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Attach: 6 MSP Funding Programme 2004-05.doc; 10 Budget report.doc; 3 MSP minutes 28.9.04.doc;
5a Appendix 1 - identifying priorities.doc; 1 Agenda 30.11.04.doc; 5 Identifying priorities.doc
Subject: Fw: MSP Board meeting 30th November 2004 - Agenda

----- Original Message -----

From: [Skirton, Sara](#)

To: [Mendip LSP](#) ; [Thomson, David](#) ; [Brown, Stuart](#) ; [Roger Kershaw](#) ;
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netta@eliminwells.org.uk ; [Hannah Norman](#) ; [Community Strategy Project Group](#)

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2004 3:40 PM

Subject: MSP Board meeting 30th November 2004 - Agenda

Dear MSP Board member, please find attached the agenda and papers for the meeting of the Mendip Strategic Partnership Board to be held on Tuesday 30th November in the Council Chamber at Mendip District Council offices, commencing at 3pm.

The following documents should accompany this message:

- 1 Agenda
- 3 Minutes of the meeting of 28th September 2004
- 5 Identifying priorities
- 5a Appendix 1 Identifying priorities
- 6 MSP Funding Programme 2004-05
- 10 Budget Report

Regards

Sara

Sara Skirton
Community Planning and Consultation Officer
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Mendip Strategic Partnership
Board Meeting 30th November 2004
3pm in the Council Chamber at Mendip District Council

Agenda

1. Apologies

2. Public Participation

3. Minutes of the meeting of 28th September 2004

4. Violent Crime

Briefing from Chief Inspector Jon Stratford, Avon and Somerset Police

5. Action Planning – Identifying Priorities

The Board is asked to agree five priorities for action proposed by the Task Group and consider mechanisms for progressing them

6. MSP Funding Programme 2004/05

The Board is asked to approve an additional programme of funding proposed by the Budget and Finance Sub Group, in relation to parish and village projects. The Board is also asked to consider how remaining funds for 2004/05 might be committed

7. Shepton 21

Verbal update for information

8. Glastonbury SRB

Verbal update from the Chairman for information

9. Voluntary Sector Conference

Verbal report from Sara Skirton

10. Budget Report

Report for information

11. Dates of future meetings

To agree a programme of MSP Board meetings for 2005

12. Any Other Business



Mendip Strategic Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the Mendip Strategic Partnership held on Tuesday, 28 September 2004 at 3 pm in the Town Hall, Wells.

PRESENT:	Penny Baker	Association of Chambers of Commerce
	Ron Ballantine	Chairman
	Ian Bennett	Strode College
	Maria Clarke	Somerset County Council
	Nick Cottle	SALC
	Richard Dixon	Friends of the Earth
	Stephen Fowler	Elim in Wells
	Kate Jeffreys	English Nature
	Elizabeth John	Councillor of Mendip District Council
	Roger Kershaw	Somerset County Council
	Harvey Siggs	Councillor of Mendip District Council
	Jon Stratford	Avon and Somerset Constabulary
	Elaine Pugsley	NCH

MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Stuart Brown	Business Manager
Claire Dicken	Committee Officer
Sara Skirton	Community Planning and Consultation Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

Sara Hincks	Mendip Primary Care Trust
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1. Apologies

Cathy Bakewell, Zena Pollard and Pat Champion

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting 13 July 2004 were accepted as a correct record.

4. Children's Centre Developments and the role of the children's Services Planning Group

Elaine Pugsley gave a presentation which outlined the work of the NCH. The recent Children's Bill recommended that the delivery of services for children across all authority areas should be reviewed with the aim of becoming joined up. Somerset County Council was currently reviewing its children's services. As a result there were five particular outcomes sought, along with further recommendations. It was hoped that child abuse preventative measures would be put in place as a result of the changes.

Plans were being made to introduce the new Family Support Services in Mendip around Christmas.

Amongst the proposals was a Children's Centre at Keyford in Frome and extended schooling across Somerset.

Elaine circulated a paper that listed all the initiatives.

During the discussion that followed Elaine confirmed that these services were day care and education only. She also confirmed that various church organisations were involved in the review.

The Police had suggested that the services could be used to identify criminal tendencies in young children in an effort to reduce crime in the future.

The Chairman said that the Mendip Strategic Partnership would be willing to help to bring the plans to fruition, especially as it would involve a number of different organisations represented on the Partnership.

5. Election of Vice Chair and Changes to Board Membership

Richard Dixon was nominated to be Vice Chairman of the MSP. The proposal was duly seconded and it was agreed that Richard Dixon should be Vice Chairman

Other changes to Board Membership included that Penny Church was standing down.

Mendip Councillor Elizabeth John, Tony Shepherd of the Community Support Services, and Kate Jeffreys of English Nature were welcomed as new Members of the Board.

Members noted a Voluntary Sector Conference would be held in the Council Chamber at Mendip District Council on 19th November 2004

6. Mendip District Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment

Stuart Brown outlined the results of the recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment which had rated the Mendip District Council as weak. However, the inspectors said there had already been improvements and that such improvements would likely continue into the future.

Particular areas for improvement highlighted in the report included that Mendip should be more involved in partnership working. Mendip Council considered that the inspection had been unjust in many areas including this area. However, it had been decided not to appeal against the inspection.

As a result of the inspection it may be possible to apply for funding for capacity building. Bids would be made for such funding.

The Chairman said the MSP sympathised with Mendip District Council about the inspection result and would give the authority their full support. He said a part of that support would be in getting the MSP action plans in place.

7. Somerset Strategic Partnership – Vision and Community Strategy

Roger Kershaw of Somerset County Council gave a presentation regarding the SSP Vision and Community Strategy. His department had prepared a consultation document called "A Vision for Somerset" Consultation Draft.

There was to be a conference for business leaders on 8 October 2004 at Westlands in Yeovil. All Members of the MSP were invited to attend.

During the discussion that followed Members noted that any suggestions that come from the consultation process would be fed into the document on a continuing basis.

Members of the Partnership endorsed the document.

8. Action Planning – Identifying Priorities

Sara Skirton presented a report which outlined the current position on identifying priorities. There had been an extensive consultation process following which the MSP Task Group had identified 10 potential priorities from the draft Community Strategy Themes, which were listed in the report. This list was considered too large for the MSP to tackle all at once. Therefore it was suggested that these priorities be divided into 5 main priorities plus 5 sub priorities and that the workload be incorporated into the various organisation's business plans so as to be achieved.

During the discussion that followed some Members were concerned that they would not have the budget or capacity to resource such plans. Some Members wanted to wait for at least a quarter.

The timetable was outlined. Stuart Brown pointed out that unless decisions could be made by the next meeting of the MSP, some budgets for the following year would already be set and the group would miss the opportunity to include these priorities in their plans.

Elaine Puglsey said her organisation may be able to take on the areas that related to her work.

The Chairman suggested that each Member should take the list of priorities back to their organisations and see if it was possible to incorporate them as appropriate into their organisation's business planning cycle and then report back.

However, it was agreed that the Task Group in conjunction with Sara Skirton and the Chairman should meet again to come up with specific proposals for Members to consider at the next meeting. The Chairman would endeavour to get suggestions to Members before the next meeting.

9. MSP Funding Programme 2004/5

The Chairman outlined the Funding Programme for 2004/5.

Members agreed the proposed funding programme which totalled £73,860, leaving the Board with funds of up to £36,000 to commit in 2004/5.

It was agreed to approve a statement put forward by the Chair and amended as follows:

Taking into account the total level of funds available to the MSP and the wide range of funding bids received for projects appropriate to its objectives and plans, the MSP normally cannot consider bids for funding the major building or redevelopment of halls, playgrounds, open spaces and other amenities.

The MSP, however, wishes to support community activities as far as possible and will therefore consider bids on the following conditions:

- 1 Bids should relate to facilities open to the community and not to 'member clubs'*
- 2 Bids should be for funding towards improvements to halls and playgrounds and public open spaces where such improvements are in keeping with the aims of the Community Strategy*
- 3 It should be shown that other funding has been/is being sought - including through local fundraising*

The MSP will reserve a proportion of the total funding available for such community bids and will have to allocate to individual projects within this proportion. Accordingly, some bids may have to be rejected or held over for future consideration.

During the discussion that followed Members suggested that applications from villages for facilities such as village halls and playgrounds that had been unsuccessful with their first bid should be reconsidered. It was agreed that the Budget and Finance Sub Group meet again to consider allocating remaining funds to those groups who had already submitted applications.

With reference to application number 21 from Somerset Intelligence Network (SINE), Members requested that Sara find out whether it would be appropriate for the MSP to fund this project from its other budget.

10. Shepton 21

Sara outlined the latest position of Shepton 21. Interviews had been held for a Project Co-ordinator. It was hoped that Ernie Thomas would accept the post.

Among current issues was that WS Atkins had issued a report regarding the proposed new Tesco superstore at the Huntmans site. Shepton 21 had concerns about the traffic around that site and were commissioning a traffic survey. The MSP requested that Zena Pollard be asked to confirm that this was an appropriate matter for Shepton 21 to fund.

11. Budget Report

Members noted the report.

12. Any Other Business

None

13. Date of Next Meeting.

Tuesday, 30 November 2004 at 3 pm - venue to be arranged.

The meeting closed at approximately 5.35 pm.

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 5

FROM: Community Planning and
Consultation Officer -MDC Date: 30th November 2004

SUBJECT: **Identifying Priorities**

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 At the last Board meeting members received a report outlining the requirement for the Draft Community Strategy for Mendip to be supplemented by an action plan identifying shorter term (up to four year) priorities and activities that will contribute to the achievement of the Strategy's longer term outcomes. The report also attempted to summarise work undertaken by the MSP Task Group in helping the Board agree what these priorities should be.

1.2 During discussion at the Board meeting it became apparent that there was some lack of clarity about how the Task Group had arrived at the suggested priority areas and perhaps also why any prioritisation of the eleven themes in the draft Community Strategy was needed and the MSP Board's role in this.

1.3 It was agreed that the Chair of the MSP would meet with the Task Group to clarify what was required, how it might be achieved and to recommend a way forward to the Board at its meeting on 30th November.

2. MSP TASK GROUP

2.1 The MSP Task Group met on 16th November, having considered a briefing paper (a section of which is attached as Appendix 1) prepared by MDC Officers, which sought to explain the need to identify a limited number of shorter term priority areas where the MSP could add value by working in partnership.

The briefing paper brought together and summarised:

- the work of the Task Group to date
- demographic and other data
- the findings of consultation exercises including the Great Cake of Life
- known partner priorities
- Central government's local and national agreed priorities.

The paper also proposed five possible priority areas for action for the MSP, which appeared to have a good fit with the above. These were:

- Young People
- Diversifying the rural economy
- Strengthening the Voluntary Sector infrastructure
- Tackling Climate Change
- Affordable Housing

The Task Group discussed these suggested priorities at length and revised them to read as follows:

- Investing in Children and Young people
- Diversifying the Rural Economy
- Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Tackling Climate Change locally
- Affordable, Decent Housing

The Group agreed that these should be the priorities that are recommended to the MSP Board.

Other key points from the discussion were that:

- in addition to focusing on any agreed short term priorities the MSP would need to remain aware of, and where appropriate intervene in, progress on all of the aims and themes in the draft Community Strategy, particularly those where there are gaps in activity;
- once short term priorities were agreed, the challenge for partners would be to 'mainstream' them into partner's work programmes. All MSP Partners would therefore need to sign up to the priorities and ensure that they are incorporated into their business planning and budget setting, as appropriate to the remit of their organisation.

3. TURNING PRIORITIES INTO ACTIONS

The Task Group considered how the proposed actions could be progressed into realistic and achievable action plans. As a first step the Group suggested a workshop early in 2005, to which all members of the MSP Board and Task Group would be invited.

The purpose of this workshop could be to consider:

- The scope of each priority, i.e. what it does and doesn't include
- What the key issues are for that priority
- Which agencies need to be involved, and how to include them in the process if they are not currently represented on the MSP Board
- What the desired outcomes might be for each priority
- What actions could be taken to achieve the desired outcome
- Whether themed task groups are appropriate and practicable for progressing each priority, bearing in mind available resources and existing networks

Consideration would need to be given to how such a workshop would be resourced.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 MSP Board members are asked to:

- agree the priorities for action listed below as appropriate areas for the MSP to focus on and add value to as a partnership, in the short term:
 - Investing in Children and Young people
 - Diversifying the Rural Economy
 - Strengthening the Voluntary and Community Sector
 - Tackling Climate Change locally
 - Affordable, Decent Housing
- take the agreed priorities back to their organisations to ensure that they are incorporated into budget setting and business planning cycles;
- agree to a workshop as a first step towards developing the priorities into actions;
- consider how the workshop could be resourced.

Contact Officer: Sara Skirton 01749 341340
skirtons@mendip.gov.uk

Developing MSP Priorities - links between potential priorities and other data, plans and priorities

Potential Priority ®	Young People	Diversifying the rural economy	Strengthening the Voluntary Sector infrastructure	Tackling Climate Change	Affordable Housing
Rationale ®	MSP long term vision to 2021	Need for vibrant economies against a backdrop of declining manufacturing industries and agricultural sector and growing numbers of SMEs	No CVS in Mendip. Mendip Community Support new and growing and would benefit from MSP input	Flooding key concern in SW affecting a large part of Mendip. Everyone can make a difference in tackling climate change	High property prices and a relatively low wage economy
Evidence base ⁻					
Consultation					
GCoL	yes	yes	references made	yes	yes
General survey 03	yes				yes
Examples of how Priorities Link to CS Themes					
Environment	many potential links	major links between employment type and environment	Existing and potential links	major links	major links, e.g. energy efficient housing
Energy and Waste					
Food	health and wellbeing	major links	existing or potential links	food transportation	
Getting Around	access to services and leisure activities	relationship with location of employment and need to travel	ability of all members of community to access services	major impact of travel choices on climate change	relationship between location of homes and need to travel
A Job to Do	employment opportunities	increasing employment opportunities	increasing employment and experience opportunities	impact of industry on climate	relationship between economy and housing affordability

Potential Priority ®	Young People	Diversifying the rural economy	Strengthening the Voluntary Sector infrastructure	Tackling Climate Change	Affordable Housing
Ways to Learn	learning opportunities	appropriate trained / skilled workforce	learning skills to contribute to community wellbeing	learning about climate change	
Things to Do	leisure and cultural opportunities		rewarding activities		
Staying Well	young people's health needs	link between economy and health	providing support to communities	risk of flooding and impact on wellbeing and feeling safe	strong link between housing and health
Feeling Safe	young people's own safety and perceptions of youth		providing support to communities		secure homes
Sense of Community	young people as valued members of communities	links with employment and vibrant communities	role of voluntary sector in developing and maintaining sense of community	potential effects of flooding on communities	Impact of inability to afford housing in locality on communities
Key Partners					
SALC		yes			
Business	yes	yes		yes	yes
PCT	yes		yes	yes	yes
MDC		yes	yes	yes	yes
SCC	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
YMCA	yes		yes		yes
NCH	yes		yes		yes
Faith Communities	yes		yes		yes
Environment Forum	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Police	yes				
Education	yes	yes	yes	yes	
Young Somerset	yes		yes		
RSLs	yes				yes
Employment	yes	yes	yes		yes

Potential Priority ®	Young People	Diversifying the rural economy	Strengthening the Voluntary Sector infrastructure	Tackling Climate Change	Affordable Housing
Key Policies / Strategies					
Crime Reduction Strategy	yes				
SSP Community Strategy	yes	yes			
AONB Management Plan		yes	yes	yes	
Biodiversity A P		yes		yes	
Housing Strategy	yes			yes	yes
Central and Local Govt Shared Priorities					
Sustainable Communities	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Safer and Stronger Communities	yes		yes		
Healthier Communities	yes		yes	yes	yes
Children and Young People	yes		yes		
Transport	yes	yes	yes	yes	

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 6

FROM: Budget and Finance Sub Group Date: 30th November 2004

SUBJECT: MSP Funding Programme 2004/05

1. SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION

1.1 At its meeting on 28th September the MSP Board approved a funding programme put forward by the Budget and Finance Sub Group (BFSG) totalling £73,860. This left the MSP with funds of up to approximately £44,000 (latest information) to commit in the financial year 2004/05.

The Board noted that a number of applications had been received for parish and village projects and that no funds had been allocated to any of these projects as yet. The Board agreed that the BFSG should reconsider these applications under the following criteria:

- 1 *Bids should relate to facilities open to the community and not to 'member clubs'*
- 2 *Bids should be for funding towards improvements to halls and playgrounds and public open spaces where such improvements are in keeping with the aims of the Community Strategy*
- 3 *It should be shown that other funding has been/is being sought - including through local fundraising*

2. BUDGET AND FINANCE SUB GROUP

2.1 The BFSG met on 2nd November to reconsider the applications for funding towards parish and village projects. Their recommendations are shown overleaf.

2.2 Regarding application 17 from Meare and Westhay Parish Council, the BFSG requested more information about match funding and ongoing maintenance before making a decision. This information has been received and at the time of writing is being considered by the BFSG, which may wish to make a recommendation to the Board at this meeting.

MSP Funding Programme 2004/05 Parish and Village Applications

	Applicant	Project	Req	Min Req	Officer Score	BFSG rec Nov 04
17	Meare and Westhay Parish Council	To develop an area of land gifted to the Parish Council as a pre teen children's play area	40,000	5,000	22	(*poss max 5000, more info requested)
22	Batcombe Parish Council	Improvements to Batcombe Playing Field and Play Area.	7,500	750	17	2000
27	Cranmore Cricket Club	To build new pavilion on site	30,000	2,000	27	0
29	Trudoxhill Village Hall Committee	Refurbish existing toilet facilities to enable disabled access as required by recent legislation	8,500	Any	21	2000
31	Nunney Parish Council	To convert a disused quarry into a leisure facility to provide badly needed leisure facilities for all residents of Mendip, particularly disabled people	10,798	n/a	21	0
32	Wanstrow Village Hall	To pump prime a larger project of extending the existing village hall to double its size, improve facilities and to comply with disability regulations	8,000	4,000	17	2000
33	Stoke St Michael Community Playing Field	To install playing equipment and safety	1,000	any	24	1000
Total						7000
*Total if appn 17 awarded 5000						12000

3. REMAINING FUNDS

3.1 If the Board agrees the additional programme of funding, it would then have a total commitment of £85,860 (including the potential £5,000 for application 17) against a total Second Homes Council Tax fund of £121,000, leaving approximately £35,000 to commit in 2004/05.

3.2 The BFSG were informed of two further, unsolicited approaches to the MSP for funding. One was from the CAB for £200 towards a student's research project on services available in Mendip to people suffering domestic violence; the other was for funding of up to £11,333 towards a time bank project, submitted by Avalon Fair Shares. The BFSG agreed to grant £200 to the research project from the MSP's own 'non-second homes Council Tax' budget on condition that the findings of the research would be provided to the MSP to help inform its work.

Avalon Fair Shares were asked to submit a formal application. They have now done this and at the time of writing the BFSG is considering this application and may wish to make a recommendation to the Board at this meeting.

3.3 Even if the Board was to decide to support the application from Avalon Fair Shares, it would still have at least £20,000 remaining for 2004/05. The Board may wish to consider using some or all of the remaining funds to progress any agreed priorities for action.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The MSP Board is asked to:

- agree the additional funding programme put forward by the BFSG for village and parish projects;
- agree any further recommendations proposed by the BFSG at this meeting with regard to Meare and Westhay Parish Council and Avalon Fair Shares;
- consider options for how the remaining Second Homes Council Tax monies might be allocated in 2004/05, taking account of any agreed MSP priorities.

Contact Officer: Sara Skirton 01749 341340
skirtons@mendip.gov.uk

The Mendip Strategic Partnership

Agenda Item: 10

FROM: Mendip District Council Date: 30th November 2004
SUBJECT: **Partnership Budget**

At April 1st 2004, a sum of £19,240 was available to the Partnership, the residue of initial contributions from Somerset County Council, Mendip District Council, Mendip Housing Limited and Mendip Primary Care Trust.

Expenditure so far this year is as follows:

Expenses	£ 15
Web-site	£ 75
Food Festival Grant	£1,000
Research Grant	£ 200

The total currently available to the Board, exclusive of 'Second Homes' funding, is therefore £ 17,950.

Detailed accounts may be inspected by Board Members at any time at the Council's offices.

Stuart Merritt, Service Manager Corporate Policy, Mendip District Council
Telephone No. 01749 341312