

CHELMSFORD SPORTS NETWORK

Notes from Active Chelmsford Meeting 2 April 2007

Present – Antony Bensley (CBC) in the chair, Gregory Cooper (sportessex), Stephen Dupree (ARU), Ken Edwards (Chelmsford Sport), Martin Eyles (Chelmsford SSP), Lyn Mowforth (Mid Essex PCT), Alistair Russell (sportessex), Victoria Sweeting (William de Ferrers SSP).

1. Greg Cooper who will be the sportessex CSN link was introduced. KE agreed to produce notes.
2. The main item was the discussion of project ideas to go into a potential Community Investment Fund (CIF) bid to go to Sport England. The following were tabled or already on the circulated list.

Heart & Sole Co-ordinator (LM). £8K already earmarked between NHS/CBC to extend this healthy walking scheme beyond current older persons focus to families and all ages.

Shape Up (LM). Project cost c£5K Described as cognitive behaviour change model where families would be mentored to take up a more active lifestyle and improved nutrition. Users contributed e.g. £2/session. The costs include training the trainer c£350 and would charge c£15/hr for session over 6-8 weeks. Implementation may involve use of buddies. Could become part of the wider menu under Passport to Health. NW Chelmsford and S Woodham were seen as potential locations, in the latter as an extension to children of existing activity. 10/12 people per program. There was round the table support for this concept.

Welcome Back to ... The idea is to encourage those who had given up a sport they enjoyed at school or later back into playing. Harlow had run a successful get back into netball event organised by a club for 5/10 weeks. AR suggested that this was a common theme that sportessex were looking to support with promotion across the county and that they were applying for separate funds for implementation. Agreed we should hold this project and take advantage of any county funding if it became available.

ARU students in Chelmsford SSP (SD/ME) The project is to train up students from ARU to L1/L2 in selected sports to work in Chelmsford schools noting they could be available at appropriate times such as 3.00-4.00 when schools wanted such coaching. SD recalled that this had been held over after sportessex advised this was to be included in the County Workforce Development plans with potential for funding. Agreed further delay was not welcomed and that it could be funded within existing resources. It would be included as a project pilot with potential for wider roll out with CIF support later.

Cycling (SD/LM) Already live for students at ARU. Includes bike maintenance training, bikability proficiency test and 'buy a bike for a tenner'. Essex CC funding being accessed. Linked to local cycling clubs who might capture new members. Room to expand to lecturers/staff. Good link to 2012 Weald Park plus green environmental appeal. Agreed to include in action plan.

Physical Activity in Mid Essex Locality (LM) – leaflet which NHS has produced and looking to print and circulate – c 10.000+ copies.

Family Funday at NW Chelmsford 15 July (LM) Day being organised by group including MW Development Officer, Chelmer Housing Partnership, NACRO, CBC, PCT. Extensive consultation in local schools and households would guide activities included, ideas included kite-making, team trail, fun run. St Peters College invited to make DVD of event. PCT looking at A4A application. Hope to allow follow ups such as 5 portions a day over next 12 months. Next planning meeting 24 April. *Action KE to investigate LSP funding up to £2k.*

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Essex Athletics Action Group/Run for Children (ME) Non competitive 3K family run operated by National Health and Fitness. Could link to Family Activity Fun Day. Potential to link to Passport for Health. Agreed to be on list.

Social Prescribing (LM) One of the ideas coming from the LM led Health Mapping event which would extend the work going on in Maldon/S Chelmsford area for a wide menu of options that health professional could prescribe including physical activity. Separate project group working on this with hope to move into to Chelmsford and Braintree areas. Linked to Passport to Health idea.

Junior Live Life (AB)

River Festival – not discussed

Cycling initiative. Sustainable follow on from Little Havens Bike ride. £500 CBC funding. Not discussed.

Assistance programme to encourage volunteers to become qualified coaches. Link between CBC, voluntary agencies, sports clubs and School Sport Partnerships. Not discussed.

Other points that came up during discussion

- there was concern that Essex NGB's were unaware of CSN's, cycling being quoted. GC will take up with Karen Selby at sportessex.
- only future projects could be CIF funded. The applications deadlines of 18 April and 15 June should receive decisions approx 5 weeks later after the Regional Board meeting.
- GC stated that Sport England expected CSN's to submit their full plans with all existing funding and that SE would then decide how much to allocate on a total plan basis. KE asked if this was justified if CSN's were actually independent noting CIF was just one source of funding and in any event not the major one. With the paperwork involved it might be more practical not to apply. AR responded that Emma Russell, sportessex would offer to 'translate' a single page project summary into acceptable CIF wording. This offer was accepted. Agreed we should access CIF but also other sources.
- Harlow had launched their network with a week of events over half term and a Freshers Fayre where local clubs had come along. Some 700 people attended. The feeling round the table was that a big and potentially expensive launch event was not a preferred route.

Action AB will circulate forms fro completion on individual projects. Responses in advance of next meeting essential.

3. The proposal from AR to adopt the proposed generic branding for CSN's across the county was discussed noting this would then replace the agreed brand developed on our behalf by ARU. The advantages were summarised as being perceived as part of the Delivery System family (several other emerging CSN's had agreed this route) and that it was ready made. Downsides were that we had invested time and effort in a logo we all agreed was effective. SD noted that the proposal differed from what he had understood Angela Littlewood to have said at the last meeting where support had been offered for our agreed logo. A formal vote was taken and the sportessex proposed branding was agreed by 3-0 with 3 abstentions. The abstainees accepted why such a move could be seen as for the common good but were disappointed at time and effort had been lost. It was agreed that there could be merit in using the logo for a project. *Action AR to provide electronic version.*

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4. KE outlined the current position of Chelmsford Sport now that Active Chelmsford was formed as a separate entity rather than an evolution of Chelmsford Sport. It was stated that the role, membership and components that Sport England were now assigning to CSN's within the Delivery System had moved from that originally outlined and Chelmsford Sport now felt it needed to continue as an independent body at least for the time being. The Executive had agreed to recommend to its AGM that it continue for a year with a membership now restricted to sports clubs (to avoid overlap with Active Chelmsford) and that its role become quality assurance in that the CSN was serving those clubs in the way they wished. £1,000 to be granted to Active Chelmsford to be devoted to increasing sports participation. The Chairman's update would remain a Chelmsford Sport publication, but could carry material from Active Chelmsford of interest to clubs if it wished. If, as was hoped, Active Chelmsford grew into its role and could represent clubs interests as well Chelmsford Sport might be wound up. Meantime Chelmsford Sport would seek to support and work with Active Chelmsford. KE highlighted the issue this raised for Active Chelmsford of how individual sports clubs could be members (GC suggested we would not wish them all to be round the table) and if they wanted a collective voice, how could they achieve this if Chelmsford Sport ceased to exist.

Action – Discussion at future meeting needed re membership issue

6. AOB

- the Writtle climbing Wall was discussed. CBC will make a decision in the next few weeks if it could be accommodated at one of their venues and SD advised. If not it was likely to be lost to the Borough.

- GC argued the case for more partners being round the table. Suggestions included a representative from the Crime & Disorder Partnership (not just NACRO), the local Extended Schools Co-ordinator (in addition to the two PDM's), Connexions and sportsex (it was agreed that these were regarded as at the table already). Agreed the terms of reference and membership needed further discussion and be regarded as working documents. *Action AB for next meeting*

6. Next meeting

10.00am 9th May with the CIF agenda item. *Action All to note in diaries.*