

SADDLEWORTH & LEES AREA MANAGER'S REPORT

SADDLEWORTH & LEES AREA COMMITTEE

28/09/06

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To inform the Area Committee about the main activities that impact upon the area with which the Area Manager has been involved

2.0 AREA ACTION TEAM UPDATE

2.1 NRF funding

The Area Action Team has successfully obtained £39,998 from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund to help reduce/solve crime within the area, and provide more activities for young people.

Deployable CCTV cameras - £22,000- This will provide a state-of-the-art surveillance system, that can be quickly deployed to sites within the area which are difficult to access or observe. This will allow the Saddleworth and Lees area to be a lot more independent from central resources. This portable CCTV system would be of great benefit during seasonal events such as the band contest, as well as providing excellent surveillance to help detect many different crimes.

Lighting in Greenfield Park - £3,300 – Following a number of complaints of anti-social behaviour based around the new play area at Ladhill Lane, it was decided to provide illumination of this area to allow for observation of activities there, as well as helping to protect the equipment itself.

Youth Initiatives - £14,698 - To improve and expand the facilities at the Satellite Centre. This would include buying musical equipment, converting some of the upstairs facilities, and maybe employing local people to help out, for example in the kitchen. Youth Service will also be putting match funding into the scheme, which will also include additional activities at Delph Youth Centre, and a trial scheme to set up a youth club at Denshaw. There is also a possibility of bringing in a local organisation to provide a 'junior' youth club at the Satellite.

2.2 MILLS RECREATION YOUTH SHELTER

2 meetings have been held in order to take the initiative forward.

3 options were discussed. Option 1 situated close to the youth centre, on the Church Street side. Option 2, situated close to the youth centre near the car park, and option 3 away from the youth centre and near the track.

All 3 options were considered, Options 1 and 2 were chosen as the preferred options because they offered the police better viewing of the shelter and is away from the play area and football pitch.

A public meeting with both local residents and youngsters will be taking place on 26 September at 6pm at Lees Youth Centre, as part of a wider programme of consultation work in the area.

The consultation is being carried out via the Area Action Team by the Council's Youth Services together with local Police Community Support Officers.

Way Forward/Consultation Process:

It was agreed that it is essential to undertake consultation on the options with local youths and residents. Youth Services and PCSO's will undertake consultation on the options.

The following roads need to be consulted. Tumbling Bank Terrace, Barnfold, Westfield House, Church Street (to Thomas Street), Birch Street, Livingstone Street and Phillimore Street.

3.0 COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

3.1 Two consultation events have been held on the proposals to introduce ward-based Community Councils to replace the Area Committees. Responses to this are currently being collated.

4.0 DENSHAW PUBLIC CONVENIENCES MEETING

4.1 A meeting took place in Denshaw on Monday 11th September. It was decided to pursue funding to refurbish and open the toilet building as a place of historical interest. Graham Dixon, the Environmental Services Asset Manager decided to declare the building as a surplus asset and agreed to transfer ownership to the Saddleworth Civic Trust.

5.0 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

5.1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Area Committees on the progress that has been made by the Oldham Partnership, with specific regard to the Local Area Agreement (LAA).

5.2 BACKGROUND

The Oldham Partnership is the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for the Borough of Oldham. It provides a framework to bring together the various groups in the Borough – public, private, voluntary, community and faith sectors – to tackle local deprivation and improve the quality of life for local residents.

The Oldham Partnership also provides the framework for partners in Oldham to address the strategic issues which the Borough faces – for example, community cohesion, low life expectancy, low-skill and low-wage economy, and poor housing.

The Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a 3-year contract between Government and the Oldham Partnership about what the Oldham Partnership will deliver to the people of the Borough over the next 3 years.

The LAA brings together over £400m worth of funding, and focuses it on the 100 targets which have the greatest impact on local quality of life.

A summary of the targets is available in the Increasing Opportunities booklet and full copies of the Local Area Agreement are available on the Oldham Partnership website (www.oldhampartnership.org.uk) or through the Oldham Partnership Support Team.

5.3 GROWTH IN ROLE & RESOURCE, & STRATEGIC ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

The Government has steadily increased the role and importance of Local Strategic Partnerships, as they look to give more control over how Government money is spent to local areas.

The amount of funding which flows through the Oldham Partnership reflects this change – it has increased from £2.3m in 2001/02, to £4.7m in 2004/05, to over £400m for 2006/09.

This money will be allocated to projects which contribute directly towards the Borough's strategic priorities, as represented in the Local Area Agreement.

Existing projects which are funded through the Oldham Partnership have been assessed to gauge their contribution to Local Area Agreement targets, and have been continued, redesigned, or wound down as appropriate.

Details of some of the projects funded through the Oldham Partnership are available on the Oldham Partnership website (www.oldhampartnership.org.uk)

5.4 GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER

Following a consultation paper in Spring 2006 on the role of Local Strategic Partnerships, the Government is expected to produce a White Paper on the Future of Local Government in Autumn 2006.

The White Paper is widely expected to increase the role and prominence of Local Strategic Partnerships, and position them as the prime strategic decision making function in an area.

When compared to the proposals in the White Paper, the Oldham Partnership was found to be at the forefront of LSPs nationally – many of the suggestions from Government have already been implemented in Oldham or are underway (for example, inclusion of community representatives in decision making structures, streamlining partnership structures, strategic allocation of funding).

5.5 RECOMMENDATIONS

The members of the Area Committee are asked to:

- Note the content of the report;
- Ensure that representatives of the Area Committee are familiar with the changes in the Oldham Partnership and the process of funding allocation to ensure that the strategic issues affecting the area maintain their position on the agenda;
- Ensure that the link with the Local Strategic Partnership is maintained in light of the Government proposals to increase the role and strength of Local Strategic Partnerships.

5.7 OLDHAM PARTNERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE – PHIL DAVENPORT REQUEST

Phil Davenport requests that a Sub Group be set up to discuss Sports Across Saddleworth & Lees and seeks nominations to participate within the Sub Group.

Both Royce Franklin and Colin Hare put forward their names to substitute Phil Davenport when needed.

ADAM PATTERSON

Partnership Co-ordinator, Oldham Partnership Support Team, 0161 615 5038, adam.patterson@oldhampartnership.org.uk

6.0 SADDLEWORTH & LEES YOUTH SUB GROUP

6.1 The Youth Sub Group held a meeting on 28th June. A Member of the Sub Group will report back on current developments. Minutes attached at appendix 3 and Watch This Space update attached on appendix 4.

6.2 A breakdown of spend relating to the £3,000 allocated to the Youth Sub Group so far can be seen below.

£3K allocation

The youth sub group was allocated £3k by the Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee to improve youth provision at the centre and help to attract more young people to use the centre.

Some of this money was spent on Christmas activities, including Ice-Skating, Chinese Meal and Bowling, plus activities that allowed the Satellite centre to be open every day during the February half term. The bulk of the money was used to provide activities during the Easter holidays. This included activities at the Satellite Centre during the first week, and off-site activities during the second week, including bowling, cinema and ice-skating. Flyers were distributed to the local schools to advertise the activities.

A break down of the holiday activities and the numbers of young people attending each event can be seen in the table below.

Some additional equipment has also been bought to improve facilities at the centres. This has included a Television for Delph Youth Club. At Satellite Youth Centre, art supplies have been bought for the holiday activities in the centre. Music equipment has been bought – 3 channel mixer, amplifier, vinyl's, speakers. This has provided a very popular activity in the centre that has attracted and engaged many of the young men who in the past have been difficult to work with. This music equipment is also the start of resources that are need for the weekend music events which have started to take place at the centre.

A full breakdown of how the money has been spent can also be seen on the second table.

The remaining money will be used for a summer programme in the area. Details of this have yet to be finalised but attached is a copy of the proposed events in the area.

Numbers of young people involved

Activity	Number of Young People Involved
Ice Skating (Xmas)	14
Trip to Manchester and Chinese Meal	13
Bowling (Xmas)	9
Activities at Satellite YC during February half term	42
Ice Skating (Easter)	12
Cinema (Easter)	7
Bowling (Easter)	11
Activities at Satellite YC during Easter	15

Breakdown of how £3000 has been spent

Youth Sub Group	Amount	date
Vehicle Hire April	135	may
Hope Education	94.03	may
Hope Education	12.95	may
Easter Activities - cash advance	400	april
VAT back from cash advance	-20.91	
Unused from cash advance	-17.74	
Hope Education	23.96	May
DJ sessions	230	April
Skating	74.75	April
Hope Education	20.9	March
Hope Education	19.9	March

Hope Education	2.29	March
ASDA - tv purchase	136.15	Feb
Vehicle hire December	90	January
Amp, speakers, etc	328	June
cash advance	400	
Vat back from Cash advance	-20.09	
Unused from cash advance	-157.45	
Fuel - December	52.88	December
	1804.62	

July 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				7 Live Band 7.30 – 10.00	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22 Youth Café @ Satellite
24	25 Denshaw Open Access/ Arts Session	26	27 Satellite Whitworth art gallery + picnic in park (Young women)	28 Live Band 7.30 – 10.00	29 Youth Café @ Satellite

August 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Denshaw Open Access/ Arts Session	2 Delph Open Access	3 Satellite Drayton Manor	4	5 Youth Café @ Satellite
7 Satellite Blackpool Sandcastle	8 Denshaw Open Access/ Arts Session	9 Delph Open Access	10 Denshaw Alton Towers	11	12 Youth Café @ Satellite
14 Satellite Open Access	15 Denshaw Open Access/ Arts Session	16 Delph Blackpool Sandcastle (?)	17	18	19 Youth Café @ Satellite
21 Satellite Open Access	22 Denshaw Open Access/ Arts Session	23 Satellite Heaton Park Horse riding/Golf Delph Open Access	24 Delph Blackpool Pleasure Beach	25 Live band	26 Youth Café @ Satellite
28 Satellite Open Access	29 Denshaw Open Access/ Arts Session	30 Delph TBC			

Open Access continues on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evening, 7.00 – 9.30pm. The young womens group meet on a Wednesday evening, 4pm – 6.30pm. Friday nights will soon be open with a musical theme (a date has yet to be set).

7.0 COUNT DOWN TO FRESHER OLDHAM

7.1 In less than a year, England will do what Scotland and the Republic of Ireland have already done – go smoke free. The government is introducing legislation to protect workers and the public from the risks of second hand tobacco smoke and require all enclosed premises to be smoke free.

This is a major step forwards to improving health and work has already started in Oldham to ensure the transition is smooth. Businesses are being encouraged to step ahead of the legislation and start moving towards becoming smoke free.

It's not just about workplaces though as in Oldham we are working with smokers, young and older, to help them quit. Oldham NHS Stop Smoking Service offer a range of service from one-to-one to group sessions across the borough or within the workplace.

Additionally, smoke free Oldham will be working with the schools and community groups to offer smoking cessation to anyone who wants to quit.

Smokers interested in accessing the service can telephone Oldham NHS Stop Smoking Service for support on 0161 6215937. For more information about Smoke Free Oldham visit <http://www.oldham.gov.uk/smoke-free>

8.0 AFFORDABLE WARMTH STRATEGY

8.1 Affordable Warmth and Fuel Poverty Briefing

Fuel Poverty affects over 25% of households in Oldham. This means that there are potentially over 20,000 households in Oldham where more than 10% of the household's income is spent on heating the home to an acceptable temperature. Fuel Poverty has been shown to lead to poor health, excess winter mortalities, poor educational attainment and is also believed to contribute to mental health problems and poor social well-being.

Fuel Poverty is caused by poorly insulated, poorly heated properties, low household incomes and lack of access to help and advice.

OMBC together with key stakeholders has developed Affordable Warmth for All Strategy to try and overcome the issue in the borough. The Strategy features a comprehensive action plan that includes developing and promoting schemes to improve the energy efficiency of properties in Oldham and to improve knowledge and awareness of the issues with residents and agencies in the borough.

At the next round of Area Committee meetings, representatives from the local Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, the Warm Front Team and OMBC's Housing Strategy Department will be available to give advice on how to save energy and keep warm plus provide information on grants and schemes that are available to residents to help with making improvements.

To view OMBC's Affordable Warmth Strategy, go to:

<http://www.oldham.gov.uk/affordable-warmth-strategy-web.pdf>

Contacts:

Greater Manchester North Energy Efficiency Advice Centre

Provides free and impartial advice on how to save energy plus advises on all national and local grants for heating, insulation and renewable energy.

0800 512 012 or 0161 234 1638

<http://www.est.org.uk/>

EAGA Warm Front

Administers the government Warm Front Grant, offering grants of up to £2700 per property for a package of heating and insulation measures.

0800 316 6011

<http://www.eagagroup.com/grants/index.htm>

Zahid Amin OMBC

Principal Housing Strategy Officer (Lead Officer for Affordable Warmth for All Strategy)

0161 911 5148

<http://www.oldham.gov.uk/>

9.0 OUTCOMES ARISING FROM THE AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13th July 2006 and the Special Meeting held on 22nd June 2006

Item No	Item	Issue	Outcome
2	Urgent Business	<p>(i) That future Section106 Reports be submitted to the Area Committee on a six monthly basis</p> <p>(ii) That a Planning Officer be invited to attend the September meeting of the Area Committee to address resident's and Members' concerns relating to s106 issues.</p> <p>(iii) Public Footpaths/Rights of Way - A Co-opted member referred to a request that he had made at a previous meeting regarding the attendance of the Footpaths Officer at a future meeting of the Area Committee; the Area Manager pointed out that the Officer had attended a meeting of the Area Action Team, in response to that request. the Chair informed the meeting that he would liaise with the Officer concerned.</p>	<p>This has been agreed by planning, subject to the timescales involved with Area Committees and Planning Committee.</p> <p>An officer from the Regeneration Department will attend to present the s106 report, and respond to members' questions.</p> <p>The Chair has arranged for the appropriate officers to attend and address this question.</p>
8	SSDP Report	<p>(i) That Officers be invited back to the September meeting of the Area Committee to present the meeting with more hard facts.</p>	<p>A Council officer will provide an update on progress to the meeting.</p>
9	Public Questions	<p>(i) That the concerns of Friezland residents be noted and that the Chair look to arrange a Public Meeting in the area to discuss all the issues raised at tonight's meeting.</p> <p>(ii) That the query relating to Hey Top be forwarded to the Executive Director, Environmental Services for action.</p>	<p>A date in October to be confirmed</p> <p>See Appendix 1, below.</p>
10	Appointment of Sub	<p>(i) That a substitute co-optee representative to the Oldham</p>	<p>See above</p>

12	<p>Groups</p> <p>Area Manager's Report</p>	<p>Partnership be identified.</p> <p>(i) Planters Initiative - In relation to this item a local resident asked if the rockery area in Greenfield could be included in any future scheme - the Area Manager agreed to look into this on the resident's behalf.</p> <p>(ii) With regard to the request for further clarification on Saddleworth population statistics an Elected Member asked for a revised version of the statistics shown at Appendix 3 to the report to include the actual areas.</p>	<p>The rockeries referred to had not been planted to the usual schedule, due to the change of maintenance responsibility from the Parks Section to Streetscene. These rockeries were planted in early August.</p> <p>Councillor Heffernan will update the Area Committee on this item.</p>
22nd June	SPECIAL MEETING	That a joint meeting be arranged before the end of July 2006 with Phil Woolas MP and Saddleworth Parish Council, in order to agree a way forward	This meeting was held on 21 st August. See Appendix 2, below.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To note the contents of this report

Appendix 1 – Email to Councillor Knowles on Hey Top issue

Dear Councillor Knowles,

I visited the conservation area yesterday and during my visit discussed some of the issues with two residents. My understanding of the current position is that the whole of the conservation area is in the ownership of the owners of the former paper mill (which may be in administration). The cottages are tenanted and a large number are vacant. I also understand that the limit of highways adoption is higher up Bradbury's Lane. None of the buildings appear to be listed.

I would agree with your own observation that the cottages are in need of renovation. There appears to have been some inappropriate improvement work in the past with the installation of pvc glazing and the addition of cables and numerous satellite dishes. The interior of the vacant cottages appears to be in need of extensive modernisation. The road is in a poorly maintained condition, as is the cobbled area to the rear. The car park and garages, and the allotment are also in a poor condition. In this context, I can understand the frustrations of any remaining tenants.

The Council has the power to designate conservation areas and to periodically review them. It also has a duty to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas. Unless a building is listed, the Council does not, however, have a general power to compel an owner to improve or renovate the exterior fabric of a building. It can only do so by persuasion, unless urgent repairs are required, but can exercise some control over external improvements where planning permission is required. Where urgent repairs are required, the Local Planning Authority or English Heritage, may apply for a direction from the Secretary of State to use powers under Section 54(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Before the procedure can be used the Secretary of State must first give a direction that the procedure can be used, on the grounds that the preservation of the building is important for maintaining the character or appearance of the area. My interpretation of this provision is that it should only be used in exceptional circumstances and that it is not available for widespread use. In the case of the terrace at Hey Top, the building appears to be structurally sound with no apparent evidence of disrepair that would prejudice the integrity of the structure and its contribution to the character or appearance of the conservation area. Improvement and renovation may well be required but that work may not necessarily constitute the urgent repairs under Section 54(1) of the Act. Given the limited useage of this provision, there is an inherent weakness in conservation legislation and the hands of the Council are tied.

The Hey Top Conservation Area has not been the subject of a Conservation Area Appraisal and nor have the majority of other Conservation Areas in the Borough. This, as has been previously pointed out by Geoff Willerton, is an issue which could be addressed by the appointment of a Conservation Officer. This would enable the Council to be more pro-active in this field and to use appraisals as a negotiating tool with landowners. The post will be advertised shortly and we would hope to fill it in the autumn.

Whilst I am not yet familiar with other Conservation Areas in the Borough, I assume that the Hey Top Conservation Area is unique in that it is in a single private ownership. There has also been little or no measurable development activity in the Conservation Area. The Council may not have been pro-active in the conservation area. However, I am sure that my planning colleagues would refute that it is a yardstick for how the Council deals with the heritage asset in the Borough. The Department is very pro-active in protecting the heritage asset in other conservation areas through the day to day operation of the development control process.

Hey Top in my opinion appears to be a classic case of a landowner running down his asset, presumably for financial reasons. The future of the terrace and the surrounding land may well be linked to the future of the former paper mill to which I understand it has had a strong historical link. Having been in post for less than two weeks I am not familiar with the history of the mill or of any intentions that the owner may have in relation to the conservation area. I am on leave next week but will undertake to contact the owner on my return. I will of course update you on any developments.

Regards,

Arnis Buklovskis
Principal Planning Officer
Town Centre and Projects.

Appendix 2 – Report on Peak Park Meeting

Peak Park Meeting at Uppermill Civic Hall on 21st August 2006.

The meeting was arranged to discuss with an Officer from the Peak Park Authority what inclusion in the Peak Park would mean and possible ways forward.

Sean Prendergast, Access and Recreation Manager for the Authority, attended.

Although it was a private meeting, about 40 members of the public had been informed and attended. The Chairman advised them that they may stay but it was a meeting between Area Cttee representatives and Mr Prendergast.

S Prendergast gave a description of what the Peak District National Park is and what it is not.

It is on mostly privately owned land. It is not a Park but is a living landscape.

The remit of the Park Authority is to conserve and enhance the area, to promote opportunities for people to enjoy the special qualities of the area, and to be mindful of the socio-economic needs of the area.

It is governed by the Environment Act 1995.

Statistics. The park covers 1400 square kilometres and has 38000 inhabitants.

The Saddleworth area in the Park covers 30 Squ. Klms (2.14%), and has 67 inhabitants (0.176%).

The only town in the Park is Bakewell which has 3500 inhabitants (9.2%).

Any extension into Saddleworth which included one or more villages would mean a large increase in the Park population.

Uppermill has 2500 electorate and a little over 3000 residents, Greenfield has about 2800 electorate and well over 3000 residents.

Park Authority. The Peak Park Authority is not democratically elected. There are 38 members. Half plus one; 20 members, are appointed by constituent authorities like OMBC. The other 18 are made up of 8 representatives for Parish Councils; SPC has a vote in selecting those members, and 10 appointed by the Secretary of State for their personal qualities.

Planning. The Park has its equivalent UDP and must keep to it. Some planning regulations are more stringent than those of Urban Authorities such as Oldham. At present there is no land zoned as 'Open-Market' Housing it is only 'Local Housing needs' that are allowed. Design is shaped to Park plans and not to urban design.

Members were invited to comment and ask questions.

Cllr Roughly referred to Keswick & Ambleside being in the Lake District Park. There is no ban on towns being included. He pointed out the problems in Holme Valley, Colne Valley, Rishworth & Marsden similar to ours. He referred particularly to architectural problems because of the rural/urban conflict.

Cllr Buckley pointed out that Special Landscape protection had been removed from the hillsides in the recently adopted UDP.

Cllr Knowles agreed that expansion into more of Saddleworth would result in a change in the nature of the Park but nationally the Parks are changing and expanding as part of a general review. We need to take a look at the situation both from a rural and small town point of view. OMBC does not have a specialist conservation officer to balance the urban/town viewpoint. He referred to the proposed infill at Howgills, the good 'urban' design asked for by OMBC at Andrew Mill. OMBC elected member representative on Peak Park represents an urban area; Chadderton. This is not a good start to protection.

Cllr McCann referred to Peak Park affordable housing plan; there is no equivalent in Oldham.

Cllr Wheeler asked if there could not be a South Pennine national Park which would link on both sides of the Pennines and meet Peak Park. Many present thought that this avenue should be pursued.

Co-optee D Makin stressed that we should not only include the area within the Saddleworth boundary. We should look to conserve all 'The Tops' and up to the M62 south boundary.

Parish Councillor Hulme referred to his meeting with the local MP who had referred to a democratic mandate. The original boundaries of the Park had been decided arbitrarily.

Mr Prendergast repeated that he had come only for the discussion and could not make any recommendation or decision. The national Park is not the arbiter of who joins the Authority. The recommendation would come from Natural England to the Minister.

It was agreed that we would have something on paper by the Area Cttee meeting on the 28th Sept.

Cllr Heffernan wants a joint approach with the Saddleworth Parish Council. He feels that this will strengthen our hands when dealing with the Minister. Two separate approaches will certainly leave both parties at a disadvantage. He will, therefore, invite them to join with us at the end of September. The Parish Council is having a meeting on the 4th Sept and will have details of this meeting before that.

Appendix 3 – Youth Sub Group Minutes

Saddleworth & Lees Area Committee

Youth Advisory Group

Minutes of Meeting

28 June 2006

Held at Satellite Youth Centre

Present:	Diane Higgins	Youth Service
	Catherine Lingard	Youth Service
	Simon Shuttleworth	Area Managers Support Officer
	Lynda Winrow	Youth Service
	Angela Foster	Youth Service
	Mark Detmeridge	G.M.P.
	Dave Pickles	G.M.P.

Minutes	Julie Bradley	Youth Service
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Apologies:	Jan Joshi	Area Manager
	Anne Wibberley	Youth Service
	Cllr B. Lord	Cllr Saddleworth West & Lees
	Cllr T. Beeley	Cllr Saddleworth West & Lees

Cllr C. Wheeler
Barbara Beeley

Cllr Saddleworth South
Co-optee member

		Action
1.	<i>Welcome & Introductions</i> Introductions took place.	
2.	Apologies Apologies were noted as above.	
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting Approved by members present.	
4	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting <u>3.2 Action Plan in Relation to Youth Chapter</u> Should have recorded that Simon Shuttleworth had reported that positive comments had been raised on the Youth provision and Outdoor provision. <u>4.3 SK8 Launch (21 April)</u> After investigation, Simon Shuttleworth, reported that there are no monies available. <u>6.5 Greenfield Park</u> Simon Shuttleworth raised the concern regarding lighting in the park at the Area Action Meeting, a bid has been submitted to NRF requesting lighting for the park area. <u>8.1 Shadow Youth Group</u> Diane Higgins to follow this up.	
5.	<u>Action Plan (in relation to Youth Chapter)</u> To be discussed at the next meeting.	
5.1		
6.	<u>SK8 Launch (21st April)</u> Diane Higgins had visited the Skate Park reported the following concerns; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were problems with “midges” in the early evening. Asked if anyone knew of any way to solve this problem?• Rain water collecting at the centre of the skate ‘runway’ Simon Shuttleworth is to investigate how these can be resolved.	
6.1		
	Littleborough had visited the SK8 Park as they are due to submit a	

DH

6.2 bid for similar facilities. They were very impressed with the area and how it was being used.

Simon Shuttleworth reported that Royton SK8 was to open soon.

6.3

7. *Area Committee, 3K update on costs & activities*

7.1 Simon Shuttleworth distributed a copy of the finance report to members present and reported that £2,00 had been spent and a further £2,00 was available to spend on events.

7.2 Diane Higgins distributed a date plan for events and gave a brief explanation of the events.

A question was raised if the Area Committee would allocate monies again to support the events. It was suggested that Diane submitted a bid to continue the work. DH

8. **Partner Reports**

8.1 **GMP**

- Football events were proving to be a success, however resources were in need of replacing and more were needed due to a tournament being organised.
 - GMP were advised that some monies may be available to support the resource required.
- Greenfield Park had improved.
- Lees area was very quiet.
- Bagnol Close (Saddleworth School) is still a popular meeting place for the young people.
- Alcohol issues have improved.
- Visits to school year 10 had proved to be very successful.

Lynda Winrow

8.2 Reported that Lees was very quiet, not many young people about. They have worked on outreach. Feel that provision available at Satellite had encouraged young people to move on, now looking at the provisions they have to offer.

Diane Higgins

8.3 Reported she had found it difficult to organise events due to low numbers but feels this is due to the warm weather - as this has an impact on young people visiting the centres.

Discussion took place regarding the low numbers and feel this is a general pattern due to the warm weather and end of school year, also the outside influence on young people.

Diane Higgins continued with her report advising the members that as of next week the centre would be open 6 days a week with a young women's group meeting on Thursday and Saturday afternoon Youth Café.

The centre would be open Friday night – waiting on the outcome of the submission to NRF to support this opening.

Area Action Team

Crime prevention – around centre and area, have had positive responses and good response to request for Licence.

- 8.4 Simon Shuttleworth informed everyone that a website for young people is to be launched. This is to be an information service for young people. CLC have supported the setting up of this project, however from September they will work with focus groups to maintain the information available.

9. *Watch this Space*

- 9.1 Angela Foster reported that she had been working with the group of skaters and planning a summer programme.

- 9.2 Angela met with a large group in the park is working with the young people to encourage them to organise a fun day. Suggestion was raised to use mini bus to bring young people in from the park to the centres – this would be considered.

- 9.3 Angela to apply for funding to support the detached work.

AF

10. Shadow Youth Group update

- 10.1 Diane reported that there were still issues with schools therefore had used young people from the centres to look at the needs of young people. Diane remained positive in that she hoped working with the schools would be developed and then able to gain representation from the schools.

11. Contact

11.1 It was agreed to review and update the contact details of members for this committee at the next meeting.

9. **AOB**

9.1 Nothing to report.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 23 August at 5:00pm

Satellite Youth Centre

MEETING CLOSED

Appendix 4 – Watch This Space Update

Oldham Youth Service
Detached Team
“Watch this Space”
Report to

Saddleworth & Lees
Area Committee

29 June 2006

BACKGROUND

The 'Watch This Space' Project was funded by Saddleworth & Lees and East Oldham Area Committee. Last year it was identified that there had been an increase in the incidence of groups of young people congregating in parks around the Borough. This has been accompanied in some parks by an increase in anti-social behaviour. The aim of "Watch This Space" is to involve a broad range of different providers from across the statutory, voluntary and community sectors, to work within the designated parks and open spaces to provide a range of positive opportunities to young people through detached youth work, sports, arts and access to information and advice.

The two Area Committees have provided £34,600 over a one-year period from October 2005 to October 2006.

PARTNESHIP WORKING

Partners include:

- Oldham Youth Service
- Groundwork (Youth Works)
- Sports Development
- Connexions
- Park Services
- Counthill School
- YIP
- K5 Task Group
- Positive Steps Oldham
- Police
- Local Councillors
- Community Safety Unit
- Greater Manchester Police
- Church Groups

METHOD OF DELIVERY

'Watch This Space' is a multi-agency initiative delivering detached and other youth work activities for young people in parks and open spaces. Oldham Youth Service Detached Team alongside staff from Groundwork and the Sports

Development Unit have been delivering face to face work with young people in the following areas:

- Uppermill Park
- Greenfield Park
- Lees Park
- Stoneleigh Park
- Waterhead Park

ACHIEVEMENTS

The multi-agency team have so far has:

- Contacted 284 different young people aged 13-23 years
- Achieved 2,432 attendances by different young people.
- Delivered 174 sessions

Of the contacted young people 221 have been young men and 63 young women, 70% of whom were white, 25% dual heritage and 5% BME.

The 174 sessions delivered to date have taken place on Friday evenings, Saturday afternoons as well as sessions throughout the rest of the weekday evenings.

Young people taking part in this initiative have attained 41 Recorded Outcomes, a way in which enable young people can measure how they feel they have developed, with a further 30 accredited outcomes expected during the summer.

OUTCOMES

How has “Watch This Space” made a difference?

Young people participating in “Watch This Space” activities have learnt to fully value community facilities, there has been a reduction in the fear of damage and actual damage to public and private property, young people are being sign posted to existing mainstream provision and agencies have been able to make contact with

young people who previously choose not to access available services and provisions

As a result of “Watch This Space” young people have participated in:

- Workshops on sexual health
- Issue based discussions on drug awareness and alcohol misuse
- Workshops on identity, community cohesion and citizenship.
- Contraception and Sexual Health Advice through the “C” Card Scheme.
- Creative and Performing Arts Workshops
- 16 weeks of Sports Sessions including those at Counthill School
- Sports Leadership Qualifications
- Trips outs to bowling, and canoeing
- Borough wide football tournament

FINANCES

The Project has been allocated £17,300 by Saddleworth & Lees Area Action Team and £17,300 by East Oldham Area Action Team.

Saddleworth and Lees

Income		£17,300
Staffing	£ 9,100	
Activities	£ 2,490	
Resources	£ 610	
Expenditure to date		£13,200
Summer/Autumn Expenditure	£4,100	
Total Projected Expenditure		£17,300

East Oldham

Income		£17,300
Staffing	£10,506	
Activities	£ 2,100	
Resources	£ 500	

Expenditure to date		£13,106
Summer/Autumn Expenditure	£ 4,194	
Total Projected Expenditure		£17,300

75% of this has been spent on staffing, activities and equipment and the remainder will be spent on the summer and early autumn provision.

FUTURE EVENTS

During the summer a comprehensive summer holiday project will take place in Uppermill Park and Greenfield Park, Waterhead Park and Stoneleigh Park. The multi-agency partnership team will deliver 30 sessions over a six week period. The activities on offer to young people include:

- Performing arts workshops
- Creative arts workshops
- Sports Leadership Courses – leading to Accreditation
- Trips to Blackpool
- Circus workshops
- Sign-language workshops
- Multi-Activity Fun Days

FUTURE PLANS

The partnership is working alongside groups of young people in order to ensure that young people have a real say in how this work proceeds. The partnership is keen to continue to develop future “Watch This Space” initiatives.

Anne Wibberley
 Detached Team Manager
 June 2006