



Meeting Notes

Meeting: Boscombe Regeneration Partnership Board

Date: 26th February 2014

Time: 14:00 – 16:00

Location: Chine Hotel

Attending:

Board Members:

(TW) Tony Williams, Chief Executive of Bournemouth Borough Council; **(BC)** Bill Cotton, Executive Director - Environment & Economy, BBC; **(JK)** Cllr Jane Kelly, Local Authority Representative; **(VA)** Viv Aird, BCVS Chief Exec; **(MU)** Martyn Underhill, Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner; **(BB)** Bob Boulton, Chair of Bournemouth 2026 Trust; **(MC)** Insp Mike Claxton, Dorset Police; **(TR)** Tina Ridge, Dorset Probation; **(PF)** Dr Paul French, Locality Lead; **(AB)** Anna Braczek, Dorset Race Equality Council; **(MC)** Mark Cribb, Chair of Boscombe CIC;

Theme Leads and advisors:

(SB) Sue Bickler, Head of Community Regeneration BBC; **(CA)** Carol Aspden, BBC Service Director For Children & Young People's Services; **(SC)** Sam Crowe, Assistant Director Public Health; **(CW)** Insp Chris Weeks, Dorset Police; **(CA)** Chris Amey, Dorset Police; **(SBest)** Stuart Best, Street Services Manager BBC; **(KA)** Kelly Ansell, Strategic Housing BBC; **(AW)** Andy Williams, BBC Community Safety; **(HR)** Heidi Rees, Boscombe Regeneration Project Support Officer; **(CPSW)** Cllr Philip Stanley-Watts;

Apologies:

(PK) Chief Insp Paul Kessell, Dorset Police; **AB** Amanda Buttle, Job Centre Plus; **(JB)** John Browne – Chair of Boscombe Forum; **(CCW)** Cllr Chris Wakefield; **(ET)** Emma Turner, Dorset Fire & Rescue; **(CCR)** Cllr Christopher Rochester; **(JM)** Julie Munson - BBC Communications Officer; **(JW)** Julian Wright, Achieve Together; **(CS)** Chris Snelling, DAAT; **(CM)** Cat McMillan, Community Regeneration Officer, BBC;

No.		Action
1	Welcome & Apologies TW welcomed the attendees to the meeting and noted the apologies.	
2	Minutes & Matters Arising There was an amendment to the minutes from the last meeting. This amendment was agreed. “ The Board considered the consultation feedback and subsequent prioritised proposals for improvements to Boscombe Precinct. The Board were unable to support or reject the proposal for cycling through the Precinct without further consultation being undertaken. The Board fully supported and approved the remaining proposals as outlined in plan LSTF CAP 213 and requested Officers proceed with their implementation. They also requested that the Highways team progress the plans for shared space at the Western end of the ”	

	<p>Precinct, carrying out further consultation in relation to accessibility, aiming to implement the core principles of shared space as far as both practicable and possible.”</p> <p>The remaining minutes from the last meeting were recorded as accurate and actions are either completed or in hand.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Communications</p> <p>SB presented a funding application for continued communications support for the Boscombe Regeneration Partnership. Match funding from the local authority is in place and a further 10k is needed from this Board. The 10k would come out of the 35k allocated to this Board from Bournemouth 2026 Trust. MU noted that he would like to see more partnership success news perhaps by way of monthly highlights. There was a discussion around whether this work should still be carried out by a local authority officer or put out to tender. The potential advantages and risks were discussed. For example the Board would have to consider who would manage an external provider.</p> <p>It was decided that JM would continue to work with the Partnership for two days a week in order to keep the momentum of current communications. However it was agreed that options for this work to be delivered by another provider should be explored and made available to the Board. SB will draw up a possible contacts.</p> <p>MU offered to explore the possibility of hiring a Bournemouth University under graduate for this role in the future and present this to the Board at a future meeting.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion around the BBC 1 programme ‘Inside Out’ which recently featured Boscombe. There was an overall feeling of disappointment towards the BBC about how the programme was focussed. It was agreed that SB will draft a letter to be sent to the BBC on behalf of the Partnership noting this disappointment.</p>	<p>SB MU</p> <p>SB</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Theme Lead updates & Challenges</p> <p><u>Latest Theme Updates</u></p> <p>Housing (Operation Galaxy) additional information</p> <p>KA updated the Board with regards to Operation Galaxy. KA noted that there needs to be more of an understanding about how the referral process works for placing vulnerable homeless people into Bournemouth. It was noted that there should be intelligence gathering undertaken on who is coming into the area and why, including how other areas local authorities manage a mix of vulnerable clients moving to their area.</p> <p>KA said that they are very keen on getting referring agencies around the table to discuss the issues in Boscombe. PF said that the Clinical Commissioning Group no longer have drugs and alcohol treatment under their remit, however, this should be considered when commissioning work and managed better than it currently is. PF will take this back to managers for discussion.</p>	<p>PF</p>

	<p>MU noted that most of the ex-offenders who are being placed in Bournemouth are not from prisons in Dorset and that the partnership should look at how we decrease the amount of ex-offenders being placed here from prisons in other areas. It was noted that this will be extremely difficult to achieve. It was also noted that there needs to be an increase of people moving out of the area following recovery.</p> <p>KA asked if MU could forward any relevant information/data relating to what prisons are placing in Bournemouth.</p> <p>TR noted that Probation's Assistant-Chief Officers from other areas are reporting that some of the owners of support units in Bournemouth are publicising their business which encourages referrals to the area. Prisons are also being encouraged to resettle outside of the London area which will include a number of areas including Bournemouth. It was noted that this is more of a national issue that needs looking at.</p> <p>It was agreed that the partnership would exercise the controls we do have around supported living units while carrying out work to further understand referral and funding routes. TW noted that the Board will be happy to support Strategic Housing with issues that need escalating.</p> <p>Funding has been secured for a further 10 HMO conversions which could result in up to a 100 reduction in bedsits. KA noted that as this programme continues, compulsory purchase orders are going to have to be considered in order to secure properties.</p> <p>The Conservation team are currently carrying out surveys for improving the front facades of properties in Churchill Gardens and costings are being prepared.</p> <p>237 empty properties have been identified in Boscombe all of which will be visited and owners contacted where possible to understand what the issues are.</p> <p>Challenges</p> <p>KA noted that staff resource is needed in order to carry out the work on empty homes in Boscombe as well as capital resources. One of the biggest challenges within the Housing Theme is staff and capital resource in order to develop a deliverable strategy over a longer term for the Homes for Boscombe Strategic Vision.</p> <p>Another challenge is lack of resources to enforce powers in a proactive way against private landlords. KA suggested that a private sector strategy for Boscombe would be needed in order to move this forward.</p> <p>There was a discussion around these challenges. The Winton model is potentially to be rolled out into Boscombe. This consists of a front person who covers enforcement issues within an area including ASB, overgrown trees etc. KA noted interest in being involved in discussions around this model.</p> <p>It was noted that it would be beneficial to have a member of the Dorset</p>	MU
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<p>Fire & Rescue Service attend Board meetings. SB will speak with DFRS. KA noted that Boscombe would benefit from more owner occupiers as there is a very high proportion of rented accommodation. The challenge being making Boscombe a more appealing place to buy a home, this includes confidence in schools. It was suggested that a small area of Boscombe could be identified as a place to focus on being more appealing to home buyers. MU noted that the government are introducing £200k innovation funds which could be applied for. MU offered to develop a bid with KA. MU Action</p> <p>KA will speak with BC in view of bringing a report forward to Executive Team on resources required and Policies to be developed to support the Homes for Boscombe Strategy.</p> <p>Funding application</p> <p>SB gave an overview of the Churchill Gardens strategy. The Councils Planning department can develop the management plan for Churchill Gardens, which will support the recently carried out Area Appraisal. This requires 50% match funding and the application to Board is therefore for £6k. The Board approved this application.</p> <p>Crime – additional information</p> <p>CW raised some challenges for discussion by the Board.</p> <p>Issue 1 – High density of high risk support services in Boscombe. CW noted that in order to reduce reoffending the cycle of addiction, rehabilitation and offending must be broken. CW gave the Board some examples of this cycle e.g. sex workers being rehoused into the area where they have offended and are vulnerable to drugs and exploitation. Also, ex-offenders with additions have been released from HMP into high crime areas.</p> <p>Potential solutions would be to move services out of Boscombe, replace with family accommodation or low risk supported services i.e. mental health, learning disability or ex armed services provision. Also, to have smaller units with increased supervision (24/7).</p> <p>Issue 2 – It was noted that there are currently 55 units of supported living in Boscombe, many of which are operating as private businesses.</p> <p>Decommissioning of services- the Partnership need to have some degree of control over units being decommissioned only to become a similar unit. A potential solution would be to have a robust policy in place to ensure Charities or Private Companies are unable to provide similar services to a lower standard with less control.</p> <p>TR noted that Dorset Probation currently accommodates people through the Hub who direct to these 55 units. TR said Probation would be happy to place people in accommodation outside of Boscombe if accommodation were available. SB suggested floating support in other areas. TR confirmed that Dorset Probation would utilise this if available.</p> <p>MU noted that there are no offenders from Dorset in Dorset prisons. Dorset prisons hold prisoners from Avon, Summerset, Glostershire and Wiltshire. These offenders therefore do not have a local connection to the</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>MU KA KA BC</p>
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	<p>area. This is a cause for concern as offenders from out of area could be re housed in the local area.</p> <p>SC raised the question of the Council owning supported units outside of Boscombe in order to generate income and disperse supported living throughout the area. There was a concern that this might add to the current issues.</p> <p>The Board discussed the above issues and the following actions were raised.</p> <p>Change of local / national policy and law; work with MP's to lobby on the current Housing Benefit model. Look into only having Housing Benefit being paid to accredited support units in Dorset.</p> <p>Environment SBe gave an update regarding the Environment Theme. The Board agreed that a priority area to improve is Hawkwood Road car park. This was highlighted in the DOTS disability report and will be a pilot for improved accessibility for other car parks throughout the Town.</p> <p>TW suggested a more robust approach to closing alleyways. SBe agreed to consider three alleyways to close and test carrying out consultation that only requires 50% agreement to implement a closure. This will be raised at the next Atlas group.</p> <p>SBe noted that the Crescent improvements should be finished by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Health SC gave an overview of the Health Theme. There will be a focus on the challenges for this group at the next Board meeting.</p> <p>SB gave a brief overview of the Employment & Enterprise Theme. There will be a focus on the challenges for this group at the next Board meeting.</p>	<p>KA</p> <p>SBe</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>AOB TW asked for a letter of thanks to be drafted to Tobias Elwood for the beach cleanup and JP Morgan for their support re Achieving Excellence programme in schools. SB to draft the letter to come from TW. BB noted that Bournemouth 2026 Trust would be willing to increase their funding to Boscombe Regeneration Partnership if required for innovative projects that need moving forward. MC and MU praised the Board for the work gone into improving Boscombe over the last year. MU noted that a concordat has been issued with a focus on reducing work load on the Police particularly on putting people with mental health crisis into cell blocks.</p>	<p>SB</p>

	<p>SC noted that Public Health has managed to secure funding for support in mental health issues and the take up from Bournemouth Borough Council has been very positive. Around 200 people have expressed an interest for proposed mental health training.</p> <p>CPSW noted that more could be done to attract private investment into Boscombe. This was agreed, however TW said that Boscombe has to become an attractive area for the public sector to invest in.</p> <p>BB suggested that a member of Bournemouth University should be invited to this Board. MU will invite Ian Jones to the next Board meeting.</p> <p>HR explained that there will be a quarterly Boscombe Regeneration newsletter produced as of March and asked for future news items to be sent to the Boscombe Regeneration Team.</p>	MU
	<p>Next Meeting 30th April 2014 14:00 – 16:00 Chine Hotel</p>	