

Barry Plan for Neighbourhoods Board Meeting
Friday 21 November 3pm-5pm
Porthkerry Room, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry

Present: David Stevens (DS); Fay Blakeley (FB); Cllr Lis Burnett (LB); Shirley Hodges (SH); Matt Blumberg (MBg); Jane Hutt (JH); Ch Supt. Marc Attwell (MA)

Apologies: Sarah Cutting, Innes Robinson, Kanishka Narayan, Cllr Bronwen Brooks

In attendance: James Scorey (JS); Rob Thomas (RT); Phil Chappell (PC); Mererid Velios (MV); Alex Francis (AF)

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed James Scorey from CAVC. Apologies for absence were noted.

2. Discussion and feedback on 10 year plan

JH reflected on the importance of focusing on East Barry and town centre and to ensure the community impact of interventions. Need to have grassroots community involvement, find the agents of change, and work more with the schools in the East, as well as faith communities such as the Mosque. Also mentioned the Welsh Government Community Facilities Programme, with grants up to £250K, now open for applications.

LB reflected that the challenges in Barry include the gap in health life expectancy, and the programmed redundancies at Dow.

DS queried the final section in the 10 year plan and suggested that the autonomy of the Board needed to be clearer.

There was also a discussion about declarations of interest and making it explicit in the text that members of action groups do not benefit personally from membership.

- ACTION: MV to review final section to clarify the autonomy of the PfN Board and to include information about the action groups' terms of reference.

It was confirmed that the Plan needs to be signed off by the Section 151 Officer before it is submitted. Once the Plan has been approved by UK Government, it was agreed to publish it and create an easy read version.

3. Discussion and feedback on 4 year plan

LB highlighted that a variety of funding pots were being accessed and could be pooled through working in partnership. Suggested that we communicate to people the collaboration and how we are bringing resources together. DS noted that clarity on when the Board was leading the project would be preferred, and when the Council was leading on other projects with partners.

MBg noted that his action group members were frustrated with the lack of certainty over their budget allocation. It was discussed that budgets would not be committed yet, to wait for action groups to pitch their ideas, which could be scalable.

4. Current funding landscape

PC reported on the main funding streams currently available.

- ACTION: PC to circulate the table

PC suggested that ABP are invited to the next Board meeting.

PC also reported on the major projects that the Council are currently developing. There was a discussion about Wilko's and the community engagement around future plans. The Vibrant Barry and Barry Together action groups are interested to input but need to understand what the parameters are.

LB noted that Wilko's will need to be financially self sustaining but that the objectives of the Council in buying it were to bring vitality back to Holton Rd to benefit traders and the town.

- ACTION: PC to provide a summary document outlining how PfN could get involved with the major projects currently in the pipeline.

There was a discussion about Holm View's future and interest from the Barry Together group. MBg also interested in making enquiries about the Jewson building. PC to connect MBg with ABP.

MA reported back on the Safer Barry meeting and DS asked FB and MBg to report back on their action group meetings at the next Board meeting.

5. Any Other Business

MV shared information about Santa's Cause and DS suggested the Board donate £2000.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Second week of February suggested – possibly Friday 13th.