Minutes of the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting on Thursday 4th July 2019 at Kilcooley Community Centre
10.30-12

PRESENT:

John Ball – Chair (DfC)
Anita Waite (DFC)
Brian McAlleenan (DFC)
Pauline Brown (KPS)
Owen Brady (NIHE)
Jim Russell (KCF)

Lynda Vladeanu (SEHSCT)
Stephen Holywood (NI Alternatives)
Pete Wray (NI Alternatives)
Kirk Marshall (Community Development Manager)
Fran Dowler (Neighbourhood Renewal Officer)

ANDBC Officers in Attendance:

Councillor Jennifer Gilmore (ANDBC)
Jim Rea (KCF)
Keith Davidson (PSNI)
David Campbell (PSNI)

APOLOGIES:

Alison Blayney (Kilcooley Women’s Centre)
Tracy Harrison (Kilcooley Women’s Centre)
James McKerrow (AGENDA)
Desy Clayton (KCF)
Bernie Mooney (EA)
Esther Millar (EA Youth)
Stephen McBurney (NIHE)

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

John Ball introduced himself to members, explaining that due to unforeseen circumstances the Chair and Vice Chair of the Partnership have stepped down from their roles. Therefore, he would be chairing the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting on this occasion. In addition, he reiterated the importance of the Partnership and the work that it does and the impact it makes to the lives of the residents of Kilcooley.

Members were invited to introduce themselves and apologies were noted.

NOTED
2.0 Conflicts of Interest

The Chair invited Members to review the agenda and advise if any item could give rise to a potential conflict of interest. None were raised.

NOTED

3.0 Minutes of the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting on 23rd May 2019

Members were invited to review the minutes of the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting on 23rd May 2019.

Minutes were proposed by Pete Wray and seconded by Pauline Brown.

NOTED

4.0 Education Working Group

Fran Dowler talked through the Education Working Group Communications Plan and discussed the progress of the projects. Pauline Brown was invited to update members on the Community Cohesion project that was supported by the NIHE and the East End Residents association to replace a longstanding paramilitary mural on the side of a residential garage. A local artist worked with parents and pupils from the school to design and create a positive image for the wall, which reflects the GET SET! Kilcooley message of giving children space, encouragement and time. Members agreed that this was a positive step in the right direction and welcomed by the community.

Stephen Hollywood (NI Alternatives) informed members of the progress being made by Bangor Alternatives. They have completed community safety sessions in Kilcooley PS on the theme of bullying, cyber bullying, anti-social behaviour and homelessness. Young people have engaged in a fundraising exercise for Simon Community by making buns and selling them around community. The PSNI delivered a whole assembly workshop on cyber bullying.

Bangor Alternatives have started a restorative practice afterschool club which has been positively received so far.

Esther Millar (EA) provided a written update from EA Youth which was talked through by Fran Dowler. Laura Stewart, North Down Area Youth Worker, will no longer be in attending the Partnership meetings as she is moving to a new position within EA (Regional Flare Team) that supports young people in the area of mental health. Esther will therefore replace Laura on an interim measure until another EA representative is appointed.

EA is still planning to put a pre-fabricated building for youth work programmes within the grounds of Kilcooley Primary School. It is anticipated that this work will go out to tender in July with the view to it being on site by September 2019.

Pete Wray highlighted to members that EA Youth had tried on several occasions to recruit a new Youth Worker for the Fresh Start Programme but were struggling to fill the post. Subsequently the partners have asked to be updated with progress on recruitment.

Action Point – Fran Dowler will contact Esther Miller for an update.
5.0 Health Improvement Partnership

Fran Dowler attended the latest Heath Improvement Partnership meeting on 3rd July and was able to provide an overview of developments to date.

An Action Plan has been development along with a Communication Plan. There are still some issues to be addressed:

- Updated Police Statistics - Hugo Kelly will collate up to date estate statistics to be fed into the report
- Social Media – A website/portal will be built and populated with the numerous initiatives taking place. It will also act as a signposting tool for useful services available.
- Promotion - A one-page newsletter/leaflet will be produced and distributed to every household in the Kilcooley estate.

Gaps have also been identified including Dental Hygiene and older People

Fran Dowler will share the Health Improvement Plan with the Partnership as soon as it is finalised.

Jim Russell informed members that the Kilcooley Community Forum is relaunching in September. Part of this relaunch will be the new Health and Education Programme currently being developed. These programmes will feed into the Health Improvement Plan. The Kilcooley Community Forum will be asked to provide members with a full update at the next meeting.

Bangor Alternatives are involved in an event on the 25th September in Kilcooley as part of the Bangor Cares’ week. They will be launching the Restorative Reflection Garden, an initiative that involves a consortium of statutory/voluntary organisations that will increase awareness of mental ill health provision. An update will be given at the next Partnership meeting.

6.0 - Social Investment Fund – Kilcooley 3G Pitch

Kirk Marshall provided an overview of the latest developments with the Kilcooley 3G Pitch.

- SIF Economic Appraisal is yet to be approved, however it is thought this in imminent.

- In terms of planning, a drains assessment has taken place and the information is with the ANDBC Planning Department. An analysis of the risk to the local area is due to be completed once the consultant has undertaken further significant work. It is hoped a report will be finalised by the end of July. Furthermore, as the application site falls within the area of inundation of Clandeboye Lake, a review of the potential impact of the development on the Flood inundation plain is required. Consequently, this matter will prevent the planning application progressing further.
AP – Fran Dowler will update members on progress as soon as possible.

NOTED

7. The Annual report 2018-2019

Fran Dowler informed members that the 2018-2019 Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Annual Report had been submitted to the DfC for approval. John Ball was able to confirm that it had been signed off and approved. Bryan McAleenan thanked Fran Dowler for her work on the Report.

Action Point – Fran Dowler will email the 2018-2019 Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Annual Report to the Partnership.

NOTED

8. DfC Quarterly Reports

Brian McAleenan confirmed that all but 2 of the Q1 DfC Quarterly Reports had been received. He urged that the Quarterly Claims also be submitted. There is a window of 6 weeks after the final day of the month to submit the report and claim. It was encouraged that the reports highlight as many achievements as possible.

Pete Wray requested that going forward he be copied into the emails being issued to Bangor Alternatives regarding the DfC Quarterly Reports.

NOTED

9. Governance of the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

John Ball outlined that due to unforeseen circumstances the newly appointed Chair, Tracy Harrison and Vice Chair, Pauline Brown had taken the decision to step down from their positions. In order for the partnership to function effectively a new Chair and Vice Chair will have to be appointed.

Members agreed that in the first instance, Fran Dowler will email all members asking them to outline if they wish to be considered and subsequently be put forward for the role of Chair or Vice Chair of the Partnership. The election will take place at the next Partnership meeting in September.

NOTED

10. AOB

John Ball invited all partners to update members on current programmes and projects of interest and relevance to members.

- Lynda Vladeanu has requested that the family support worker link in with the Kilcooley Primary School and specifically with Darren Nixey and the families that he is working with.

- Owen Brady highlighted that the Kilcooley Square needs some significant improvements. A landscape design team are being appointed to look at ways of improving the square at a cost of up to £250,000. A consultation with residents will take place in the future via a
drop in centre at the Kilcooley Community Forum and Bangor Alternative office. This is likely to take place in the next financial year. Owen Brady confirmed that the landscaping team would look at the entirety of the square.

The improvement to the square would be timely as the No 1 Kilcooley Square building will also be developed. The NIHE will be working with the Kilcooley Women’s Centre from September onwards when it is hoped the planning will be completed.

Members were informed that it was disappointing there had been numerous complaints about the bonfire in Kilcooley (adjacent to the dual carriage way) and the range of materials that were being dumped on the bonfire site, including microwaves, fridges, etc. Keith Davidson did confirm that they are trying to minimise the fly tipping. The community needs to re-engage with the builders to ensure that the site is kept as clean as possible

- Bangor Alternatives confirmed that the PEACE IV Programme Open Dialogue was progressing well and was an excellent mechanism for cross community engagement. In addition, the Communities in Transition project will be a great addition to the estate. The Project aims to support geographic areas where there has been a history of paramilitary activity and coercive control, to transition into communities where paramilitary activity no longer plays a role. This will be a really positive programme for the area, bringing in more organisations etc. Pete Wray suggested inviting the delivery agents (Co-operation Ireland) to the next Partnership meeting in September to talk members through the programme.

**AP- FD will look at the opportunities for doing this**

- Kilcooley Community Forum confirmed that they were fully committed to the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and Partnership. The Kilcooley Forum will be relaunching in September 2019.

- PC Keith Davidson stated that the crime figures were still low for Kilcooley, however domestics was still a big issue. He also confirmed that 2 Officers will be on duty on the 11th July.

- Anita Waite (DfC) suggested that going forward all those representing organisations that are funded through Neighbourhood Renewal provide an update on any programmes/projects issues etc. at the Partnership meetings. The DfC Quarterly Reports are to be shared with all members once received and approved by the DfC.

The question was raised as to whether there were any other organisations that could be invited to join the Partnership. Members will consider this.

- Kirk Marshall (ANDBC) highlighted that there were both Council led and Local Community Summer Schemes taking place across the Borough throughout August.