

Minutes of the RCDA/RCBI Community Network meeting held at the Phoenix Centre on Thur. 11th November 2004.

Present: W.King, D.A.Williams, N.Hammond, S.Farr, J.Davies, M.Brewer, G.Beckers, M.Chapman, B.McGrath, E.Jenkins.

Apologies: J.Trotman, K.Davies, J.Abbott, A.Samuel, E.Walters, C.Lewis.

Organisations represented: RCBI, RCDA, Ton & Gelli BGC, Llwynypia BGC, RVIC, Ton Pentre Recreation Assoc., Ystrad BGC, Rhondda Vol. Welfare Assoc., Friends of the Bwllfa.

1. Minutes. Minutes of the last meeting on 9th Sept. were accepted as a true record.

2. Report on meeting with WEFO and RCT on 4/11/04. Neal reported that the meeting to discuss the way forward with the Bwllfa Project had been a disaster, with the WEFO representative stating categorically that the Bwllfa Project was ineligible for Objective One funding of any sort. This went against previous advice, given over a long period of time.

Neal had now considered the unexpected turn of events and thought that something could be salvaged. He had emailed Martine Morgan and Andrea Saunders and another meeting had been arranged at the Innovations Centre for 12/11/04 to discuss the Bwllfa Project and the Grid Phase Two. Neal explained his proposed new approach, which had been discussed and agreed at the RCBI 'think-tank' meeting on 9/11/04. This was approved and our representatives at the meeting (Neal, Wyndham and Shan) were given full plenary powers to make decisions at the meeting in response to WEFO and RCT officers.

3. Play Safe Initiative. A steering group meeting is to be arranged as soon as possible. Selwyn Jones (Rhondda Group of Boys & Girls Clubs) is to be invited. The date of the meeting is to be arranged after the outcome of to-morrow's meeting is known.

4. Pentre Park. In view of WEFO's strictness about spatial targeting, there may be problems about the implementation of some of our Phase One initiatives, including the Traffic Safety project. Em expressed disappointment, but we are not yet ready to abandon these initiatives. Our room for manoeuvre will become clearer after to-morrow's meeting.

5. Advice and Information. Gerda was asked if RVIC would be able to help to set up a Youth Information Service in the Boys & Girls Clubs. She thought that this would be possible. Brian asked if it would be possible for RVIC to hold a surgery one day a week in Ton Pentre. Gerda thought that if requested, this might be possible to organise.

6. Area 7 Regeneration Partnership. Em reported that there had been a recent meeting at which he had drawn attention to the absence of any reference in the Action Plan to Pentre or Ton Pentre. With the change of administration, he hoped that this would now be remedied. Two working groups had been set up to look at environmental and traffic issues. He had been appointed as Chair of the Environment Group. Neal proposed that Em should be given the full support of the Network in his new position. This was agreed.

Next meeting: Thursday, 9th December 2004 at 2 pm at the Phoenix.