**Minutes of Newington Big Local Partnership Meeting**

**15/2/16 at Newington Community Centre**

**Attending:**

Marie Thomas – Secretary/Resident

Richard Nicholson – Interim Chairperson

Cara Thorpe – N.B.L Community Development Officer

Steph Todd – Chairperson (Currently on temporary leave)

Carl Adams – Local Trust

Sarah Fox – People United

Emma Thorpe

Hannah Todd – Newington Little Local/ N.B.L Ambassador

Lisa Evans – St Christophers Church/Volunteer/Resident

Simon Crouchman – Volunteer

Tess Luetchford – Marsh Monitors

Keven Gabriel – N.B.L Gardener

Chris Egelwick – Resident/Volunteer

Paul Letts

Sheree Bell – D.D.N

Lorna Henderson – Health Trainer

Matt – Porchlight

Sam Voak – Resident/Volunteer

Tammy Sains – Resident/Volunteer

Kim Isbell - Porchlight

**Apologies:**

Debbie Day – Academy Fm

Richard Barnard – Porchlight

Charlie Fox – L.T.O

Liam Clark – N.B.L Apprentice

Sandrra Sudds – Resident/Volunteer

Sandra Herring – Resident Volunteer

**Minutes of last Meeting ran through and agreed**

**Chairperson Update:**

**Citizens Advice Thanet** have held a recruitment Day in Newington, with a morning session at St Christophers Church & an afternoon at Newington Community Centre.

There was interest shown by a few Residents and the importance of getting the embedded service in Newington as soon as possible was discussed.

**Porchlight –** Matt spoke to us about a Workshop that is to be part of International Woman’s Day this year. The Workshop is called “The Hat I wear”, is on Wednesday 9th March, 11am – 1pm & 5pm – 7pm at Ramsgate Arts Company and is run by Annie Sutton. The Workshop is to include all who attend having a self portrait created to then keep. To find out more about this and the other things they have planned, have a look at the website, which is [www.powthanet.com](http://www.powthanet.com). If you are interested in attending “The Hat I Wear” then contact is to be through Matt, as Porchlight are funding 12 places for Newington Residents.

**People United** – Sarah passed around their report to the group, which included information on what they have done so far and also what they would like to do this year. It was mentioned just how much positive feedback has been had since BestFest, with many, including the Turner Gallery, sharing info on Facebook and Twitter, etc. We are all agreed that we would love to have BestFest back again this year, as it was such a huge success and the dates that have been put in for this are 30th & 31st July 2016.

Sarah put in a bid to the group for monies needed for to make it all happen this year. She is busy sourcing many other funding opportunities for it also, but has asked if Newington Big local can help. We already have £5,000 allocated for this. Sarah then left the room to allow the partnership to discuss further how much we should provide, resulting in us voting and agreeing on the figure of a further £15,000, with £5,000 of this released to start with, followed by the remaining amount in 2 separate lots being released when match funding is seen to be successful.

Sarah was called back in to be informed of our decision.

Richard suggested a Meeting be arranged to go over things in more detail, to then bring back to the Partnership.

**Academy FM** – This Agenda Item is to be moved to next Month’s Meeting as Debbie Day is not able to be here.

**Easter Event –** This will be on Saturday 26th march, in Newington Community Centre, The Copse & the nearby area, from 2pm – 5pm. The official plan for this is to be finalised a.s.a.p. Sandrra Sudds has been asked to make the posters for this.

**Asset list –** This has been drawn up and a couple of items, which are a Projector and HDMI leads appear to be missing. A letter has been sent to Dave Cloves asking if he still has these. The Asset list will be regularly checked and kept up to date. Carl pointed out that according to Local Trust rules, no volunteer can be held responsible for items that go missing and they would be put down as being lost.

**Community Chef –** Chris has been busy planning and has shared his ideas for the possibility of a School Meal type service in the Holidays, Domestic catering type training, Budget Cooking and Catering for events. It was also discussed that volunteers would definitely be needed to help with these. Cara hasn’t yet been in contact with the Community Chef for working with them this year. It was suggested that we could link with the Westwood Centre and Cara is also linking with East Kent College.

Discussions were had regarding the amount of children who have free school meals, but then have nothing in place through holidays, so don’t necessarily have substantial and healthy meals, so how it could be useful to have something in place 1 or 2 days a week through school holidays. We also discussed reasons why this service could be beneficial to adults too, as there are many who don’t necessarily have such a good diet, due to reasons such as financial issues, etc, this would teach how it doesn’t have to cost a lot to cook decent meals, etc. The other important aspect to this whole idea is the social benefit of it.

Kim Isbell explained about a place is Canterbury called the Umbrella Centre, where a similar idea is in place. They teach living skills, cooking, etc and those attending also get to take food home with them too.

Cara has not yet heard any more regarding the equipment herself & Chris went to see, so is to chase this up and will also contact the Community Chefs tomorrow.

**Secret Garden/Green Spaces -** A funding bid has been submitted for the land formerly known as the Welcome land to be better used, including installation of new planters and more. Plans for the Secret Garden will be brought to the next Meeting.

**Credit Union -** Just over £30,000 has been allocated in loans so far. The £10 Youth Voucher scheme will end on 31st December 2016. Steph is to be visiting all local Schools to promote the Youth Credit Union, the plan for this is that they will take ownership of their own mini credit unions, with the Children running them.The £10 Challenge entrepreneurship idea for schools was discussed with us, also we were informed that Halifax are going to Mentor and support those involved with Credit Union.

This Wednesday at 10.30am is the next Training session for those interested in volunteering for our Credit Union and a rota will also be created for volunteers. Steph informed us that our Credit Union is to be doing the Christmas Savings scheme for St Christophers Church.

**C.D.O Update -** An Events Planner has been developed, this is to be sent through to Marie & Simon to be used for the planning of the Easter Event.

Cara informed us all of the Open Day for Citizens Advice Thanet on 3/3/16 and encouraged us to please go along if we can.

**D.D.N -** Sheree Bell explained what Delivering differently in Neighbourhoods is all about, which is improving Social Care in Newington, plus what has been done so far, including the Visioning event. The group meet fortnightly on Tuesdays at 4pm, along at Newington Free Churchand anybody else who may be interested in finding out more is welcome to join them.

**Health Trainer –** Lorna explained what her role involves and what the Service provides. The Service includes Stop smoking service, Health Trainers, Health Checks, Health Walks and more, supporting people to live healthier lives. They work in Partnership with all places health related, such as doctors, dentists, Porchlight, etc. The service is for anyone aged 18+ and is a free service. You get 7 sessions, one of which is a health check or wellbeing check. If you would like to find out more, or know anyone else who may be interested, please contact Lorna.

**Meeting closed**

**Date of next Meeting is 21/3/16,**

**the time and venue for which is to be confirmed.**