

# PRESS RELEASE

5<sup>th</sup> September 2006

## Handy Help



Pictures with local young people from Droylsden Youth Centre available

**The biggest local building contractor in the area is helping Droylsden Youth Centre undertake much needed refurbishment.** But New Charter Building Company isn't even handling a hammer or picking up a paintbrush...

Instead, we presented a cheque for £2000 to youth leaders Brendan Robinson, Dave Tighe and Charlie Grice. The Centre is a registered charity and is run entirely by volunteers. It has ambitious plans to renew the building on Lewis Road, spurred on by the success in attracting youngsters. Recently increased interest from girls has highlighted the need to improve the facilities, which include a boxing club started in 1963!

As part of its business plan, our building company has been fantastically successful in winning tenders outside our normal trading area. The profit made is recycled back to our neighbourhoods. Building Company Contracts Manager, Barry Hunter is a Droylsden lad, so was delighted to hand over the donation.



**business for neighbourhoods**

Brendan Robinson from the Youth Centre said: "This is tremendous support and we are very appreciative. It is nice that New Charter has this interest in the local community. We are always looking for people to help, and we need a lot of money to get our new building. We would also welcome anyone who is "handy" who could give up some free time".

The Youth Centre is looking to raise £1million to provide the sort of facilities the volunteers know will help the reputation of young people soar.

New Charter's Director of Building, Andy Stafford said: "Droylsden Youth Centre is just the sort of initiative young people and adults want, and it deserves to be a knockout success. We hear much from adults about the anti social side of youngsters congregating and causing nuisance. And young people themselves will moan there's nothing for them to do. But the volunteers here are real champions, and I'm delighted to help them as part of being **iN business for neighbourhoods**."

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

1. New Charter formed in 1999 as the new landlords to own and manage homes transferred from Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council in Greater Manchester. With a turnover of £48million a year and a workforce of 800, New Charter is one of the country's largest Registered Social Landlords, and is regulated by The Housing Corporation, a Government watchdog. By incorporating Aksa Housing Association recently, the Group owns over 15,000 homes.
2. The boxing club which is part of the Youth Centre was started by Charlie Grice in 1963. Charlie is nearly 70 years old and has trained professional fighters. The club has developed British boxing champions, amongst them Joey Jacobs, Mike Holden, and

Gerard McBride. Charlie also works with youth offenders and has great support from the Police and community.

3. **iN business for neighbourhoods** is a long-term project highlighting housing associations' performance. As social businesses, housing associations do not make profit. They offer homes for rent and sale at prices local people can afford. Housing associations provide more than homes - they help create places where people want to live. Wherever you see the **iN business for Neighbourhoods** sign, something great is happening in the area. Housing Associations who display this logo are committed to their customers, the neighbourhoods they work in and strive for excellence in everything they do.

#### **CONTACTS:**

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