

**Belle Isle and Middleton
Neighbourhood Improvement Board meeting
St George's Centre, Middleton
Tuesday 21 February 2012**

Present: Cllr Blake (CHAIR) – Ward Councillor, Cllr Groves – Ward Councillor, Cllr Driver – Ward Councillor, Neil Diamond – AVH, Colette Jones – South Leeds Academy, Julie Jones (Minutes) – re’new, Shaid Mahmood – Area Management, LCC, Jess Ward – Leeds Federated Housing Association, Martin Hackett – Area Management, LCC, Georgina Bright– Youth Service, LCC, Lisa Huntley – re’new, Ian Ingle – Middleton Children’s Centre, Peter Nuttall – Cockburn High School, Wayne Harding – Middleton Leisure Centre, PC Dennant– West Yorkshire Police, Joanne Loft – Health Improvement Officer, LCC, Graeme Ashton – Parks & Countryside, LCC, Rev Andy Myers – St Cross Church, Middleton, Deacon Al Henry – Middleton Methodist Church, Maggie Hartley – Extended Services, Martin Bartholomew – Health for All, Gavin Forster – Area Management, LCC, Simon Betts – Job Centre Plus, Ann-Marie Spry – Leeds City College.

1.0	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	Action
	<p>Cllr Driver welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the joint Belle Isle and Middleton Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB) and brief introductions were made. Cllr Driver explained that historically there was a cultural divide between the two areas and he hoped that the formation of the (NIB) would provide an opportunity to bring together these communities to deliver services which fit the needs of the differing communities.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Joanne Hainsworth. Jane Hopkins, Sally Blunt, Pat McGeever, Bash Uppal, Christine Barrett, Michelle Anderson, Dawn Austwick, Leon Reed and Gareth Williams.</p>	
2.0	Agreeing Terms of Reference	
	<p>Lisa Huntley circulated a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) and explained that this was based on a template which had been used by other (NIB’s) in Inner South and she asked the Board to consider this draft. (Appendix 1).</p> <p>Lisa explained that the purpose of the (NIB) was to bring together leaders to drive change and improvements in the Belle Isle and Middleton areas so that they become economically, social thriving and well balanced communities.</p> <p>Initially the meetings will be held quarterly and will be administered by re’new until 31 March 2012.</p> <p>A Core Team will need to be formulated by the Chair to ensure that the agenda is relevant and will secure appropriate contributions to the meetings.</p>	<p>Cllrs/ LH</p>

	<p>The (NIB) should proactively seek to establish links with other service providers and partners that can benefit the work of the group in the interests of the local neighbourhoods and communities. It was noted that the boundary for the (NIB) would be the same as the Middleton Park Ward.</p> <p>The (NIB) formally agreed the draft (TOR).</p>	
3.0	Confirming Membership	
	<p>Lisa asked the Board to note the 'Membership' section on the draft (TOR) and explained that discussions had taken place with Ward Councillors and Area Management to ensure that the (NIB) had the correct balance of organisations, agencies, voluntary/community groups and local residents.</p> <p>Community representation will need to be agreed in time for the next meeting.</p> <p>LH/JJ will arrange to speak to those members of the Board who have given their apologies with regards to the (TOR).</p> <p>The (NIB) noted concerns from Youth Service that there should be a mechanism in place to ensure young peoples' views are represented on the Board.</p>	<p>Cllrs/ LH</p> <p>LH</p> <p>LH/GB</p>
4.0	Update from Middleton Regeneration Board	
	<p>Cllr Blake referred to the minutes of the last Middleton Regeneration Board (MRB) meeting held in January where it was noted that in 2004 the Middleton area was not a priority for the council and since that time significant progress had been made through partnership working.</p> <p>Cllr Blake explained that although there would be many challenges going forward especially in relation to funding constraints and the pressure on services the formation of the (NIB) would provide real opportunities.</p> <p>Shaid added that the (MRB) was unique in how it had operated but many of its ambitious plans would no longer be sustainable due to changes nationally which have added to fragmentation and work on the ground.</p> <p>Cllr Blake welcomed comments and observations from the Board.</p> <p>Christopher Simpson welcomed the creation of the (NIB) and explained that the Belle Isle area had seen major investment in council properties over the last 10 years and the problems now affecting the area were of an environmental nature and he hoped that the partnership would help address these issues.</p>	
5.0	Setting Priorities and Links – Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) Sessions	
	Cllr Blake explained that in order for the (NIB) to have a real understanding of	

	<p>what the key issues are for the Ward a clear methodology would need to be adopted to measure progress and ensure that Board members can contribute in the best way possible.</p> <p>Cllr Blake asked the Board to consider adopting Children’s Services methodology on Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) as this had proved a very successful way of measuring outcomes. Samples of (OBA) models were circulated to the Board (Appendix 2).</p> <p>Cllr Blake asked the Board if they could begin to identify areas of work to focus on and following a lengthy discussion the following thoughts and observations will need to be taken into consideration when setting the various themes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Jobs and Skills agenda will need to work with JCP and local businesses and residents should also benefit from business organisations. The impact of welfare reforms should also be included. • The Children’s Well Being agenda should include mental health issues. Issues relating to alcohol and domestic violence, NEET’s, Early Education work and elderly people should also be considered. <p>Based on the discussions at the meeting the Board confirmed following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing – sub group exists (Neil Diamond) • Environment & Community Safety– tasking group exists • Employment and Skills – sub group exists • Health and Well Being • Education <p>Lisa is to circulate information outlining the themes and will request Board members to nominate themselves to form a small group that will help shape the priorities under each of the themes along with identifying any gaps.</p>	<p>LH</p>
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p>	
	<p>Cllr Blake informed the Board that Belle Isle Winter Aid had just celebrated its 25th anniversary and that this model of good practice was now replicated city wide and nationally.</p> <p>Rev Andy Myers asked the Board if they could provide financial support to Middleton St Cross Church Youth Club and a Well Being event. Cllr Blake explained that Councillors do have funding streams and other pots of money that are available locally, like Community First.</p> <p>Rev Myers was also concerned about the competitiveness issue with regards to funding applications. Shaid explained that other (NIB’s) had joined together to submit shared bids.</p>	

	<p>It was also suggested that Middleton St Cross Church link in with Georgina Bright with regards to the youth work being carried out at the Church and that they also link in with the South Leeds Academy regarding multi faith work at the school.</p> <p>The Police noted concerns regarding the increase in cannabis farms within the Belle Isle area and said that they were aware of the problems and were working with the housing providers to deal with this issue. They also added that they were noticing more problems relating MCAT and Methadone usage within the area.</p> <p>Angela Goodyear, re'new Employment Team, explained that funding had been secured with LCC to establish the 'Jobwise!' programme which seeks to help and support Leeds residents' aged 19 and over to find work. The programmes run for an 8 week period and each session will be 3 hours long. The programme aims to build up skills and confidence, help with job search and interview/CV skills in the target group. It will also include advice on budgeting especially in relation to the transition from benefits to employment.</p> <p>A programme is currently running at the Middleton Play & Learn Centre (crèche facilities provided) and a course is due to start in April at the Manor Field Hall in Belle Isle, it is hoped that a crèche facility will also be built into this programme.</p> <p>Cllr Blake explained that Cllr Driver was retiring as a Ward Councillor at the next election in May and she expressed her gratitude to Geoff for all the hard work that he had carried out within the Ward over the past few years.</p>	
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting(s)</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 22 May 2012 at 10.00am – venue to be confirmed. 	