

## **Gasworks Tabernacle Applies for Funds:**

**Gasworks Tabernacle is an inner city church which has a congregation of 50 people, 30 of whom are elderly women. In the last 10 years under a dynamic minister they have had mini revival and drawn in several new people. They have also refurbished the church hall under a Home Missions grant. And set up a thriving lunch club, a strong play group and parent and toddler group.**

**Everyone recognises that there are many serious social needs in the area and various regeneration programmes and partnerships have been funded by Government.**

**Two thirds of the neighbourhood falls within the local New deal for Communities area, and a different two thirds into the Sure Start partnership area, and all within the Health Action Zone.**

**The priority of Sure Start is under 5s and the NDC partnership has prioritised schemes which divert teenagers from crime and anti-social behaviour. They only ever fund schemes which can attract 50% matched funding from other sources and always encourage groups to put in a lottery bid.**

**The church, following a successful holiday Bible club and a growth in the junior church wants to start some work with primary school children, such as an after school club and a holiday play scheme. The minister has suggested they should apply to both NDC and the community fund (Lottery) although most of the deacons think the latter is “dirty money” as they disapprove of gambling.**

## **GROUP A**

**You are the deacons of GT. You are considering the minister's proposal to apply for funds for children's work. Most (but not all) of you have been persuaded that this is a good idea and does not compromise the gospel, and "we need to get more youngsters into church" (as long as they are not those yobs who keep breaking the church windows). But you are also aware of the potential of building on your existing work with parents and pre school children.**

**You have 10 minutes to prepare a presentation to the NDC funding body.**

## **GROUP B:**

**You are the board of the local NDC regeneration partnership responsible for assigning funds to local projects. Your members are drawn from local councillors, tenants organisations, staff of secular voluntary organisations and local business. Only one of your members is sympathetic to religion and he is a Muslim.**

**Your priorities are set as teenagers and crime, and various members have concerns about the track record of the church in child abuse and the evangelistic ethos of many local churches. You have 10 minutes to consider a response to a letter from the minister enquiring about the possibility of funding for an after school club to build on the success of their recent holiday Bible club.**

### **The Meeting:**

**The church has 2 minutes to present it's case for funding to the board. The Board may then ask questions before deciding whether to offer funding support, and what conditions must apply.**