

Minutes of the Leys Millionaires Steering Group meeting held on 2nd March 2015 at the Methodist Hall, Old Arley.



Present:

Gill Hutchinson, Davina Key, Mark Limb, Eric Fellows, Joe Gosling, John Underhill, Kim Verdugo, Ellen Charles, Carolyn Painter, Trevor Tennant, Virginia Tennant (Chairperson), Jim Rowe, Jenny Hainsworth, Pat Hunt

1. Apologies for Absence:

Karen Barber, Sheena Baird, Alison Bowen, Paul Reader

2. Minutes of last meeting:

No changes were proposed to the minutes. Jim proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as a true record, this was seconded by Mark.

3. Matters Arising:

None.

4. Partnership Development / Code of Conduct etc.:

Jim updated the group on the changes in the Partnership document that was circulated for final review. Mark suggested that a requirement be added that members who wanted to join the Partnership Board should have attended a number of Partnership Board meetings so that they understood the operation of the group, Jim to circulate an update to the document.

At forthcoming meetings members of the steering group will need to decide if they want to become members of the Partnership Board and to decide when the first AGM is to be held.

It was also suggested that an induction meeting should be held to bring new members of the group up to speed with the Big Local process and pathway. Jim to arrange a meeting.

5. Consultation Workshop Update / Prize draw:

There was some discussion on things that could and could not be done with the Big Local money in that it cannot be used to provide services that are the responsibility of the statutory bodies. We also need to talk to these statutory bodies to find out what plans they have in place.

However we may be able to find innovative ways to partner with organisations to provide solutions. Possibilities might include employing a local person to do some work to improve a problem and encourage local people to get involved. Some Big Local areas have had a Week of Action with local people doing things to improve the area such as a community litter pick with a social event in the evening to create pride in the area.

The draw was made for the £100 prize associated with the Leys Millionaires questionnaire, Jim to contact the winner and explain how the prize money should be spent in the Big Local area.

6. Finance update:

The Pathway funding application has been submitted to Local Trust. Similar to the Getting Started funding it contains budgets elements for General Activities, Promotion, Quick Wins and a Support Worker. It is expected that the funding would be approved by early April.

7. Quick wins:

Instead of the Community Chest as in the Getting Started fund a sum of money has been assigned for Quick Wins in the funding application. The idea of quick wins is to encourage local groups to come forward with projects that get local people involved in activities related to the themes in the questionnaire responses. The fund could also be used by the Partnership Board to deliver solutions to problems raised in the questionnaires before the Plan is submitted.

8. Activities:

There was discussion on what could be done to support the Warwickshire Thrift Week initiative from 21st to 29th March. Ideas suggested were to find people who could provide some basic tuition on things such as sewing and making kids costumes, bicycle maintenance with perhaps a bring and buy or plant swap. It was suggested that any event should be held on either a Saturday either 21st or 28th March rather than in the week to attract more people.

There was some discussion on the Songs of Summer idea. It was also suggested that we should have a stall at the Fillongley Show to show people what we are doing with pictures and perhaps calendars as lots of local residents go to the show.

9. Local Trust - Our Bigger Story:

We have received a survey form from the Third Sector Research Centre at Birmingham University asking if we would be interested being considered for a project to record the Big Local journey using video, song, blogs etc. Whilst this is foreign to most the steering group we agreed to complete and return the survey as it may be something that local media students could get involved in.

10. Training Opportunities:

Jim distributed the Local Trust leaflet on their Spring Events and the programme of training courses for 2015 / 2016 that are available from Local Trust for people from any Big Local area who are interested in Big Local and want to develop their skills and hear of the experiences of other areas. People's expenses including childcare will be covered by Local Trust.

11. Any other business:

Ellen talked about Rush Hockey which can be played both in and out doors and is a new initiative from English Hockey to encourage communities to start local groups. There is funding available from Sport England for projects that look to update old facilities to play hockey. However Gill pointed out that we cannot use Big Local money for match funding with other projects funded by the National Lottery such as Sport England.

12. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 30th March 2015 at 7:00 pm in Ansley Village Hall