

## **ACTION NOTES**

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>SW Chilterns &amp; Marlow Local Community Partnership</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>15 July 2008 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Henley Management College, Greenlands, Henley on Thames, RG9 3AU</b>

<b>Present:</b>	Douglas Anson MBE, Michael Chadwick (Stokenchurch and Radnage Community Action Forum), Ann Fitzpatrick (Lane End Parish Council), Christopher Harbord (Ibstone Parish Council), Lesley Mallinder (Buckinghamshire PCT), Rev Nick Malony, Ian McEnnis, Malcolm Penny (Stokenchurch Parish Council), Pastor John Richardson, Vicki Smith (West Wycombe Parish Council), Jean Teesdale, Susan Walker (Hambleden Parish Council), Robert Woollard (Chairman) and Susan Wright (Lane End Parish Council)
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Karen Adamson, Carole Burslem, June Campbell, Andrew Clarke, Janet Clements, Anne Davies, Rebecca Fetterman, Clare Gray, Sharon Henson, Mary Lewis, Clair Marchant, Eric Meek, Julie Mills, Danny O'Driscoll, Steve Orchard, Ian Sharp, Jamie Smith, Jeremy Williams, Michael Wood and Stuart Young
<b>Apologies:</b>	Malcolm Blanksby, Stuart Burt, Lynda Cockerill, Alex Collingwood, Simon Digby, Frank Downes, Dr K Edwards, Cllr Roger Emmett, Saiqa Khan, Rev Nigel Lacey, Neil Marshall, Sarah Marshall, Charles Meakings, Tom Nixey, J Oliver, Lorna Parkins, Pat Robson, Richard Scott, Andrew Seston, Adam Shaw, Frank Sweatman, Emma Taylor, Christopher Watson, C Way, David West, Keith Wheeler, Helen Wilkinson and Roger Wilson

Item	ISSUES RAISED
<b>1</b>	<p><b>WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROBERT WOOLLARD</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Members to the Marlow GC2C Area Meeting. All persons present introduced themselves.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>INTRODUCTIONS</b></p> <p>Anne Davies gave some clarification on the Getting Closer to Communities initiative:-</p> <p>Pathfinder – where the County and District Council work closely together to provide streamlined services to residents whether it is County or a District Council responsibility. Part of the Pathfinder initiative was a community engagement project which was led by Wycombe District Council, which aimed to bring many public sector partners together. Level 1 meetings deal with grassroot issues and Level 2 meetings deal with more strategic issues where partners need to work together to provide solutions to community issues, which in turn will link into Bucks Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>Steve Orchard, Programme Manager updated Members on a recent paper submitted to the County Council which abolished Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe Local Committees so that they would be replaced by the new structure of Local Area Forums/Local Community Partnerships (LCP) under the pathfinder initiative.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>NOTES OF THE RURAL MARLOW LOCAL AREA FORUM MEETING</b></p> <p>The notes of Rural Marlow Local Area Forum on 8 April 2008 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:-</p>

	<p>Present – T Nixet (3<sup>rd</sup> line) should read T Nixey</p> <p>Report of Area Maintenance Engineer – 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph – The Chairman mentioned the white lines on the B482 through Stokenchurch to Cadmore End as needing attention.</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF NAME DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>At the previous meeting there had been a discussion about the most appropriate name for the LCP. A representative from Stokenchurch Parish Council had put forward the name ‘South West Chilterns’. Bearing in mind the area that the LCP was representing it was also suggested that ‘and Marlow’ should be included. On a show of hands the majority of Members were in favour of South West Chilterns and Marlow.</p> <p>A representative from the District Council made a comment about the most appropriate venue for the LCP, particularly bearing in mind the high fuel prices. There were a number of good village halls in the locality and it was noted that the LCP would move round each area.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>ACCESSIBILITY</b></p> <p>At the last meeting there had been a discussion about bus passes and taxi tokens and that this should be given priority at the next meeting.</p> <p>A representative from Wycombe District Council referred to an accident that she had where she was disabled for a few months. The cost of transport was high e.g a taxi to Wycombe from Radnage was £12 each way. It was also difficult to find taxi’s that took wheelchairs. Taxi tokens do not cover the cost for people who have a disability e.g going to Amersham Hospital cost £40 each way.</p> <p>A representative from Hambleden Parish Council also reported that the taxi token scheme was inadequate e.g a cost of a taxi from Skirmett to High Wycombe was £18 and only a total of £30 taxi tokens were distributed each year. There were only 2 buses a week from Hambleden to Marlow and the return journey left an hour after the bus arrived at Marlow. Andy Clarke, Passenger Transport, BCC reported that bus services to Hambleden in January would discontinue as the criteria was not being met to provide this service. He reported that passenger use was so low it would be cheaper to provide a taxi service. The Chairman reported that Buckinghamshire was 82% rural and that transport services should reflect this.</p> <p>The General Manager from Wycombe Dial a Ride reported that journeys with Dial a Ride were no more than £7.50 return, but users were expected to become Members at a cost of £15 a year (£12 in the second year). They had 404 Members and transported 100 people a day. Priority was given for hospital and GP appointments. A Member reported that Dial a Ride did not operate during the weekends and there was also a problem if the person was feeling unwell and wanted to keep their travelling time to a minimum rather than picking other people up on route. The General Manager reported that the pick ups were usually on the same route and that other people needed to use the service; particularly as the service was already subsidised</p> <p>For further information contact Michael Wood on 01494 441818.</p> <p>Janet Clements, Democratic and Legal Services, Wycombe District Council reported on the new national bus fare scheme from 1 April 2008. A grant had been allocated by Government but did not provide the necessary resourcing to cover all the costs. The Council had received 5,000 new applications since April 2007. The District Council had had to review whether they could afford to support taxi tokens and looking at how Dial a Ride could be better used to support this.</p> <p>Lesley Mallinder from the Primary Care Trust reported on the basic entitlement for patients who need to access health services. There was no financial assistance for people to access primary</p>

health care, if they were house bound the GP would visit them at home. Patients would get free NHS transport to hospital services if they had a medical need or disability e.g if they require continuous oxygen, medical equipment, on a stretcher or clearly recognised as disabled so that they would be unable to make the journey. Patient transport services (PTS) were based at hospitals but were funded by the PCT. The PTS interpreted the criteria of free transport quite tightly. Patients could ring the Patient Advisory Liaison Service (PALS) for assistance in this matter.

If the patient is not entitled to free transport under medical grounds they may be entitled to a reimbursement of some or all of the travel costs under means related criteria eg if they are on income support, jobseekers allowance, low income. Patients not on benefits would need to fill out a form HC1 from their GP Surgery or the NHS Business Services Authority to obtain a certificate and all patients claiming must produce evidence of their eligibility to the hospital cashier for reimbursement of travel costs. These would need to be reasonable e.g use of public transport if possible. A Member also commented that St Johns Ambulance may undertake transport for a donation. A Member suggested that when the Hospital sent appointment letters that a leaflet should be included on the concessionary fares scheme and that there should be a link from the Bucks Hospital website to the District Council website on public transport.

**Action: Lesley Mallinder/Julie Mills**

For further information go the Bucks Hospital Trust website at [www.buckinghamshirehospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.buckinghamshirehospitals.nhs.uk) or the PCT website at [www.buckspct.nhs.uk](http://www.buckspct.nhs.uk)

A Member referred to some past work undertaken by the County Council on the Marlow Area Accessibility Partnership. A representative from West Wycombe Parish Council reported that a lot of work had been put into this area but nothing had been taken forward. Members noted that there was also a Transport Accessibility Group, which was led by the Council and the PCT.

A Member expressed concern that as bus services provided a commercial service there was no obligation on the bus driver to provide accessible buses with low floors. Another Member commented on the need for like minded organisations to work together to achieve a better service. Anne Davies, Lead Officer reported that under the Transport Act there were limitations on what authorities could provide.

Steve Orchard, Programme Manager reported that the Greater Aylesbury Local Area Forum had had a similar discussion on this area on the previous night. They had discussed transport for older people during the daytime but also transport for youth in the evenings e.g 16 seater bus. The 19 Local Area Forums could work together to look at a solution for this problem.

The LCP agreed that a Local Working Group should be set up to look into the issues affecting the South West Chilterns and Marlow to include the following people:-

Carole Burslem – Lead Officer for the Group, Bucks County Council  
Andy Clarke – Passenger Transport, Bucks County Council  
Lesley Mallinder – Primary Care Trust  
Michael Wood – Wycombe DC Dial A Ride  
Julie Mills – Wycombe DC  
John Callaghan – Team Leader (Transport & Environment) Wycombe DC  
Rebecca Fetterman – Youth Service, Bucks County Council  
Michael Chadwick – Stokenchurch and Radnage Community Action Forum  
Susan Wright – Lane End Parish Council  
Susan Walker – Hambleden Parish Council  
Nick Maloney – Marlow Town Ministry

**Action: Carole Burslem**

	<p>It was suggested that it would be useful to use conference calls or the internet for initial discussions to reduce the need for meeting. Steve Orchard reported that they were planning on including blog sites on the GC2C website. The Local Working Group would liaise with Anne Davies (BCC) and Janet Clements (WDC). Members noted that there was a demand led transport project which was being looked at through the pathfinder initiative; this would be a good starting point.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>YOUTH</b></p> <p>At the last meeting there was some discussion about the lack of appropriate youth services in the area. Mary Lewis and Rebecca Fetterman, Youth Service, Bucks County Council attended the meeting to hear people's views on youth services for the area. A representative from Thames Valley Police reported on anti social behaviour. He referred to a discussion at the last Neighbourhood Action Group about Stokenchurch Youth Club. The Adult Education Service had some property in Stokenchurch which could be used by youth in the area to play on if they could find volunteers or parents to assist the youth workers in supervising them and ensuring that the premises were not vandalised. The Youth Club met once a week but the Centre was booked out for the rest of the week. Volunteers would need to undergo criminal record bureau checks and training. Mary Lewis suggested talking to Bucks Sports Partnership as this land could be used to run sports activities and she also commented that CCTV could be explored as a deterrent for vandalism.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Mary Lewis</b></p> <p>The representative from West Wycombe Parish Council reported that a meeting was being held on 23 July 2008 to talk about Stokenchurch Community Centre.</p> <p>The representative from Stokenchurch Parish Council reported that they had been approached by a group of young people who asked to make a presentation to the Parish Council about ideas they had for youth services in the area. This information should be passed onto the BCC Youth Service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Malcolm Penny</b></p> <p>The representative from the Fire and Rescue Service reported that Jo Oliver dealt with youth engagement locally and that she was contactable at <a href="mailto:joliver@bucksfire.gov.uk">joliver@bucksfire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Pastor John Richardson referred to an initiative which he had undertaken by the church working with the youth in Lane End. This initiative had now been recognised and was one of three projects being observed nationally. He had been aware there was a problem for older children aged 16 – 19 and felt there should be an opportunity for them to have some informal training on trades. They have been working on this initiative for 9 months (health and safety checks, risk assessments etc) and have now started this month with a course on car mechanics. He had noticed that a number of teenagers were illiterate and therefore were unable to fill out benefit forms, therefore he had set up a literacy and numeracy class as well.</p> <p>A suggestion had been made that this scheme should be replicated throughout the County but further help would need to be given. He had applied to the District Council for a grant for a part time Project Manager. One area that had been put forward was Micklefield and Castlefield in High Wycombe and also working with Muslims. He had visited Liverpool where a similar project was being undertaken which involved 165,000 deprived people and had been very successful e.g 60 young men had undertaken a course in horticulture and one man was now the Assistant Groundsman for Everton Football Club. As a pilot one young man had been helped in Lane End who now had a good job in an electrical company and had bought a car. The Pastor was congratulated for his excellent work.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>NAG UPDATE</b></p> <p>Clair Marchant reported the following areas they were prioritising in South West Rural:-</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speeding/Community Speed Watch/Enforcement</li> <li>• HGV Vehicles</li> <li>• Burglary and theft</li> </ul> <p>Danny O’Driscoll reported the following areas they were prioritising in Lane End, Stokenchurch and West Wycombe:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti Social behaviour eg nuisance, parking disputes, damage, dog barking, littering, graffiti</li> <li>• Speeding</li> </ul>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Eric Meek gave an update on the work being undertaken by community gangs. The gangs would undertake minor improvement work identified by the parishes/local members including patching, white lining, cutting back vegetation and sign cleaning. One gang would be in each GC2C area every 5 weeks and Parish Clerks would send them a list of works the week before they came to their area. If they could not complete the list they would undertake that job the following visit. The gangs had received very positive feedback. In answer to a question a representative from TVP reported that if a speed limit sign was hidden under foliage and a person was caught speeding it would be up to the court to decide whether they should be prosecuted.</p>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The dates of the next meeting were agreed as follows:-</p> <p>16 September 2008</p> <p>4 December 2008</p> <p>17 March 2009</p> <p>18 June 2009</p>