**Little Hulton Big Local Partnership Board**

Minutes of the Meeting held 1st November 2021 via Zoom

Present: Kirsten Robinson, Anthony Gritto, Jenny Gritto, Fay Flatt, Bea Imburu, Jasmin Bakhre, Shelagh Higginbottom, Nathaniel Lynch, and Sharon Maddocks

In Attendance: Alison Jones and Helen Johnson (minutes)

Apologies: Entela Isufi, Sue Owen, Gemma Fish, Steve Skinner

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

There were declarations of conflict of interest as this is a joint charity and LHBL meeting for business plan decision making. Anthony works on Youth Unity, but nothing will be directly affected by Anthony’s presence.

1. **Business Plan**

**Remaining money**

If the charity don’t get any more money from 1st April next year and then invest £100,000 in the pavilion, there will be £44,000 left in Little Hulton Big Local with a remainder of £7,518 left in the budget. There is £17,631 left in the holding account so there is £69,131 in total. If no more money is secured, everyone has to be mindful that there isn’t much money left. The usual spend for the year is roughly £100,000. More money would be needed for general running costs, pavilion running costs, two staff without youth delivery.

The Community Development Fund offers up to £250,000 capital and up to £50,000 revenue. There were 150 applicants for the first round and only 21 were funded. If we are successful with the next round of funding, the timing of the money would hit in March/April next year which would follow on from Big Local.

**Café area**

Alison sent out letters to people who wanted to be named in the bid and for potential partners for interest in the running of the café. In the business plan there is a need to find partners to tender. No one has come back regarding the café, but it is still at a point where it can go out to tender to provide a café, this is not going to be delivered in-house. The running of the café would contribute to the income to support the charity in the building, ideally, a social enterprise.

**Partner documents – who to work with?**

Partnerships with anchor organisations as based tenants and delivery would contribute to the costs of the building. There has been one response which is a joint partnership bid between Sale Sharks and Foundation 92. They would like to be a tenant to help develop projects and be named in the bid as someone to help delivery. Sale Sharks have an agreement with YMCA to currently deliver but this new application is just with Sale Sharks and Foundation 92. They would be charged for revenue costs, but Sale Sharks haven’t said that they would make a contribution to the capital. It was discussed amongst the board whether there were any factors about having Foundation 92 on board – such as Ryan Giggs and his court case having any impact. It was agreed that the reputation of the charity wouldn’t be altered by recent issues with the owners of Salford City FC.

Small organisations have responded to partnering within the pavilion. Erica from Coffee Monkeys (under 5s), Soul Sisters (empowering women), Visit from the Stork (baby bank), Recreate-U (emotional health and wellbeing) and Walk the Plank (youth work).

**Delivery for the charity**

Discussion centred around what the board feels the charity should deliver in the next 3-5 years. Currently the work covered includes running the buildings, supporting volunteering, supporting activities for older people, youth work delivered in-house, food work in-house, toy appeal, harvest festival, easter egg appeal.

Sharon M – I think we should keep the volunteers and there should be youth delivery, activities for older people, the food work, to keep both hubs going and the charity to be inclusive of everyone in Little Hulton, delivering for different needs, age etc.

Nathaniel – I see the charity providing social activities. It is hard to do a lot of things due to funding, expertise and not necessarily knowing our capabilities. Being inclusive for all in Little Hulton seems overarching. It’d be looking to linking up activities, signposting to other organisations which are in the community and ideally focus on activities for children and isolated people. Also, youth unity after school delivery would be good.

Anthony – The food club is still needed due to the aftermath of the pandemic, and the youth unity work as you can see improvement in the kids. I think we need to promote children and young people activities.

Sharon – I’m aware that I don’t want the charity to just become a youth centre organisation, there needs to be things for older people too.

Jenny – The youth work improves confidence.

Bea – I agree with what’s been said. We need to continue to give to the whole community, but we can’t deliver to all. We need to consider older people, there’s a lot of focus on children. Allocate reserves to what other aren’t doing and signpost to work that others are already doing.

Shelagh – The charity should be doing things for older people. The pandemic has made a lot of older people not want to go out and something is needed to help encourage older people to get out.

Fay – Focus on one hub rather than both. The pavilion is a better purposed space. The food club is one of the greatest successes this year. Link in with other groups so not to duplicate other work going on. Insurance is an issue with some delivery due to cost.

Kirsten – Hopefully the pandemic will have settled in 3-5 years. The fundamentals are food and young people. There will be a better future by nourishing young people.

Alison – I think we’re good at the food work and we get 70-80 residents through the building each week. We have received 5 stars from Environmental Health. We offer a place to sit and have a brew and there are volunteer opportunities. As long as it doesn’t cost the charity too much money, I would like this to continue. Youth provision needs to be delivered in-house. We can still deliver to older people without stretching too far. We are an activities-based charity.

Jasmin – I’d want us to be providing for the community and that the food bank continues. I’d like to see youth unity continue and the café is running for the community.

Helen – I think you’ve all nailed it. You need to be providing what is wanted by the community but sign posting to organisations and groups which are already delivering. Things such as work with under 5s which has been mentioned, you could be using the libraries for this and signposting to storytimes etc.

Alison asked about seasonal work. It was discussed that the main issues would be the costs of staff time and the volunteer resources. However, for the toy appeal we do encourage gift aid. Alison also asked about staff and volunteers in the future. It was discussed that the charity couldn’t be run without paid staff and volunteers. Discussions also centred on funding for community projects, and it was suggested to perhaps signpost people for funding as a way to still help those we have helped before to grow. It was also suggested that the hub/pavilion should be a place for people to go that’s reliable. It could be resident led with activities and chances to socalise and be an organisation with a human touch.

**Green agenda**

There is a support fund for organisation centre for sustainable energy who are working with Big Local. They can help a new building to be sustainable and find potential funders for things such as solar panels, heat pumps.

The board agreed.

**Action: Alison to look into the support fund for sustainable energy for the pavilion**

**The park**

Alison went to see a park building in Trafford and it is making money by providing activities on the park e.g. growing, walks for mental health and wellbeing. Alison asked how can the charity maximise the potential of the park whilst meeting the needs of all age groups, work with the park department so that they can see the charity’s vision and get people using the park. Alison mentioned a funding opportunity that could be used to trial ideas and it is for social prescribing in green spaces. There could be provision for older people and activities can be changed and piloting

Charlie Barlow (Community Connector) will attend a board meeting to help share delivery and group information. During this session the responses for the consultation will be looked at and will review what they’d like to see in the park. The meeting will also cover risks and next steps.

It was decided that future Big Local Board meetings will be used more as network discussions to brainstorm and make decisions for the business plan until the end of the year. The charity meetings will be for business and include Big Local.

1. **Lease on number 27-29**

The lease is in the name of Little Hulton Big Local and it needs individuals to sign it. The lease is for 3 years and there is currently 2 years left. Alison will try to get another year’s rent at a peppercorn rate and there is a break clause. There is a risk that the money will run out and ForHousing will want to speak to the individuals who have signed the lease. Kirsten suggested ring fencing money in the budget to buy the lease out should 6 months notice is needed to be given.

**Action: Alison to send holding email to ForHousing with a preference to change to the charity name and how volunteers have been asked for. Alison will report back after the December meeting. It will be agreed at the next trustees meeting who will sign the lease.**

Coalfields Regeneration Funding need forms filling out and sending back to them. Sharon and Bea have been emailed.

**Action: Sharon needs to sign a copy of the constitution. The signed copy will be sent to Crowdfunder to get the money from Salford City Council.**

1. **Big Local Connects**

Sharon, John and Alison went to Big Local Connects. Sharon reported it was very successful and that they spoke to lots of people. There were lots of ideas form what other Big Local’s were doing and discussions around funding. They attended the Sports England workshop which helped with applying for funding/next rounds. They also attended workshops around green spaces for mental health which gave them ideas for the park.

1. **AOB**

There was no other business.

Meeting ended: 7.26pm

**Date and time of next meeting: Monday 6th December 2021 5.00pm - 7.00pm.**