



PARTNERSHIP MEETING 10/07/23

At The **Venue, Balmoral Rd**, Morecambe / Via Zoom / 6 PM

Item 1. Present, Apologies & Welcomes/Matters Arising

Present: Chris Price (Chair), Yak Patel (LTO Rep), Viv Brunsdon, Janette Edwards, Kat Jaxon, Glen Duckett, Johnny Bean (Secretary), Joe Robinson (Development Worker), Sian Jay (Big Local), David Beuzeval (Local Trust adviser).

Apologies: The Secretary gave the apologies from: Yvon Appleby and Jayne Safari.

Welcome: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced David Beuzeval our new Local Trust adviser. The Secretary recorded that we were quorate for decisions.

Discussion: There were no matters arising.

Item 2. MOLM/Any Conflicts of Interest

Discussion: The MOLM were circulated 1 week prior to the meeting. No new conflicts of interest were registered. Janette confirmed her standing COI relating to the mental health commissions (item 4 below).

Decision: The MOLM to be agreed via email.

Action: The Secretary to re-circulate the MOLM for agreement via email.

Item 3. Plan B and Underspend

Discussion: A discussion was held around the progress of the current Action Plan projects and any possible Plan B alternatives should they run into any problems.

Decision: It was agreed to hold a review in September to look at all current project statuses and consider any potential deadline dates for Plan B interventions. Decisions will then be made at the January meeting.

Action: The Secretary to add "Project Reviews" as the main agenda item for the September meeting.

Item 4. Mental Health Update

Janette left the room for this item owing to the conflict of interest.

4.1 Commission updates.

Discussion: The 2 commissions agreed on by the partnership have gone to the LTO for the preparation of the legal paperwork, but are now effectively up and running. The two smaller ideas that came out of the commissioning process are still being followed up on by the Development Worker who is having problems making contact.

Decision: Representatives of the two smaller projects should be invited to meet the partnership members to further discuss their Expressions of Interest.

Action: The Development Worker will continue to follow up on the 2 smaller ideas contacts.

4.2 An under 18s mental health project

Discussion: The low response to the Mental Health commissions means we will have a likely underspend of about £20k on Mental Health. A discussion took place to consider options.

Decision: It was decided to task Kat and Viv with putting together an 'outline' for a Young Person's Mental Health initiative that WEM might commission. The outline will clarify what the role of the initiative is, what potential outcomes and outputs it might look for, and how we might commission it. This will come back to the partnership to be agreed before we take it forward.

Action: Please submit any thoughts, ideas, points, issues, related to the initiative that you would like to see included or covered to the Secretary by Friday, August 4th.

Item 5. Children's Environmental Project Update

Discussion: We have had further meetings with GroundWorks to move the project along. Their proposals will be put in writing. The Children's Forum will be re-invigorated in September to ensure the project is developed as the children would like it. There is also the potential for some match funding to be pulled in.

Item 6. Project Evaluations

6.1 HEAT project evaluation (document circulated in advance)

Discussion: In addition to the document circulated in advance. The Development Worker added that HEAT at their half way point are at exactly 50% of target completion, so bang on track. Via our project with HEAT they have also linked in with LEAP for additional grant/advice support to residents. HEAT have to date referred 62 people to LEAP, valued at £300 per session so a total of £18600 of additional support has been leveraged. HEAT estimate each person they work with, over the lifetime of their bills will likely save up to £1000 on their bills, i.e. £62000 saved so far. A short discussion took place and it was generally agreed that HEAT have produced excellent results and received very positive feedback from people involved. The Development Worker noted that at the outset of the project extra money was allocated to HEAT, if they needed it for rent, with the proviso that if not needed for that use, it could be spent on buying more items such as draft excluders to give to people. To date £1000 has been spent on these additional items, some of the additional money still remains.

Decision: Good opportunity for us to put some good news out. The partnership agreed that the remaining additional funds allocated to HEAT could be spent on further energy saving items.

Action: The Secretary to talk to Lucy at HEAT about writing a 'good news' blog piece for the website/social media.

6.2 Food wraparound evaluation (document circulated in advance)

Discussion: David from Eggcup has reported that because of our support to Eggcup they were able to invest in staffing, which then enabled them to leverage £96000 of extra funding support.

6.3 Further conversation on WEM evaluation process

Discussion: Glen led a discussion on his ideas for an additional evaluation tool for monitoring key milestones in a simple GANTT-style chart. A short discussion took place. The Big Local Rep suggested a discussion with the LTO would be appropriate.

Decision: Yak agreed to take the issue outside of the meeting as it is the LTO's responsibility to ensure that we are monitoring projects effectively.

Action: Yak to discuss with partners and produce a report on monitoring/evaluation for the September meeting.

N.B. Yak had to leave the meeting at this point.

Item 7. Community Network & Unity Projects

Discussion: Request to take on a brief consultancy: to talk with key partners, and partnership members, and draw up a proposal that might be effective within the dynamics of the West End.

Decision: It was agreed to take the item to the next meeting in September to give it more time.

Action: The Secretary to add "Community Network & Unity Projects" to the September meeting agenda.

Item 8. Action Plan Budget

8.1 Update on budget (document circulated in advance)

Discussion: It was noted that we have now allocated more than 50% of the Action Plan funds to specific projects.

8.2 LDCVS

Discussion: LDCVS have been considering opening an office in Morecambe, possibly in the West End. The office would provide similar support, training and advocacy services as their Lancaster office, but would be more Morecambe-focussed, and could be a substantial investment for third sector sustainability and cohesion-building in the West End. A short discussion took place.

Decision: It was agreed by consensus to approach LDCVS to discuss how WEM might support a move into the West End.

Action:

8.3 West End Online

Discussion: There was no time to discuss the item.

Decision: The item to be carried forward to the September meeting.

Action: The Secretary to add West End Online to the September agenda.

Item 9. New Advisor From Big Local

Discussion: An Introduction from David Beuzeval about his background, his role as our new advisor and the areas in which his skills might be useful. His role will be to provide us with additional support where we need, and ask for it, when we encounter potential blocks. DB has a basic offer of 5-10 days, but additional time can be allotted if we make the case for it. Sian will continue to act as our main point of contact with Big Local. DB's costs do not come out of the WEM budget.

Action: DB to join us for the autumn plan review in September as a "critical friend".

Item 10. AOB

Discussion:

1. Big Local Connects Attendance

Discussion: A reminder that the next [Big Local Connects event takes place on the 27th-28th October at the East Midlands Conference Centre in Nottingham](#). We can send up to 3 delegates, all travel paid. Glen, Jayne and Yvon interested. Delegates must book themselves. Booking can be done here:

<https://localtrust.org.uk/event/big-local-connects-2023/>

Action: The Development Worker and The Secretary to ascertain which partners would like to attend.

2. August WEM Meeting Summer Break

Decision: There will be no meeting in August, meetings will resume in September.

3. Stanley's

Discussion: Stanley's are holding a 10 year birthday event in October, with a mini music festival in Regent Park, involving all third sector organisations locally who wish to take part. Do we want to support them by spreading the word etc.

Action: The Secretary to put Stanley's anniversary event out on social media.

DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- Monday, 11/09/23 at The Venue, Balmoral Road, at 6pm
- Monday, 09/10/23 at The Venue, Balmoral Road, at 6pm
- Monday, 13/11/23 at The Venue, Balmoral Road, at 6pm
- Monday, 11/12/23 at The Venue, Balmoral Road, at 6pm

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS:

1. The Secretary to re-circulate the June MOLM for agreement via email.
2. The Secretary to add "Project Reviews" as the main agenda item for the September meeting.
3. The Development Worker will continue to follow up on the 2 smaller ideas contacts.
4. Please submit any thoughts, ideas, points, issues, related to the Young people's mental health initiative to the Secretary by Friday, August 4th.
5. Chris to talk to Lucy at HEAT about writing a 'good news' blog piece for the website/social media.
6. Yak to discuss with partners and produce a report on monitoring/evaluation for the September meeting.
7. The Secretary to add "Community Network & Unity Projects" to the September meeting agenda.
8. The Secretary to add West End Online to the September agenda.
9. The Development Worker and The Secretary to ascertain which partners would like to attend Big Local Connects .
10. DB to join us for the autumn plan review in September as a "critical friend".
11. The Secretary to put Stanley's anniversary event out on social media.