



**LSP Meeting – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008**

**Present:**

Stephen Cook (SC)	Nominated Board	Fosseway Housing Association
Nuala Ring (NRi)	Nominated Board	Gloucestershire PCT
Bill Wragge (BWR)	Nominated Board	Health & Wellbeing Thematic Group
Rosemary Lynn (RL)	Nominated Board	CDRP Thematic Group
Marilyn Cox (MC)	Nominated Board	GRCC
Nigel Robbins (NRo)	Nominated Board	Cirencester College
Carole Topple (CT)	Nominated Board	Cotswold District Council
Raymond Theodoulou (RT)	Nominated Board	Gloucestershire County Council
Jenny Pitcher (JP)	Nominated Board	Glos First
Anne Brinkhoff (AB)	Nominated Board	Cotswold District Council
Terry Morgan (TM)	Nominated Board	Economic & Skills Thematic Group
Martin Lane (ML)	Nominated Board	Environment Thematic Group
Andrew Tubb	Nominated Board	Town and Parish Council Rep

**In attendance:**

Mike Clark (MJC)	In attendance	Cotswold District Council
Joseph Walker (JBW)	In attendance	Cotswold District Council
Gwen Russell	In attendance	Cotswold District Council

**Apologies:**

Jane Winstanley (JW)	Nominated Board	Cotswold Volunteer Service
Stephen Wood (SW)	Nominated Board	Gloucestershire County Council
Edward Horsfall (EH)	Nominated Board	C&YP Thematic Group

*Nigel Robbins tendered his apologies for having to leave early*

**1. Notes of last meeting.**

**Agreed:** The notes were an accurate account of the last meeting.

**Matters Arising**

**Y-Waste**

At the request of the Board, TM provided a brief update on progress with Y-Waste within Cotswold District. Clusters of businesses have now signed up with Y-Waste in Cirencester, Tetbury, Fairford and Poulton. Y-Waste have had to invest in vans and a truck to assist in the roll-out of their service, which is generally in line with their expectations. They have been hampered by a general shortage of wheelie bins, but were happy to report that they had signed up Giffords' Circus as a client whilst they tour in Gloucestershire.

Partners agreed that the LSP could assist by promoting the opportunity Y-Waste

presents through word-of-mouth.

### **Town and Parish Council Representation**

Following the last meeting, the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils have appointed Andrew Tubb (AT), Chief Executive of Cirencester Town Council, to their County Committee, and nominated AT to attend the LSP Board. The Chair welcomed AT to the Board.

### **The Place Survey**

MJC reported that since the last meeting of the Board, pilot surveys had been carried out and had failed to generate the results the Government were looking for. Accordingly further pilots will be rolled out, with the intention still to carry out the surveys in the autumn

### **Migrant Workers Leaflet**

MJC reported that the document was in printing, and that various avenues for its distribution had been sorted out.

### **Health and Well-Being Partnership (under AOB)**

RL reported that 8 project bids had been submitted by the Health and Well-being Partnership to the PCT, and that £50,000 had been awarded.

## **2. Charing Arrangements for the LSP**

AB introduced the item on future charing arrangements for the LSP, noting the increasing role expected of local authorities in LSPs, and the importance of strong links into the LAA structures.

The Board also considered the issue of private sector representation, considering larger businesses in the district and organisations/individuals able to represent business as a sector. The Board discussed whether there was scope for representation from the agricultural sector. Possible organisations and candidates include: St James' Place, the NFU/CLA (possibly Charles Mann), Waitrose, Campden and Chorleywood Food Research Agency (CCFRA), the CBI or Institute of Directors. Businesses' Corporate Social Responsibility aspirations were seen as a route to engagement.

The Board agreed that the public sector take on the role of chair, and that Councillor Carole Tople be appointed Chairman. Jane Winstanley will take on the role of vice-chair. The Board also agreed to investigate whether any local businesses might be interested in private sector on the Board.

## **3. Strategic Debate: Affordable Housing**

MJC introduced the item, noting its importance and the need to focus discussion on areas LSP Members might be able to exert influence.

Gwen Russell, CDC's Principal Strategic Housing Officer, provided a brief overview of affordable housing issues within the district, highlighting in particular the limited development likely within the district and demographic issues.

The debate started by considering the need to provide appropriate housing for the working population, including recognised 'key workers' but also highlighting the importance of other local links, such as local employment and family. The debate moved on to consider the existing building stock, and underuse, considering the possibilities of freeing up capacity through downsizing, living over the shop and bringing empty properties back into use. Community land trusts were mentioned, with the example of Stonesfield cited as possible good practice, and work currently underway in Chedworth. The long distances currently travelled by many workers, including those in key industries such as tourism, was considered in the context of rising fuel prices, expected to impact upon inward/outward commuting.

Young people's needs were considered, with the point made that their physical housing needs and aspirations are generally not dissimilar from those of the general population, but that there may be a need for additional support to help vulnerable young people maintain their tenancies. The Board also discussed bringing forward other land holdings, such as those held by the County Council and Cirencester Town Council. The Board considered the question around a consultative panel for housing, and agreed that in the first instance, it would be useful to hold a fact gathering meeting, inviting representatives from RSLs, GRCC's rural housing enabler, town and parish representation, and land trust representatives.

**MJC/  
GR**

**4. Previous Community Strategy**

JBW introduced this item, noting that the actions agreed in the previous strategy had now been achieved, with some projects ongoing as mainstreamed activity.. The Board agreed that these achievements should be publicised.

**5. Project Monitoring Report**

JBW highlighted the key project achievements since the last project update. The Board noted the importance of publicising project achievements and the LSP contribution. JBW updated the Board on plans to showcase projects through Cotswold News in its next edition.

TM raised a concern over the unavailability of Second Homes Funding for this financial year, and asked whether Local Authority Business Growth Incentive grant (LABGI) resource might be made available from the District Council. AB reported that the LABGI resource is not ring-fenced to business support, and that the District Council had agreed to put the money towards its priority fund. There could be a possibility of funding if a thematic group were to propose an activity which fits with the District Council's priorities.

The Board agreed the recommendation that brief project descriptions to take up the £2010 remaining Second Homes funding should be sent through to Joseph Walker.

**JBW**

It was agreed that alternative funding should be looking into, and reported back to the next meeting of the LSP.

**6. Annual Conference 2008**

MJC raised the issue of the annual conference with the Board, and noted that this year there was no real reason for significant consultation, limiting the value of the conference. It was agreed that in lieu of a stand-alone conference, the LSP would look into the possibility of attending various other events to promote its achievements, such as GRCC's Parish Planning event.

**MJC**

The Board also discussed how best to ensure the actions and discussions of the thematic groups were being reported forward. The Board agreed that key points from Thematic Group meetings should be written up and circulated with LSP Board papers to ensure Board members were up to speed with the wider work of the partnership.

**TG  
chairs**

**7. LAA Update**

AB provided a verbal update on progress with the LAA Refresh. GCC Cabinet have just approved the submission to GOSW for negotiation, which will be circulated shortly to Board members. GSP will be arranging a conference for the summer to look at 10 year targets.

ML suggested that it would be useful for information to be disseminated to more remote partners. The LAA bulletin will be circulated when available.

**8. LSP Forward Plan**

Climate Change – AB referred to the work underway at CDC, which will be fed in to the strategic debate at the next meeting. ML suggested a contribution from Dr Simon Pickering, due to his greater involvement within the countywide Environment Partnership.

It was also suggested the Board picks up on the business aspect of climate change. Transport – JBW noted that GCC is carried out research into public transport and highways, and that the findings of this should be available in time for this discussion

**9. AOB**

JBW informed the Board that SEEDA had rejected the submission for RDPE led by West Oxfordshire, but that the partnership had yet to hear from SWRDA, with a decision due in July. The Steering Group was due to meet on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, and ML noted that there are various options to be considered.

**Future meeting dates:**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July                      Meeting 2-4pm

**Venues to be confirmed**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September      Meeting 2-4pm

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November      Meeting 2-4pm

END