

**BLACKPOOL FAIRNESS COMMISSION EXECUTIVE BOARD
THURSDAY, 20th APRIL 2017
Room 3B, Bickerstaffe House, Blackpool**

MINUTES

Present: Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health Blackpool Council (Chair)
Amanda Bennett (Bay House Association)
Jake Adams (Blackpool Youth Voice)
Jane Hugo (Streetlife)
Matthew Burrows (Blackpool Teaching Hospitals)
Andy Darron (Groundwork)
Mike Crowther (Groundwork)
Alan Reid (Disability First)
Paul Greenwood (CVS Chairman)
Dick Cartmell (Lancashire Together)

In attendance: Trevor Rayner (Blackpool Council)
Liz McCloskey (Keepmoat)
Gillian Askew (Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation)
Debbie (Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation)

1. Apologies

Helen Fairhurst (Morrison's)
Andy Charles (Business in the Community)
Dr Sarah Shaw (Layton Medical Centre)
Stuart Noble (Lancashire Police)
Neil Jack (Blackpool Council)
Tracy Hopkins (CAB)
David Houston (Trinity Hospice & Brian House)

2. Welcome, Introductions and Previous Minutes

Arif welcomed everyone and introduced our guests. A brief round of introductions was undertaken as there are a couple of new members to the group.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and There were no outstanding actions.

3. Presentation and Discussion with Keepmoat and YPO

Trevor Rayner, Blackpool Council's Head of Procurement, introduced the Board to:

- Liz McCloskey from Keepmoat, the contractor who will deliver the CLC redevelopment;
- Gillian and Debbie from Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation.

Trevor explained that Blackpool Council have signed up to a Social Value Charter which places a responsibility on bidders to include Social Value activity in their tenders. This could be around employability, apprentices

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or community activity.

Arif gave an overview of the Council's two priorities:

- The economy – Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool;
- Communities – Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

Keepmoat

Liz McCloskey introduced herself and talked through her role at Keepmoat, specifically in relation to the CLC redevelopment. She talked through the commitments Keepmoat had made to the CLC and to the local community as part of their bid this included:

- Employing local people;
- Using local suppliers where possible and appropriate;
- Donating items for the Community Shop and fitting it out for free;
- Working with the local community to build their interest and sense of ownership over the CLC.

Mike said that it was timely that Keepmoat had been appointed. A Stakeholder Group has been established for the CLC and has met twice. Amanda said that it was really important that there is a close relationship between Keepmoat and Groundwork as there is a danger that the community will become overloaded with "engagement" activities if they don't work together.

Action: Amanda to get Liz McCloskey onto the Stakeholder Group and to circulate contact details for Liz/Mike/Andy so they can keep in touch.

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Trevor said it was rewarding to have appointed a contractor who is prepared to make these commitments.

Canon Cartmell said that caution needed to be exercised to ensure that the people of Grange Park can get off the estate and join in with activities away from the Estate as well. He said that transport links to Grange Park are quite poor and this is also something which needs to be addressed – He suggested a minibus.

Amanda said that an options paper for transport onto and off the estate had been prepared about two years ago for the Fairness Commission Board and she would find that paper and recirculate it for information.

Action: Amanda to find the options paper on transport and recirculate it to the Board.

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Andy said that Keepmoat could maybe help with some of the activity on the Farm whilst they have staff on site. Liz was keen to see this kind of working together happen.

Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation

Gillian Askew gave a brief outline of what Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation is. It is a long-standing organisation which was founded in 1974. It is wholly owned by 9 Yorkshire and 4 Lancashire Local Authorities. In addition there are a number of associate members of which Blackpool is one.

Social Value is very important to YPO and when looking at best practice

they have been inspired by the work they have seen Blackpool Council undertaking. As a result they met with Trevor and with Neil Jack to understand more about the Blackpool Charter.

They are currently:

- Looking at their apprenticeships as they don't currently reach looked after children, those not in employment education or training or other hard to reach groups;
- Looking at how their customer groups can best support employability/Worklessness;
- Looking at how they can best support local businesses and ensure a local supply chain;
- Looking at how they can contribute to VCFS Organisations particularly through volunteering given they have over 500 staff;
- Ensuring a sustainable business model.

Andy said that one of the things he had concerns about was the Living Wage becoming diluted as it progresses through the supply chain – via a sub-contracting arrangement. He feels it needs to be clearly stipulated in the tender documents that the Living Wage should be paid throughout the supply chain otherwise it dilutes the commitment to be a Living Wage employer yourself but to award contracts to people who aren't.

There was a general agreement that it's really hard to measure the value added by social value activities sometimes and agreeing KPI's which seek to demonstrate the impact can at times be difficult to identify.

Gillian said that YPO are trying to make it easier for small businesses and VCFS organisations to get involved and bid for work through their frameworks.

Trevor asked Gillian to share her experience of running a Farm for the benefit of the Board.

Gillian advised that she had been instrumental in setting up a School-based Farm and shared some of her learning. She offered to help with the Blackpool Community Farm through sharing her experiences and also arranging for groups of YPO volunteers to help on the ground. Mike and Andy will keep in touch with Gillian.

Action: Amanda to circulate Gillian/Andy/Mikes details so the three can keep in touch around the farm.

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4. **Kindness Convention**

Amanda gave an update on the Kindness Convention due to take place on 12th June. Amanda circulated save the date cards for everyone and will supply more materials for people to share with their colleagues and service users. Amanda will drop supplies off for Canon Cartmell to share with the Churches and Faith Groups.

Amanda has been in touch with the founder of Kindness UK, millionaire philanthropist David Jamilly. He is very excited by Blackpool's commitment to kindness and the event in June and he has suggested Blackpool might become the first Culture of Kindness Town. Amanda is due to have a further conversation with him on Friday 21st April and will report back further after that call.

Paul suggested Amanda send him an article for the CVS newsletter about the event.

A discussion took place about the nature of the Campaign and whether we wanted to be able to measure the impact in terms of the actual number of acts of kindness or whether we wanted to create a culture of kindness which would be a more fundamental core value for our communities.

Amanda said that the Fairness Commission had the support of Happy Creative for the next six months to help us manage our PR and Media activity in light of all the work coming to a conclusion. Amanda will speak to Happy Creative about a possible media campaign to support the event.

Arif asked Jake whether he had spoken to the Young People at Blackpool Youth Voice about the tag **#cooltobekind** Jake said he had and generally the young people weren't keen. He has asked them to think of a better tag/strapline and hopefully Jake will be able to feedback their suggestions very soon.

Action: Amanda to drop off materials for the event at Canon Cartmell's house and supply electronic version to everyone else. Amanda to send an article to Paul Greenwood for the CVS newsletter. Amanda to speak to Happy Creative about a Kindness O Meter on the Fairness Commission Website and a Gazette Campaign.

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5. Easter Buddies

Amanda gave an update to say Easter Buddies had taken place over the previous two weeks, seven coffee mornings had been delivered and over 100 people engaged. Anchorsholme Library had been a very popular event and a number of attendees had emailed in to say how much they enjoyed it and would like to do it again. Equally Moorpark was very successful. Revoe and Citizens Advice Bureau both flagged up a number of very vulnerable, sad and distressed people and whilst Easter Buddies provided a bit of immediate respite it was very sobering to see so many very distressed people turn out to events like this just looking for answers.

We will run the Anchorsholme, Moorpark and CAB ones again and will brand them Blackpool Buddies. Hopefully community leaders within the groups will emerge who can take them forward in the future independently.

A conversation took place about Tracy's previous appeal for CAB volunteers. Amanda said that she had really seen why it is difficult for CAB to recruit volunteers as they need a certain level of skill to be able to take on the training. It was agreed that an email should be sent to BBLG highlighting the shortage of volunteers and looking for new recruits.

Action: Amanda to set up Blackpool Buddies Coffee Mornings for Anchorsholme, Moorpark and CAB.

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6. Time Credits / Time Banking

The first sub-group of the Time Credits working group has taken place. Chief Inspector Ian Sewart who is currently seconded into the Lancashire Volunteering Partnership has just bid for £1.5m from the Home Office of which £100,000 is to develop a time credits/volunteer rewards scheme. As a result the group will hold off progressing anything else until he knows if he has been successful (June) as it would be sensible to join in with that scheme if it goes ahead. In the meantime Amanda will speak with Councillor Luke Taylor who already has a small scheme running on Mereside.

Action: Amanda to speak to Cllr Taylor about the scheme he has running on Mereside.

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7. Update on Community Farm/CLC

Mike gave an update on progress with the Community Farm and CLC redevelopment. The Stakeholder Group has now been established and this has been really good. The outcome of the Reaching Communities Bid should be known within the next four to six weeks. Rachael Hesketh (Groundwork) had made contact during the meeting to say the final stage interview with the Big Lottery had gone without a hiccup and they had been able to answer all questions adequately.

Good community links are starting to emerge and the Scouts had already committed to use the new Community Hub.

Blackpool Coastal Housing has made a commitment of £19,000 to contribute towards two new polytunnels for the Farm and a men in sheds project.

Mike stated that the Community were keen to rename/rebrand the CLC and Amanda asked could there be a competition to help create a sense of community ownership.

8 Dementia Action Alliance

Amanda provided an update on David's behalf. David and Annabel attended BBLG and gave a presentation about the DAA and Dementia Friends, in conjunction with Jane Cole from Blackpool Transport. There was some interest from individuals who have had personal experience of dementia and the Blackpool Carnival committee want to arrange a Dementia Friends information session. Annabel is attending the first meeting with the other Dementia Friendly Communities Accelerator Programme Sites next week. They are hoping to learn soon whether we can play host to the Dementia Friends Bus during the Summer season. The DAA will be attending the Dementia Awareness Week activity at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, promoting the DAA, Hub and Dancing with Dementia.

Mike updated the Board on the Dementia Friendly Garden at Solaris, the Garden was officially launched last week and is a fantastic resource for the Fylde Coast. Amanda suggested everyone pop in for a look when they are in the area.

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9. Blackpool Youth Voice

Jake has recently returned from Canada where he represented Blackpool Youth Voice with young people from across the globe. This was a fantastic opportunity for Jake and for Blackpool. The Fairness Commission are extremely proud of him for his hard work and achievements.

Jake said that currently Blackpool Youth Voice are working with Electoral Services at Blackpool Council to get as many young people as possible signed up to vote. Getting young people interested in and engaging in democracy is a key priority for Blackpool Youth Voice and Central Government.

10. AOB

Everyone present agreed that the next scheduled meeting on 25th May is too soon, given all that is going on. The Board asked Amanda to find a new date for the end of June and to communicate via email in the meantime.

Action: Amanda to reorganise next Board meeting for end of June 2017.

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