

PEACEHAVEN & TELSCOMBE TOWNS REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP

Meeting held on Monday 25th March 2002 at 6.30pm
at the Peacehaven House Project

Present: John Livings, County Councillor, in the Chair
Pete Billin, Local Resident
Donald Shier, House Project - minutes
Sheila Chalmers, Local Resident
John Carden, Local Business
Roy Goodall, Telscombe Town Council
Liz Lee, Lewes District Council
Reigna Mitchell, Observer – Peacehaven Town Council.

(NB. The partnership is made up of named representatives of Local Councils, Business, Residents and the Voluntary Sector. Other people taking part in meetings are observers).

- 1. APOLOGIES** - Apologies for absence were received from: Joanne Kidd, Observer - Meridian Leisure Centre, Wendy Bannatyne, Voluntary Sector, Sue Griffiths, Lewes District Council, Mary Dunmore, Voluntary Sector, David Neighbour, East Sussex County Council, Sam Rowe, Voluntary Sector, Steve Keogh, Observer - Peacehaven Town Council Leisure and Amenities Manager, Robin Olivier, Observer – Social Services.
- 2. MINUTES** - The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd of December were agreed as accurate with the following correction. John Livings felt it was important to be clear that the education department review of the traffic calming measures would take place six months after the works had been put in, rather than that there would be a review that would last for six months.
- 3. MATTERS ARISING – Peacehaven Town Council** will be nominating a representative to replace Daphne Carver, at the next full council meeting.

Partnership Constitution. The paper work for setting up the partnership as a company limited by guarantee is with the relevant authorities at Companies House. It should take about a week or so for us to become a company. Mary Dunmore will keep us informed.

Farmers Market. Roy Goodall will bring any details he has on this to the next meeting. Colin Brown informed us that SDCVS have helped the Seaford Regeneration Partnership to apply to the New Opportunities Fund (National Lottery) for a grant to set up a farmers' market there. This application could be used as a model for an application from our partnership. Would anyone like to take this on? There might be a problem finding a suitable site in Peacehaven or Telscombe for a farmers' market. No-one could think of anywhere.

- 4. INTERREG funding: Talk by Colin Brown of South Downs Council for Voluntary Service.**

Colin has been looking into how the partnership could get funds from this European Union Funding Programme. He has been discussing this with Veronique Poutrel. She is the European Officer at the County Council (Liz Lee has also been involved in discussions about INTERREG). He passed round details of what INTERREG is, to

members of the partnership. He told us how the partnership might be able to obtain funding for projects on our action plan, to benefit Peacehaven and Telscombe.

As you will see from these papers, INTERREG is a large fund of money from the European Union. They are asking groups to apply to this fund for projects that involve joint working across national frontiers. In our case, this would mean partnerships being made with organisations in Northern France.

There have already been two INTERREG schemes, INTERREG 1 and INTERREG 2. The money now available is from INTERREG 3. Colin believes that the best chance for the partnership to get funding is to apply under Priority 1, which is: To strengthen cross border co-operation in the service of the citizen, and Measure 3, which is to develop co-operation in the areas of community safety, health and community development.

Colin highlighted several options for the partnership: 1. The Peacehaven and Telscombe Regeneration Partnership could look for its own partners in France to develop projects with; 2. All three Lewes-area partnerships could get together with the County Council, if they are interested, and develop joint projects; and 3. Our partnership could join up with the University of Brighton. They are considering leading an INTERREG bid.

The University might be interested in including projects for Peacehaven and Telscombe in their plans. They might want to work with us because a big part of this INTERREG scheme is to do research to find out what is needed and to prove that something useful is being done.

Colin believes that the last of these three options is the one that is most likely to succeed. South Downs Council for Voluntary Service (SDCVS) will help the partnership, if we wish to have a go at this. It could be possible to get at least £30,000 for projects for this area. Colin can arrange for Graham Allen, a consultant who has worked with us before, to spend some more time with a few members of the partnership, to work up some ideas. These could be included in a larger bid by the University of Brighton. The partnership as a whole would then look at these.

The University could fill in the funding applications. They can also do the research needed to prove the facts and figures which have to be provided to get any money these days. They need real people, places and projects to do research on. We can provide this for them and they can help us get some funding.

The next opportunity for bidding is in May of this year. There will be another chance in July. If we can make a bid in May and this fails, then we can have another go in July, having learnt from our mistakes.

INTERREG funding will only pay for 50% of project costs. Match funding is needed for the rest. Volunteers' time and contributions by other agencies can count as match funding. However, this does not include local authority officers' time. It was noted that the Seaford Regeneration Partnership has recently obtained funding of £5,000 for a new mobile cinema. Grants like this could be used as match funding.

Lewes District Council has told Colin that they do not wish to commit any resources to bidding for INTERREG money. However, they would be prepared to give support to other people's bids.

It was also suggested that the partnership could apply for funding for Safe Routes to School. There could also be funding available for capital projects from the central government's Single Pot money. The South East of England Development Agency is responsible for this fund.

Some members of the partnership expressed strong negative feelings about the idea of applying to these funds. However, no-one made any other proposals for how to attract money and resources to our Towns. It was agreed that the partnership would think about this some more. Anyone willing to work with SDCVS on developing ideas for how to obtain INTERREG funding for our area should contact John Livings.

Colin also recommended that the partnership could investigate sources of funding that the police have access to. This would be for crime reduction projects and could include youth work that would divert young people from crime. No-one knew anything about this. It was agreed that members of the partnership would think about this. Inspector Huff is in charge of the local Seahaven Division of the Sussex Police. Dave Simmons is the Police Authority Community Liaison person. He would know about any possible funding that could be applied for.

5. Reports from the Working Groups

a. Community Facilities working group - minutes distributed in advance.

Regarding the planned new scout hut, Roy Goodall told the partnership that he has details of the Scouts proposals for the new building. He will pass this information to Sam Rowe.

As requested by the partnership, Donald has forwarded the last month's minutes to the County Council's lead councillor for Social Services. We wanted to draw his attention to our concerns. A replacement partnership representative should be found for Robin Olivier, the social services community development worker for our area. He has left his job. Sam Rowe will now wait for a reply to this before he contacts Cllr. Glazier.

Colin Brown reported that he will be meeting Councillor Glazier on the 22nd of April with other representatives of voluntary groups. This is to discuss cuts in County Council support for the voluntary and charitable sector generally. He will ask Cllr. Glazier about a representative for the partnership then.

The partnership noted that the youth service have been organising young people's activities at the Joff Centre. These include a recent Friday night disco and an international youth exchange camp in July. We await more details.

John Livings reported that he has been discussing the possibility of the YMCA taking over running the Joff Centre. This would be as a base for youth activities. They are also interested in sports development. He will let us know more about this at future meetings.

John also reported that Peacehaven has recently gained more control over some central community facilities. The Town Council has taken over the freehold of the Anzac Room and the Meridian Centre Community House from the County Council.

Next meeting: Thursday 11th April, 4 Howard House, Collingwood Close, Peacehaven.

b. Transport working group – minutes distributed in advance.

The head of Highways for this area, for the County Council Highways Authority came to the last meeting. He has asked us to make a list of all the problems we know of in our towns. This means things like broken paving stones, potholes and

people blocking pavements or restricting access. Please send details to Donald at the House Project.

Next meeting: Monday 8th April, 4pm at the Peacehaven House Project.

c. Sports & leisure facilities working group - minutes distributed in advance.

It was noted that Steve Keogh at the Town Council is now dealing with the bid being made to the Football Foundation on behalf of the partnership. The substance of the bid has changed from what the partnership first agreed on. Pete Billin feels that we should look again at removing the towns tennis courts.

There are other football pitches but no other places to play tennis. Steve's proposals are to resurface the tennis courts and turn them into an all weather football pitch or practice area. Is it possible to have an all weather surface which can be used for both football and tennis? The working group will look at this again.

John Livings felt that the partnership should not discuss the bid because of pending legal action between the Town Council and the Football Club. No-one disagreed.

Donald has spoken to Joanne Kidd at the Leisure Centre and she will be attending the next meeting.

Next Meeting, Friday 12th April, 10am at the Peacehaven House Project.

d. Commercial & retail working group -did not meet.

Wendy has advised Donald that she is too busy to give enough time to this group as well as the Sports and Leisure one. Roy Goodall also does not feel that he can lead the group. There was some discussion on what to do about this. John Carden will ask the Co-op if one of their managers would like to get involved. If anyone else would like to take on this important job to help their community, contact John Livings. The expertise, resources and co-operation of the business sector are a vital ingredient of the partnership.

e. Education, Skills and Training working group – minutes distributed in advance. John Livings had no news on the future of the nursery at the Peacehaven Infants School.

It was noted that this group is making good progress. Local residents are providing useful feedback to the Sussex Downs College to help them provide better adult education for our towns. It was noted that members of the group are very concerned that the new secondary school does not seem to really be a community school as promised. The Sussex Downs College have decided not to use it as a venue for adult evening classes because of restrictions put on this by the school.

Next meeting: Friday 5th April. 11am at the House Project.

8. Correspondence In and Out. 1. A letter was received from Robin Olivier informing us that he will no longer be attending the Community Facilities Working Group. 2. Donald wrote to Cllr. Glazier (see community facilities working group report above for details).

9 AOB. Colin Brown recommended a good bank account for the partnership when we have become a company. This is the Unity Trust Bank. They have a bank account specifically for not for profit organisations, like us. There would be no charges for this account.

10. Date, Time & Place of next meeting. The next meeting will be on the 15th of April, 6.30pm at the Meridian Centre, in the Charles Neville Room.