenchurch, Radnage, West Wycombe, Lane End, Piddington & Wheeler End : 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Pilot Community Action Group meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

35 people attend, all 5 communities were represented, Thames Valley Police along with their NAG representatives, Voluntary Sector, Parish, District & County Councillors/officers

Agenda items included :

- Update on current young people activities/provision
- Discussion on future actions/requirements
- M40 Chilterns Environmental Group : update on work so far & proposal to submit report via Sustainable Communities Act
- Developing the Community Action Group
- Questionnaire

More information will be given in next month's newsletter.

**The Pathfinder Countywide Community Engagement Project Board – Feedback from the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> November**

- Decision to proceed with the production of a Headline Business Case for the development of a single shared community engagement framework, to assist with the evaluation of the Pilots in Spring 2009. The Project Board recognised that this required the full support of all partners in helping to develop the Business Case and to consider the findings.
- Additional risk identified for the work stream relating to the conflicting National Guidance on different partners, which potentially removed flexibility for integration and/or rationalisation at the local level. Potential for securing freedoms and flexibilities to be pursued.
- Strong support for the community appraisals approach using Bucks Community Action to achieve Countywide coverage within 3 years - work programme to be shared when available.
- Presentation to the next meeting on the opportunities for shared working from the Sustainable Communities Act.
- Participatory Budgeting workshop to be arranged for Spring 2009 to help share learning from the Buckinghamshire County Council Pilot.

**Grassroots Representatives Group as the Sounding Board for the Pilot – Next meeting:** 27<sup>th</sup> January 2009, Venue to be confirmed, time 7pm. This will include a presentation on the Sustainable Communities Act.

### **Princes Risborough LCP**

Chairman - County Councillor Richard Pushman (Chair is on a rotation basis – next meeting [December] has Paul Rogerson in the Chair)

Vice Chairman - District Councillor John Gibbs

**Delegated Budget [£30,368]** - Schemes are to be submitted by the end of December 2008

**Next meeting:** 17 December 2008, Venue to be confirmed, Time 7pm

### **South West Chilterns & Marlow LCP**

Chairman – County Councillor Robert Woollard (until June 2009)

Vice-Chairman – District Councillor Doug Anson MBE

**Delegated Budget [£33,510]** - Schemes for consideration should be submitted by the end of December 2008.

**Next meeting:** 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009, Venue, Liston Hall, Marlow. Time: 7pm

### **Chepping Wye Valley LCP**

Chairman - County Councillor Peter Cartwright (for the Council year 2009/10)

Vice Chairman - District Councillor Ron Gaffney

**Delegated Budgets [£28,099.58]** – Schemes to be submitted by end of December 2008.

**Next meeting:** 14 January 2009 Venue, Little Marlow Pavilion, Time 7pm

### **High Wycombe LCP – Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October**

Chairman – County Councillor Lesley Clarke

Vice Chairman – District Councillor Arif Hussain (to be confirmed)

**Delegated Budget [£33,020.57]**

**Next meeting :** 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009, Venue to be confirmed, Time : 7pm

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## **LEVEL 3: WYCOMBE PARTNERSHIP**

**Wycombe Partnership meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> November.** Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Community Partnerships were invited to join the wider Partnership to ensure links are made between the Local Community Partnerships and the Level 3 arrangements.

**Next Bulletin to be sent out in early January 2009**

If you wish to make comments or give feedback then please contact June Campbell, Community Engagement Co-ordinator, Wycombe District Council, District Council Offices, Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1BB or email [june\\_campbell@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:june_campbell@wycombe.gov.uk).

*For more information about the Buckinghamshire Pathfinder Project please visit [www.bucksonline.gov.uk/pathfinder](http://www.bucksonline.gov.uk/pathfinder)*

*This Bulletin has been issued on behalf of the participating partners:  
Buckinghamshire Association of Local Councils, Buckinghamshire County Council, Bucks and Milton Keynes Fire Authority, Buckinghamshire Primary Care Trust, Buckinghamshire NHS Hospitals Trust, Thames Valley Police, Voluntary and Community Sector (represented by the Priory Centre), Wycombe District Council, Wycombe Partnership/Bucks Strategic Partnership*