Minutes of the Meeting of Adults Select Committee held at County Hall, Usk on Tuesday 30^h June 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: County Councillor P. Farley (Chair)

County Councillors: R. Chapman, R. Edwards, R. Harris, M. Hickman, P. Jones and A. Wintle.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

County Councillor V. Smith

CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

Mrs. D. Hudson Mr. D. Hill

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

J. Boothroyd	-	Head of Adult Services
N. Needle	-	Changing Practice, Changing Lives Lead
H. Ingle-Gillis	-	Community Coordinator
A. Morgan	-	Community Coordinator
W. McLean	-	Head of Policy and Engagement
H. llett	-	Scrutiny Manager
N. Perry	-	Democratic Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor P. Jordan.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made by Members.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

No members of the public addressed the Committee as part of the public open forum.

4. MINUTES

Members confirmed and signed the minutes of the meeting of Adults Select committee held on 19th May 2015.

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5. PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY: COMMUNITY COORDINATION AND SMALL LOCAL ENTERPRISE

The Chairman expressed the congratulations of the Committee to the Adults Services team on the two awards Monmouthshire County Council had recently received. The team had achieved runner-up for Select the Best, representing our recruitment process, and first place for the Raglan Project.

Context:

Members received a performance report for scrutiny from the Head of Adult Services and Changing Practice, Changing Lives Lead. The report provided Members with an update on the development of the Community Coordination and Small Local Enterprises, often referred to as Micro Enterprises, at two pilot sites in Abergavenny and Caldicot.

The Committee were introduced to two Community Coordinators who had been in post for 12 months and were provided with the opportunity to ask questions directly to the staff delivering the programme.

The report had been to Cabinet, and was subsequently being brought to Adults Select for open debate.

Key Issues:

Community Coordination and the development of Small Local Enterprises had been established in order to achieve the outcome that 'people are engaged in and supported by the communities and not dependent purely on statutory services', which aligned with the Council's priority of support for vulnerable people. The approach aimed to:

- Help people to pursue their vision for a good life
- Learn about place based approaches to wellbeing and to build on the assets of individuals and communities.
- Strengthen the capacity of communities to welcome and include people.
- Develop small local enterprises to deliver more personal, flexible and accountable services.
- Co-produce community opportunities and support.

The approaches were intended to contribute to a reduction in the number of people needing long term care packages.

Member scrutiny:

The Community Coordinators provided the Committee with experiences of their work following which, Members were invited to comment.

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The Chairman noted that the Committee had expressed a wish to hold a special meeting at Mardy Park.

Members questioned how members of the public could access information about the service. The Community Coordinators suggested that maintain a good relationship with the local press could provide an effective method of advertising. Consultation events had been undertaken in order to introduce the coordinators to the public. Community Coordinators also attended groups such as Abergavenny Active 50+. The Head of Adult Services explained that the approach was based on connections, depended on the building of relationships, and the quality of the individuals involved.

The Co-opted Member expressed that members of the Abergavenny Action 50+ group had benefitted greatly through the Community Coordination programme.

Members suggested that approaching the Planning Department with regards to developing appropriate housing should be explored. It was agreed that a joint meeting with Planning would be beneficial. **(ACTION - HI)**

Clarification was sought on item 3.4 of the report. Officers explained that Small Local Enterprise was an approach where the Council supported Micro Enterprises consisting of five beneficiaries or employees or less. Benchmarking work had been undertaken to determine what Small Local Enterprises exist at the current time. The report explained that 202 people were beneficiaries of 49 small local enterprises.

Members questioned if the coordinators had connections with the younger people in the community. Community Coordinators confirmed that there were inter-generational workshops being held in the summer to bring younger people from King Henry VIII School and older people together to share learning and experiences. The Changing Practice, Changing Lives Lead shared an example of inter-generational working, Crafty Women, an all age Friday club in Abergavenny, supported by Monmouthshire Housing Association.

Members requested clarification of acronyms. We heard that ACRF was Annual Council Reporting Framework.

Members questioned when we could expect to see the same work extended through Chepstow and Monmouth. The Head of Adult Services explained that the scheme was a year in to a 2 year pilot scheme, through which time there needed to be serious learning and understanding. It was noted that there was a plethora of support and information, but the key was how to pull the partnership approach around communities in the most connected and local way possible.

The Co-opted Member suggested the service combine with the Community Connections schemes in Monmouth and Chepstow.

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Recommendations:

Members were required to scrutinise the pilot programme to ensure that it delivered in line with the original expectations.

Committee's Conclusion:

Chair's Summary:

The Chairman expressed thanks to the officers present and confirmed that the Committee were pleased with the progress made to date and were supportive of the scheme.

Members looked forward to further updates towards the end of the two year term of the pilot scheme.

6. PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY: 'IN ONE PLACE' PROGRAMME

Context:

Members received a report presented by Joanne Lewis-Jones, the Programme Officer for In One Place to provide background information regarding the benefits of the In One Place project and its future status.

Key Issues:

The In One Place (IOP) Programme is a pioneering collaboration between the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB), five local authorities and eight Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) within the Gwent area. The aims of the initiative were to streamline the process of obtaining suitable accommodation in the local region for people with complex health and social care needs, as an alternative to out of county placements or unnecessarily extended stays in hospital.

The basic premise of the programme was that as an alternative to being housed in a residential home where the accommodation and the care had been commissioned from the private sector as package, the service user would be appropriately supported to move into a local rented property, owned by a RSL

The project was no longer funded by the Regional Collaboration Fund as it was decided by ABUHB that the project was of sufficient value and was generating a level of savings commensurate with its cost profile.

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Member Scrutiny:

Members queried if support workers in the complex would have received mental health training. We heard that support workers would be fully trained. It was confirmed that support workers would not be volunteers and would provide 24 hour support with a commissioned package of care. The support workers would have also had a period of time to develop a relationship with the service user before moving into the complex, in order to assist the transition.

Members praised the report from Miller Associates, acknowledging the references and comments from service users. The report had influenced the ABUHB in a positive way and any further report would be welcomed. It was confirmed there would be an interim report in Autumn 2015, and a finalised report in March 2016.

A Member suggested developing a partnership with My Monmouthshire.

The Head of Policy and Engagement explained that there had been a clear agreement from all partners involved. Collaboration was not always easy but there had been a great deal of effort, and the returns at the end were a positive reflection. The success of the collaboration reflected the personal commitment involved in the project.

Members noted that Monmouthshire County Council, Monmouthshire Housing Association and Melin, as partners, had benefitted successfully from the project.

Recommendations:

The report requested that the Committee consider the contents of the evaluation by Miller Associates and scrutinise the project, its outcomes achieved to date and its future prospects for delivering improved outcomes.

Committee's Conclusion:

Chair's Summary:

The Chairman expressed that the Committee were satisfied with the progress of the project and congratulated all partners involved. The Committee recognised the commitment shown by ABUHB.

The Chairman recommended that the In One Place project be used as example for future successful collaborations.

The Committee noted the excellent evaluation report from Miller Associates.

The Committee would welcome further opportunities to scrutinise partnerships.

The Chairman recommended that the Planning Department take the issues raised into

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The Chairman thanked the Programme Officer for the presentation, and the Head of Policy and Engagement for creating the framework.

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7. WORK PROGRAMMING

We noted that the following meetings were scheduled:

- Special Meeting
- Special Meeting at Mardy Park -
- Wednesday 8th July 2015 at 10.00am
- Monday 20th July 2015
- Ordinary Meeting
- Tuesday 1st September 2015 10.00am

The meeting ended at 11:45 am.