

**Notes from the meeting of the Third Sector Network Hub  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
Room 1, the Gateway**

**Present:**

Derek Jones (DJ)	Disability
Jo Taylor (JT)	Third Sector Partnerships
Alison Cullen (AC)	Infrastructure and Volunteering
Lynne Bennett (LB)	Town Centre Management
Steve Cullen (SC)	Information, Advice and Social Policy
Hasan Kazi (HK)	Ethnic Communities
James Howes (JHo)	Sports
Dida Goode (DG)	Substance Misuse
Mandy Taviner (MT)	Learning Disability
Matt Parker (MP)	Parks and Green Spaces
Janice Hayes (JHa)	Culture
Wynn Higham (WH)	Carers
Stef Griffiths (SG)	Infrastructure
Dave Thompson	WDP

**Chair of meeting:**

Steve Cullen

**Minutes:**

Alison Cullen

**Apologies:**

Dave McNichol (DM)	Children and Families
Michael Sheppard (MS)	Mental Health
Lydia Thompson (LT)	Health
Matt Davenport (MD)	Homelessness
Paul Storey (PS)	Young People

Item		Action
1.	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies received as detailed above.	
2.	<b>Conflicts of Interest</b> None declared	
3.	<b>Council Budget</b> Lynton Green, Cllr Russ Bowden, Cllr Cathy Mitchell and Steve Peddie WBC's annual budget consultation  Presentation attached  The budget is going to Exec Board Full Council on Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February.	

Lynton asked Hub members to share message e.g. green bins, 41p in £ spent on older people, challenges public sector faces and difficult decisions. This coming financial year has been the most challenging in a long time.

Discussion around impact on third sector and contracts, Steve Peddie stated biggest area to cut is supporting people budget. WBC have looked at what are statutory requirements and non-statutory. Question asked if public are aware what is statutory and non- statutory. Information Advice & Guidance is a statutory right and is provided via a mixture of public and third sector provision. These organisations will already be in discussion with WBC regarding cuts to service. Steve Peddie clarified that culture change means an asset based approach is required e.g. carers and community services supporting individual needs. Russ suggested a number of cuts had been considered and then disregarded, with a need to focus on outcomes and value. There is also recognition to value partners and generate income from various sources e.g. solar farms.

Andy Burnham made statement to invest in the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector in Manchester, could Warrington look at developments and share any learning. Lynton suggested WBC has less capacity to interact with partners due to limited resources making this difficult but not impossible.

Hub suggested many public sector services could be better delivered by 3<sup>rd</sup> sector to help with funding pressures, 3<sup>rd</sup> sector can also get up and running quicker. Steve Peddie suggested private sector can sometimes move more quickly and we need to be clear what services the sector would want to take on, as 3<sup>rd</sup> sector can't always compete with low margin work. Steve Peddie is prepared to have a coffee and chat with anyone who wants to discuss ideas and alternative options to address challenges.

All agreed on benefits of decent housing and should be included in the local plan. Also, limited infrastructure regarding highways acknowledging there is the centre park link and local transport plan but more needs to be done.

New Homes Bonus - Lynton confirmed this fund has been absorbed by council spending, WBC had looked at Cheshire East Council, as they have allocated 2 million to voluntary sector, but this wasn't seen as a sustainable model.

Hub asked about domiciliary care cost and making better use of direct payments to help people stay at home. Steve Peddie stated the number of people on DPs is increasing and there is no proof that DPs save councils money and better costs can be through volume. People have a statutory right to access DPs over domiciliary care and if WBC are not offering this then there is a gap in the system. It was suggested this needs to be looked at.



	<p>has ended. LB suggested speaking to BID board or applying to CIF to continue scheme.</p> <p>SG – Cultural Consortium have agreed to pool resources to deliver 2 projects following the commission’s recommendations one will be the contemporary arts festival. WVA has secured funding to deliver WAYV – a youth voice project focusing on culture, health and youth correspondents.</p> <p>JT – updated on WBC consultations currently the playing pitch strategy and library strategy. Warrington was successful with the partnership bid to the Rugby League World Cup 2021.</p> <p>MP- Bewsey and Dallam Hub has been approved, this will be a small scale hub with added value and not commercially driven, opening May 2020.</p> <p>SC – review of homelessness, Neil Moreland delivered workshop at the recent homelessness providers event, it’s expected the workshop will inform specification for new contracts with a consortia approach to look at wider issues of homelessness. Families on UC being forced to work and disability premium finding people fit for work are worse off. SC has meeting with WBC due to increase in misadvised appointeeships and late appeals.</p>	
11.	<b>AOB</b> – HK has contact for Faith Rep and will forward details to AC	HK
12.	<p><b>Dates of Next Hub Meeting</b></p> <p>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Room 1</p>	