**Little Hulton Big Local Partnership Board**

Minutes of the Meeting held 6th April 2021 via Zoom

Present: Anthony Gritto, Entela Isufi, Fay Flatt, Kirsten Robinson, Sharon Maddocks and Steve Skinner

In Attendance: Alison Jones, Sue Owen and Helen Johnson (minutes)

Apologies: Nathaniel Lynch, Sharon Higgins and Shelagh Higginbottom

1. **Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and apologies were given.**
2. **Declarations of conflict interest.**

There were no declared conflicts of interest.

1. **Minutes and matters arising**

The minutes from the previous meeting on 1st March were agreed as a correct record.

All matters arising have been dealt with apart from:

Rebecca to report 27-29 peppercorn rent

**ACTION - Rebecca will chase Jen Patel and let Alison know.**

Alison hasn’t heard back from Rebecca but has received an invoice for 25p per quarter for next financial year.

Alison reported that the chief executive of Mustard Tree has visited the hub and thanked them for all of the work they have been doing. Alison has had lots of conversations with Mustard Tree. Mustard Tree won’t be opening until June. There are sufficient funds in the charity to run things as they are until October. If a charge is introduced then this could be extended further. Alison has informed Mustard Tree that they wanted to keep an element of food work at the hub due to the amount of commitment that has already been put in and the volunteers would like to keep it.

**ACTION – Rebecca to share youth survey results with Alison**

Alison hasn’t received this.

The workshop took place and the Big Local extension has been submitted and approved by the Big Local Trust.

1. **Finance**

Kirsten shared the budget for October 2020 – February 2021

Income £47,844

Spend

Activities £7,949

Employees £25,306

Premises £4,582

LTO costs £4,494

Total spend £42,330 with a surplus of £6,686 to cover March.

This should be a balanced budget until the end of March. A new budget will be done from April onwards.

Money for the bike track from Big Local will come in March and go out again in March.

1. **Updates**

**Peel Park**

The bike track work is due to start this week and will take 6 weeks to complete which means it should be functioning at around mid-late May.

Money was secured through the charity for a project called Pocket Parks. £25,000 is being spent on a natural play area. Work has started on this and willow tunnels have been set up. They have been in place for a month and so far there is no sign of vandalism. More work will be done by Andy from RHS who should be able to start next week.

A new fridge has been bought for Peel Park.

Three sessions will be taking place over Easter for the kids.

Alison is regularly chasing about the lease (short/medium term). Andy Mullan is to write a report to the Council. People have booked in to use Peel Park including a coffee morning and perhaps bike maintenance for young people at risk and NEET and a coffee afternoon on 15th April where Sharon M will make cakes.

Charlie is chasing the planning officer regarding the planning permission for the pavilion.

Fay hasn’t heard about any updates on the play equipment. 106 funding was support to be tied into this. Work should start soon.

An open day for the bike track is being planned on Tuesday 25th May. There can’t be a large event due to restrictions. The board agreed that someone from Big Local should be there, a trustee from the board and a mayor or other official. The board also agreed that a young person should be present and perhaps an online competition should take place to win the first go on the bike track.

**ACTION: Alison to talk to Mike from Access Sport about getting a board member and young person involved in the open day. Alison to speak to Mandy about doing a competition through the Youth Unity page.**

**Youth Work**

An online registration for Youth Unity has been set up and 99 kids have registered. It had to be started from scratch. The first Children In Need report has been sent in and feedback has come back describing the monitoring as “good”.

Mandy is doing the final distanced activities which includes a cooking project after the results of a poll on Facebook. In the middle of April face to face activities in small groups can be done again. There is support with the youth partnership with Easter provision in the parks, Healthy Holidays activities at Wharton Primary which will be at least once a week with snack packs and Mandy is still looking to do online activity.

**Food Work**

The food club has been very busy with over 100 people last week. The need is still there. Cleggs Lane Foodbank is now open. The Trussell Trust Foodbank on Thursdays may want to move to Bethany Church once restrictions lift so that they can also set up a café. The partnership hasn’t worked, the Trussell Trust have volunteers who aren’t local residents, the Thursday is seen as their service and they have a different way of doing things. A lot has been learnt.

Funding from Forever Manchester through the charity has been spent on getting a freezer so frozen food can be given and the money will also be used to change the storage around to run the club like a shop when restrictions allow. There will also a trial of a membership scheme. The hub is also trying to pull back from doing deliveries unless it is urgently needed.

**UNLtd**

The three year partnership project has come to an end. The final networking event has taken place but UNLtd will continue to offer support to awardees for the next 12 months.

**Community Led Support**

Anthony reported that Community Led Support was a bit confusing. He has been to two workshops about loneliness and there are more to attend at the end of the month. There is a hub in Walkden where people can go for a chat if they feel lonely or isolated. Community Led Support is meant to be about making a change in adult services in partnership, led by Salford City Council. Little Hulton and Walkden have been identified as a pilot area. Nearly everyone on the workshops are professionals and there is a severe lack of residents. It needs more resident involvement and less focus on the hub at Walkden.

1. **Workshop – what next?**

The idea of the workshop was to come up with proposals and to feed back to the board meeting. The key points and main proposals were circulated to board members prior to the meeting.

**Main proposals:**

* Reduce the capital investment to just £100,000 maximum for now.
* Spend six months exploring funding options on this basis.
* Aim to obtain approximately £100,000 from funders e.g. in two lots of £50,000.
* Meanwhile do visible things to show activities are starting e.g. Wi-Fi on the terrace, some youth work sessions.
* Identify priority areas to build.

**Actions:**

* Consult the architects on what the priorities are for a part funded approach
* Ask staff to explore funding sources.

The board agreed not to put the full money in, to cut back the capital investment, have money to work with and seek other funding streams. Alison will go forward with this plan and look for other funding.

**ACTION: Alison to contact Councillors to ask them to push the planning officer for planning permission for the pavilion**

Charlie has suggested that he will come along to the next board meeting and discuss the planning in more detail. There may be payment needed to part of the building costed up for bids from quantity surveyors. Charlie will also look at some of it as a community build and the cost options.

Planning permission is needed before we can approach any other grants.

Small grants can carry on until September 2021, it was considered whether the small grants should come to its natural end and not carry on through the charity to avoid expectations. The board will keep revisiting this to agree on the future of small grants.

Claire Andrews, finance officer from Big Local Trust would like to come to the next board meeting. It would be an opportunity to have a conversation about being our own LTO.

There has been an invitation for each Big Local partnership to find out about “The Day After Tomorrow” workshop which focuses on what is next for communities when the funded ends. It’s on 16th April on Zoom.

1. **New plan next steps**

The next plan needs to be considered which will cover until the Big Local money runs out. The board were asked what questions they would like to ask the community and what way should the consultation be done.

Entela did a research programme two years ago and they used surveys with questions including how many times people used the park and what they did there. The results were mainly dog walkers and that people felt unsafe on the park especially in the evening. The results also showed that people weren’t happy with the quality of the play area and that they preferred to drive to Parr Fold park or to Victoria park in Swinton. The team conducting the surveys split into groups, some asked questions at the park, at the shops, at the library or on Manchester Road. All of this was done face to face.

It was discussed and agreed that the survey would have to be online due to restrictions but it must be taken into consideration for those who can’t get online or struggle with tech. Tablets could be used and staff members could conduct the survey with those that struggle in the hub.

Survey Monkey is a useful, there is a limit on questions but it’s really useful for the data.

**ACTION: Steve to get information on how Bradford Big Local conducted their survey work**

Some consultation evidence will be needed before deciding on the next plan. The results and evidence may influence the decision taken by the board. The board need to think about the key questions and the guidance from the community to spend £200,000 and how to prioritise the work of the charity.

The board considered any gaps. There are hardly any resident associations. It was suggested that community groups should also be surveyed as well as residents. Community groups can be asked how they’re doing and if they need any help. Questions could be asked to the residents about resident groups and if they need help setting any up. Other questions could be, ‘do the residents still want a central hub?’, ‘is youth activity still a priority in this area?’ and ‘are there any other priorities’? Another idea suggested was to inform those taking the survey what work has been done so far and what is coming up so they are aware.

**ACTION: The June board meeting will focus on the consultation. Alison to draft something as a starting point. Board members to send Alison any question suggestions.**

1. **AOB**

Wowkid nursery have requested a grant of £500 for a sand area for a beach/construction area, a reading/outdoor classroom idea and a growing area. The focus is to spend more time outside. This area was vandalised and they’d like to make it a nice space again.

The board agreed but added a condition that all of the funding has to be spent on the children and not the business. The nursery need to be approached for before and after photos and asked how they will stop the outdoor space from being vanalised.

Harrop Fold had a grant of £1,000 for a newsletter group. An email has been sent asking what they have spent the money on but Sue has had no response.

**ACTION: Sue to send information to Sharon M who will send it to the finance person at Harrop Fold**

The cricket club had £500 towards training. They have responded to Sue and have said that they haven’t been able to spend the money on training but have asked if they should give the money back. Sue has sent another email asking what else they may want to spend the money on but has since had no response.

**ACTION: Sue to send another email to the cricket club with a deadline of the end of April to respond about what they want to spend the money on or if they want to give it back**

£140 of volunteer expenses fund spend is left which should have been spent at the end of the financial year. Alison asked the board whether they could spend this money on the volunteers Jane and Pam, Cath who is a paid worker and Mary Wheldon a board member, as they have worked throughout lockdown. The money would be spent on a spa day at the Lowry Hotel, it is £55 for a twilight session. Something will also be arranged for John Maddocks.

The board agreed and suggested including a thank you card.

Meeting ended: 7:12pm

**Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 4th May 2021 5.00pm - 7.00pm via Zoom**