

**Extraordinary meeting of the
Allenton Big Local Partnership Group (ABL Group)
16 February 2018, 2pm, St Martin's Community Centre**

Resident members	Name	Representing	Present (P) Apologies (A)
	Nicola Camp	Resident	A
	Silvie Dutson	Resident	A
	Edith Lang	Chair / Resident	P
	Rebecca Manship	Resident / LTO / Enthusiasm	A
	Heather Russo	Resident	A
	Joe Russo	Resident / Enthusiasm	A
	Margaret Woodbridge	Resident / Nacro Osmaston Family Project Manager	P
Advisory members	Bill Badham	Big Local Rep	A
	Jane Bettany	Co-ordinator / Communications	P
	Helen Faulconbridge	Derby Homes	P
	Simon Edwards	Derby Adult Learning	A
	Rebecca Hudson	Neighbourhood Board	A
	Mairi Radcliffe	St Martins / Community Hub	P
	Sharon Sewell	Derby City Council	A
	Carl Willis	Derby City Council	P
	Mick Whitehead	Chair of OSCAR	A

1.	<p><u>EXTRAORDINARY MEETING</u></p> <p>The extraordinary meeting was called to discuss the request by the Allenton Big Build project for additional funding of £36k.</p>
2.	<p><u>WRITTEN PROPOSAL</u></p> <p>A written proposal outlining the reasons for the request, a summary of funding contributions to the project, money spent or committed to date, and the projected commercial value of the project had been circulated prior to the meeting by email.</p>
3.	<p><u>DISCUSSION POINTS</u></p> <p>It was noted from the written proposal that the Methodist Church had contributed £42k to the refurbishment project, which was a figure that Allenton Big Local had previously been unaware of. Mairi Radcliffe also confirmed that further funding had been requested to 50% match fund any additional amount that may be awarded by Allenton Big Local.</p> <p>It was also noted that other organisations that can see the value of the project (such as the DACP) have made significant contributions to the project, even though those organisations won't benefit directly from the facilities.</p> <p>Those present discussed how the extra funding requested fits in with the priorities of the Allenton Big Local plan. It was felt that the work being completed was so much more than originally envisaged and was being completed to a much better standard. For example, features such as the replacement windows and new energy efficient heating system will help to make the building a warm and welcoming venue for the community and keep running costs down, therefore contributing to the ongoing sustainability of the community centre. The work has cost more than originally estimated, but the extra work has definitely enhanced the project.</p> <p>The standard and quality of the work fits in with achieving the outcomes of ABL's Priority 1, Strengthening the Community which are to help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People get on with each other and take pride in the Big local area and get involved with

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> making it better • People take pride in themselves and the area because they are happy. <p>Those present at the meeting discussed the uses the building will be put to and how existing users such as the youth club, dance group and drama group will benefit from improved facilities. Since the refurbishment began other groups have taken interest in using the community centre, including new users such as Steps and Head High (mental health charity). Enquiries and bookings are already coming in from new users such as Derby Homes, which plans to hold its Volunteers Celebration event at St Martin's.</p> <p>Having toured the building to see how the work was progressing, it was agreed that the Community Centre is on target to become a venue that the Allenton community can be truly proud of. Although not at the meeting, Silvie had emailed her support for the project, commenting that the finished project will be something for Allenton to be proud of rather than having something that is 'second best'.</p> <p>By providing a place for people of all ages to meet and take part in activities, the project fits in with ABL's Priority 2: Improving Life Skills. The involvement of students from Derby College and Juniper Training means that the project is also achieving ABL's Priority 3: Creating opportunities for training and employment. Young trainees – many of whom are from the Allenton area – are getting an opportunity to gain hands-on work experience. Many of the young people walk from their homes to work on the project. They are, effectively, helping to build their own local venue and thus contributing to their community.</p> <p>The additional funding will ensure that all of the planned work is completed to the agreed specification within a reasonable timescale. There have already been delays, during which time the church and existing user groups have had to find alternative venues. In providing the additional funding, ABL would be enabling the work to be completed more quickly so that user groups can access the facilities again as soon as possible.</p> <p>It has been demonstrated that, wherever possible, costs have been kept to a minimum. The Allenton Big Build has even been to Liverpool to collect donations of furniture from Bell & Co that will be used in the café.</p>
4.	<p><u>WHAT IS BEING ASKED FOR AND WHY?</u></p> <p>The resident members at the meeting asked Carl and Mairi to identify whether there were any aspects of the project that were 'nice to do' rather than essential. The floor refurbishment was highlighted as one non-essential piece of work, as were the Garden Design and Soft Landscaping items.</p> <p>The installation of a canopy was discussed to find out whether this was necessary. It was felt that this was important because it formed part of the look and welcome of the building and, on a more practical note, it provided shelter for wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs as they entered the building (the doors aren't automatic). The canopy would also be somewhere for disabled people to leave their mobility scooters.</p> <p>The £36k funding requested will ensure that Carl is able to continue to leverage the good will needed to get the project completed. The commercial value of the work already completed is running at a ratio of 4.2 : 1 i.e. for every £1 spent the commercial value is £4.20.</p>
5.	<p><u>CONCLUSION</u></p> <p>The partnership members present at this meeting felt that the value of this work to the Allenton Community is well worth the investment. The project will provide a long term and visible legacy for the Allenton Big Local. The partnership agreed that even with an additional £36k investment, the finished project would still provide a 'champagne building for lemonade money'.</p> <p>In conclusion, the two resident members present at the meeting felt that this is a worthwhile project and they recommend to the partnership that the request for additional money be approved.</p>