TOW LAW COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH JANUARY 2005

Councillor R.G	rogan (Chairman)
Ken McGurk	Groundwork West Durham
Steve Thow	Bishop Auckland College
Sergeant Steve Donnelly	Durham Constabulary
Phil Shaw	Wear Valley District Council
Sharon McQuiggin	Blessed John Duckett Primary
Councillor Jenny Flynn	Tow Law Town Council
Councillor J.Day	66 66 66
Councillor E.Morris	66 66 66 66
Diane Pearson	Community Partnership
John Abbot (Secretary)	Tow Law Town Council

1. Apologies :

Present :

Lisa Jackson, Cath Mullen, Alan Anderson, Oliver Graham, Judith Stevens

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2. Minutes :

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th November 2004 (a copy of which had been sent previously to each member) were Agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes :

There were no matters arising

4. Reports :

- a) <u>Ken McGurk</u> (See copy 1 attached)
- b) Steve Thow

Steve reported that the I.T.Computing Clait 2 course had been very successful, and would proceed to the next module as part of the Supporting Communities project. A shortage of numbers on the mixed crafts course was causing concern – of the 13 participants who had signed up for the course, only 7 had attended the last session, and it was in danger of folding. It was hoped that childcare provision for those attending the course could be arranged, with the College paying half of the cost. Steve distributed posters and leaflets for the forthcoming hairdressing/makeover course, which would comprise 10 weekly sessions of 2 hours. The Spanish course had not been successful, it being felt that it was too long.

c) <u>Phil Shaw</u>:

Phil introduced himself as Wear Valley District Council's Community Safety Officer, with responsibility for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO's), which he carried out in

partnership with Teesdale District Council. He explained in detail the procedure for dealing with any form of nuisance and anti-social behaviour, and the method of seeking evidence and applying for an order, which would commit the culprit to adherence of its terms. Complaints were handled in complete confidence, and he showed members a copy of a diary sheet which could be used by complainants to build up a dossier of evidence.in Phil emphasised that he worked in close liaison with the Police, and would deal personally with every case which was brought to his attention. Members suggested that the fear of repercussions or intimidation would prevent people, whether individuals or as a group from bringing cases to his attention, but again, he stressed that anonymity was guaranteed. Following representations by Tow Law members, he undertook to investigate an area of complaint in a particular area of the town.

d) Sharon McQuiggin :

Sharon apologised for Cath Mullen's absence, and went through the school's printed report (copy 2)

- e) <u>Lisa Jackson</u>: In Lisa's absence, the school's printed report was received (copy 3)
- f) <u>Diane Pearson</u>:

Diane reported that the flower arrangement course was now completed, and had proved very successful, with 24 participants. There was clearly a demand for a further course. The break-time service for those attending the crèche had had to be discontinued because of a lack of support. The recently started food co-operative had similarly had to be cancelled after a promising start. Work on the banner had re-started, and the new reflexology course was getting increasing support. New CCTV cameras had been installed, and it was hoped that P.C.Geoff Moore, community beat officer, would soon have a presence in the community centre.

g) Jenny Flynn :

Jenny reported that funding was still being sought for a variety of activities, and final confirmation was expected on finance which would secure Diane's employment. Saturday morning workshops for youngsters on the Millennium Green would start soon. The Town Council had received confirmation from n-power that it would assune responsibility for the administration for the Community Fund with effect from 1st April.

5. Date of Next Meeting :

It was Noted that the next meeting of the Partnership would be held on Wednesday 16th February at 3 p.m.