

Minutes
HARLOW 2020 PARTNERSHIP BOARD
Friday 19th June 2009, Council Chamber, Civic Centre,
The Water Gardens, Harlow

PRESENT:

Andrew Bramidge (AB)		Harlow Renaissance Ltd
Bill Rammell MP		MP for Harlow
Chris Fluskey		Harlow Education Consortium
Cllr Eddie Johnson		Essex County Council
Jackie Sully (JS)	(Chair)	Rainbow Services
Jonathan Clarke		Harlow & District Chamber of Commerce
Liz McGranahan (LM)		NHS West Essex
Lynn Seward (LS)		Harlow Council/Children's & Young People's Strategic Partnership
Richard Inman		Government Office East
Cath Shaw (CS)		Harlow Council
Colin Hindmarch (CH)		Harlow College
Jan Dalrymple		Harlow Voluntary Sector Forum
Cllr John Strachan		Harlow Council
Keith Dobson		Harlow Police

IN ATTENDANCE:

Marina Sherriff (MS)	(Minutes)	Harlow 2020 Partnership
Keith Hughes (KH)		Business Link East
Yvette Wetton (YW)		Essex County Council

APOLOGIES:

John Wright		Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust
Malcolm Morley (MM)	(Vice Chair)	Harlow Council
Paul Taylor		Learning & Skills Council
Supt. Simon Williams		Essex Police
Alison Cowie		NHS West Essex
Cllr Andrew Johnson		Harlow Council
Cllr Edna Stevens		Harlow Council
Nathalie Collomb		GO East
Rob Sibley		BAA
Tim Escudier		Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust
Gaynor Cross		Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust
Raine Hunt		Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust

ABSENT:

Paul Wood	East of England Development Agency
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JS welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received and noted.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

JS declared an interest in item 4 of the agenda.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

MS requested one amendment to the previous minutes – page 3, item 7 - £37k should read £32k.

BC to action

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Information Packs (3.1)

MS reported that Youth Cllr Perry Williams had reviewed the contents. On the whole the feedback was good with some recommendations that small changes to the wording be made to make it more user friendly to young people.

BC to action

3.2 The H'Oscars (3.2)

Nothing further to report at this time.

3.3 Harlow Public Sector Board (3.3)

Progress has been made, the CapGemini work now finished.

3.4 NI 7

Nothing further to report at this time.

4. CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE 2020 BOARD - information

JS left the meeting. In the absence of MM, LS informed the Board of the process of election of the 2020 Chair, as JS's term of office ends in September. Nominations for the position of Chair should be submitted, in writing, to MM by Friday 14th August 2009. Nominations should be accompanied by a "Submission Statement" outlining why the nominee wishes to be considered for the position of LSP Chair and what experience the nominee can bring to the role. Copies of all Submission Statements received will be distributed to Board members on Friday 21st August. The election of the new Chair will formally take place at the next Board meeting on Friday 18th September 2009. For Vice Chair, nominations will be received orally at the September meeting and voted on by a show of hands. JS rejoined the meeting.

5. HARLOW RENAISSANCE/TOWN CENTRE - update

Harlow Council has now signed an agreement with Stockland, the appointed developer, for the redevelopment of the town centre. There will be an exhibition in the Broad Walk, opposite MacDonalds, from 9th – 12th July where the plans can be viewed. There will also be a model of proposed developments, display boards and an artist's impression on DVD. The consultation will go on until September with plans also being available on Renaissance's website and a presence at the town show on 6th September. The design process will be complete by early 2010 with a planning document for further consultation. JS requested that the DVD be shown at the next Board meeting.

Moat Homes are building within the GAF Project neighbourhood centres and consultation with residents on the design details is planned in July.

6. HARLOW 2020 STEERING GROUP - update

A summary of the Steering Group meeting and progress report was circulated and noted. MS highlighted a query from Graeme Bloomer regarding membership and promotion of Carbon Consortium. YW reported that Uttlesford LSP have done some work on this. MS to email query out to members.

MS to action

7. REVIEW OF CHILDREN'S TRUST ARRANGEMENTS IN ESSEX - discussion

LS gave a review of the Children's Trust arrangements in Essex. An initial review has been completed which identified a number of issues. Three frameworks for future service delivery are proposed and more consultation in workshops is now being carried out. LS encouraged attendance at the Harlow workshop which is taking place on 10th July at the Swallow Churchgate from 0930 – 1230. The three proposals are to continue the development of TASCC teams; delegate resources to Schools' Partnerships; or to go to a District/Borough/Quadrant/Quintile model of management. Both Harlow Council and Harlow CYPSP have raised concerns about model 3. The Board strongly felt that the third option should be resisted strongly in order to maintain a Harlow focus and that 2020 should meet with County Councillors to discuss. JS agreed to set up such a meeting and to also write to Lord Hanningfield. The submission date for the next stage of the consultation is 17th July.

JS to action

8. HARLOW REGENERATION & SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY - information
CS gave a presentation on the draft Harlow Regeneration & Social Inclusion Strategy. The current regeneration strategy is about what Harlow Council can do for the town whilst the new document will be more about what the town needs, with the council working closely with the PCT and ECC. The consultation document is out now and has an economic focus - tackling worklessness but also broadened out to include social inclusion. The strategy will align with 2020's Vision with seven key priorities – skills and education; increasing economic prosperity, transport and infrastructure; building a vibrant Town Centre; enabling housing renewal; addressing health opportunities and inequalities; Harlow as a cultural hub and renewing neighbourhoods and neighbourhood centres.

9. HARLOW 2020 FINANCE - information
A spreadsheet showing 2020's financial situation was circulated and noted. JS stated that funds to enable the consultation, production and launch of a new Sustainable Community Strategy would need to be earmarked.

10. QUESTIONS FROM HARLOW COLLEGE - discussion
CH posed two questions to the Board – is it more difficult to initiate and put in place change in Harlow and is there less productive partnership working in Harlow? After much discussion it was the view of the Board this was not so in both cases. It was recognised that there may be some resistance to change at times but nothing like there was 10-15 years ago and no different from anywhere else. It was also noted that compared to other districts in Essex Harlow is viewed as a good place to work in partnership and local people are interested in the work of 2020 and that it was essential that Harlow College is an integral part of any partnership working taking place in the town. JS requested that this topic be put back on the agenda for the September meeting to discuss further.

MS to action

11. HARLOW RESEARCH PROJECT – discussion
JS has met with CH and Harlow College Chairman Martin Coleman regarding the college's engagement with 2020. Discussions led to a referral to the 'Harlow Factor' – how we perceive ourselves, how we project ourselves and how outsiders view the town. Given Harlow's engagement with Anglia Ruskin University JS suggested contacting the university to see if a piece of research could be conducted on this issue. This was agreed by the Board. It was also agreed that Cllr Andrew Johnson be asked to raise this at the European New Town's Platform to see if this is a common problem with new towns as it seems to be in Basildon and Stevenage.

JS to action

12. QUESTION TIME
There were no questions from the public. However there was a comment that partnership working in Harlow was good but Harlow College needs to engage more with the LSP in order to drive change forward.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 The Essex Conference

MS gave information on this event taking place on 9th July and encouraged members to attend.

13.2 Faith & BME representation on Harlow 2020

2020 is already linked to the faith community through the Voluntary Sector Forum. JS requested that this be an agenda item for further discussion at the next Board meeting.

MS to action

13.3 Sustainable Communities Act

Essex County Council is working to prepare submissions to central government under the provisions of this act, requesting action to assist them in promoting sustainability of their local communities. JS asked MS to email more information to members and to collate responses.

MS to action

13.4 Swine Flu

LM reported that numbers are increasing – 1,752 confirmed cases, 66 of which in the East of England and 2 cases in West Essex. Under 40s are most at risk due to older people may have built up more of a resistance. The UK is in 'containment' phase so anyone with symptoms who has travelled is swabbed. 3,000 cases in the UK will trigger 'mitigation' phase which will mean distribution of anti-virus. Vaccine is being developed.

13.5 Business Link

KH reported that thanks to very successful partnership working with Harlow Council and HEEP, Business Link have developed a case study which will highlight Harlow as an example of good practice at the Essex Conference.

13.6 Future Jobs Fund

CS reported that the Government has created a Future Jobs Fund to which local authorities and other organisations can bid to create 30 new jobs in each district. CS requested that partners that have new jobs of at least 25 hrs per week with a training element which they wish to submit should contact Julie Houston at Harlow Council urgently.

14. DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday 18th September 2009 in Committee Rooms 2A&B, Civic Centre at 10.00 a.m. Refreshments will be available from 9.45 a.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.00 p.m.