

Well Being Grants Approved in 2009/10

Alwoodley Park Community Kitchen £15,000

This project involved the development and upgrading of an existing kitchen in a well used hall which is used by a local parent and toddlers group, luncheon club, craft groups and other local groups. The kitchen at the time of the application was small and there were several health and safety concerns about the layout, space, ventilation and accessibility.

The new kitchen now enables more groups to fully utilise the space available and allows a safe and accessible food preparation area which complies with current food hygiene preparation regulations. The total cost of the project was £20,766.



Cranmer Bank Rockery and Planting Scheme £8000



This scheme was been submitted by East North East Homes Leeds (ENEHL) on behalf of the Cranmercall Tenants & Residents Association. The scheme was to improve the appearance of two circular areas at Cranmer Bank. Historically due to the limited maintenance these areas received (two cuts per year) they ha become extremely overgrown.



A project was put together to have a feature stone in the centre of the circular areas, which would be engraved with 'Cranmer Bank' plus a smaller rockery around this with very low maintenance shrubs. This has provided a feature at the shops and improved the appearance of the circles. A 12 month maintenance contract has been agreed with the contractor to ensure the upkeep and tidiness of the areas.

Moortown Rugby Union Football Club £2,200

Moortown RUFC applied for funding to metal clad and insulate the back and side of the mini junior player's hall. The building, due to deterioration, was exposed to the elements and open to damage. By securing the hall it would mean that the mini rugby club could continue with their fitness training and have their meetings and post match meals there. The

application was split equally between the North East Inner and North East Outer Area Committees. As a result of the project the hall is now secured and weatherproof and will need no future maintenance.

Moor Allerton Elderly Care (MAECare) £6775

For some years now the Area Committee has supported this charitable organisation who support older people in the area through providing a service and activities that local older people have come to rely on. For 2010/11 the grant was to provide a project which addressed issues of home security, solve problems with gardening help, provide information to improve the confidence of older people in protecting themselves against becoming victims of crime, and further develop intergenerational activities with local schools to improve understanding between generations. In a 6 month period:

- the 'Winter Warmers' scheme was run in which 115 people benefited from the distribution of thermal underwear just in time for the sub zero temperatures;
- 25 people received signposting help concerning maintaining independent living;
- 1 person was signposted to another agency for help with gardening;
- 7 received signposting help to deal with repairs and maintenance;
- 6 received direct help with small handyperson jobs;
- 81 people attended a Christmas party prepared by pupils at Allerton High School;
- 14 people received harvest food hampers.

Open House Community Centre £15000

Revenue funding was approved by the Area Committee as a contribution towards the development and continuation of activities for the benefit of the local community, particularly residents on the Lingfield, Firtree and Queenshill estates. The activities are organised and run by volunteers at the centre on a regular weekly basis. Efforts were concentrated on those activities identified by community members as being required in the neighbourhood and suitable for different age groups and interest groups. The Trustees and Management Committee advise, support and assist all volunteers. Other organisations have also been invited to provide their services at the centre on a regular basis. The groups and activities running are:

- Over 50's club
- Cookery classes
- Women's Group
- Sewing Group
- English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) classes
- Computer classes
- Playwork Group
- Activities for young people (LCC Youth Service)
- community café

Northcall £33,704

Northcall Community Project has been offering services and activities for the Moor Allerton community since 2000. They offer support families, at a minimal cost, to help them gain skills for life and work, and to improve their economic situations. Northcall also delivers activities targeted specifically at children and young people, and for older people. Services include

benefits advice, adult learning, family support activities, children's activities including school holiday play schemes, a programme of family learning opportunities and social activities to encourage community participation. The grant approved by the Area Committee contributed to running costs and training costs for the volunteers who are so essential to service delivery. The wide range of activities on offer were all very well attended. Activities included:

- Youth Services Drop In
- Healthy Eating sessions
- Community Café
- Playschemes
- Supper Evenings
- Craft Activities for older people
- Bollywood Dance
- Advocacy and advice to asylum seekers and refugees
- Confident Women sessions
- Taming Your Tots n Teens
- Calligraphy
- Scottish Dancing
- Salsacise and Weight Management

Alwoodley Activities Fund £9000

Alwoodley Cluster of Schools was one of five areas piloting the Activities Fund in Leeds in 2009/10. The purpose of the fund is to enable children from disadvantaged families to attend a range of after school and holiday activities. Well being funding was provided as match funding. Once the funding had been awarded a number of meetings and discussions took place across the Cluster which led to a clear identification of gaps of provision for children in the area around arts. Discussions with Artforms and local schools led to the development of a brief for an Arts Champion for the Alwoodley Cluster to work to meet the agreed project outputs across the cluster and with a range of local partners.

A brief was drawn up offering a 60 day contract to raise the profile of the arts; increase arts provision for all children and young people; target disadvantaged children and young people and encourage participation and develop a strategy that would leave a legacy of arts provision and infrastructure in the locality. A full recruitment process was undertaken and Dawn Fuller of Space2 Leeds appointed Arts Champion at the beginning of October 2009.

The first period has included a familiarisation process for the Arts Champion to get to know partners, what is available, needs and gaps and she has met with the Extended Services Cluster Leader and all the schools' Headteachers and Extended Services Co-ordinators. Presentations and discussions have taken place at Cluster Leadership meetings and Dawn has also met with a number of other local partners, including Youth Service and Northcall. An action plan, timetabling potential provision of arts activities from February 2010 has been created, collating the above information collection, which has been agreed in principle by the cluster and partners.

Proposals include:

- 6 after school art clubs at primary schools

- Holiday taster projects in dance and visual arts at Allerton High and Cardinal Heenan High Schools
- 3 after school dance clubs, holiday dance projects at Allerton High and Cardinal Heenan High Schools
- A cross cluster Urban Arts club for KS2 boys, targeting disadvantaged and challenging boys
- A cross cluster Performance Poetry club for vulnerable girls, bringing Yr 6, 7 & 8 girls together to aid transition to High School
- Professional development for teachers and support staff to sustain dynamic art clubs long term
- 6 taster days of performance poetry for all children
- Support and expansion of Northcall's Family Learning Fashion Project to enable children and young people to take part in various sessions around accessorising outfits, design, poster making, DJing and podcasting
- A summer holiday film project

Links have also been made with City-wide arts providers which are starting to work towards long term provision and opportunities for local children and young people to get involved in large scale performance projects in 2011 and 2012 with Phoenix Dance, Yorkshire Dance and Leeds City Museum and Discovery Centre.

Bardsey Playground Renovation Project £10,000

Bardsey Parish Council wanted to renovate the existing playground which, after 16 years of heavy usage, needed equipment replacing and new surfaces.

The Parish Council approached the Area Committee for help with replacing the dilapidated fence and gates which had been identified as needing replacing through an independent safety inspection.

The project was completed in December 2009 within schedule despite the bad weather. This has now made safe the playground with stronger and more attractive fencing.



Bardsey Sport Clubhouse Re-development £25,000

The Area Committee was approached by the Bardsey Sport Club for a grant to re-develop their clubhouse. The project was felt necessary due to the dilapidation of the changing rooms, shower, toilet, kitchen facilities and the roof of the building, and it no longer meeting modern standards. The extension and redevelopment of the Club would be of increased benefit to the community. It was also felt that it would make the Club more versatile in its use, being available for indoor sports, less vigorous pastimes, and functions all of which would appeal to the existing members not directly involved in field sports, and to encourage new members, young and old, wishing to establish and develop group interests with other members of the community. Unfortunately due to the keen frosts and severe winter weather the project was delayed but work finally got underway in March.

Save Our Pool – Scholes Community Pool £1000

The swimming pool, which is on the Scholes Primary School campus, benefited people from Scholes and the surrounding area until it had to close for repairs which included replacement of the pool liner and wooden surrounds and general repairs to the pool area. The School PTA donated £1,000 towards the project and the Boston Spa Partnership also contributed. The pool has now re-opened and the numbers now attending have exceeded all expectation.

Wetherby Community Bonfire £1000

There has been a community bonfire in Wetherby on the Ings for the past five years which is always well attended and enjoyed by people of all ages making it a real family event. The total cost of the event was £8,600. The event was a huge success despite the rain with over 2,000 people attending.



Barleyfields Radio Project – Tempo fm £1000

Ofcom granted Wetherby Community Radio a five year broadcasting licence in September 2006 with the specific aim of involving the local community within Wetherby and the surrounding villages. The Barleyfields Radio Project was established in October 2008 in conjunction with the Youth Service. Since then Wetherby Radio has been actively assisting young people every Thursday evening and Barleyfields Youth Club with their media studies.



The project has been a great success with the young people. The well being grant was to assist with the purchase of the necessary licences to allow the radio station to stay within the Ofcom regulations and continue broadcasting.

Community Planner Post £75,000

The Area Committee raised the need for a Community Planner officer initially in 2008. Funding was approved, and after some delay Sarah Hellewell was recruited to the post in September 2009.

The purpose of the post is to provide planning advice and guidance to the North East Outer Area Committee and to Parish and Town Councils, individuals and groups in the North East Outer Area Committee area, and to pursue planning initiatives for improvement.

Sarah Hellewell came into post on 14th September 2009, and initially spent time meeting the ward members, and officers from Area Management and Planning to get an overview of the area, and to discuss their roles and responsibilities.

During the first quarter Sarah met with interested parties and obtained their views of their issues regarding planning and enforcement. These stakeholders were:

- Ward Members
- Town and Parish Councils
- NE Area Planning Services Team
- East Householder Planning Services
- East Compliance Team
- Planning Administrative Manager
- Head of E-Planning

An assessment of all issues raised was undertaken and actions formulated to address them. These included:

- Regular Ward Member briefings which include representatives from planning and enforcement
- Officer Panel and delegated reports to include a section for Town and Parish Council responses. This is being done.
- Procedure set up to improve communication between Officers and Members regarding applications, for example if it is major planning application notify by e-mail the Member about the application, asking if a briefing is required and that they will be kept informed of the applications progress. Also if Members have been involved in a site previously they are notified as above. This has been implemented

Sarah made initial contact with all Town and Parish Councils and offered to attend one of their meetings to discuss individual issues and provide planning advice to them, see what training issues they had individually and work out how to provide this. She has now attended several Parish Council meetings and had walkabouts in their areas with them. She has also made contact with a number of Parish Councils through phone call and e-mails.

There was one Appeal Hearing during the first quarter which Sarah attended.

During the second quarter work has predominantly concentrated on the two Public Inquiries being held which affected the Harewood and Wetherby Wards - Church Fields, Boston Spa and Grimes Dyke. The Public Inquiries have been very staff intensive requiring Sarah's input prior to the commencement of the inquiry and particularly during the inquiries themselves, when she attended as many days as possible. In the case of Church Fields, this was every day at the request of ward members.

The work has included working closely with the Ward Members and Parish Councils and local residents to provide support and guidance with meetings, correspondence and letters of objection. Sarah attended a round table discussion between all interested parties for both appeal sites: Ward Members, Council solicitor, Council officers and Parish Council representatives. She also discussed the scheme at a Boston Spa Parish Council meeting, and attended the public inquiry.

A similar level of support was provided for the Grimes Dyke Public Enquiry. This site is not within the Outer North East area, but is close to the villages of Thorner and Barwick & Scholes Parish Councils, both of who have raised objections to the scheme. The ward members also had objections. Sarah attended several meetings and it was agreed to pass any correspondence and statements to Sarah for checking prior to formal submission.

Sarah attended the opening statements and areas relevant to the Parish Councils and Members. She was able to provide on the immediate advice and support. In Barwick & Scholes Parish Council's closing statement they thanked the Community Planner for their support and help.

The role of the Community Planner has been very useful particularly during the Public Inquiry process, providing advice and support which otherwise would not have been provided. A report will be produced about how these appeals have operated, identifying learning points, good practice and where there are improvements to be made. The learning points and improved process will be used as a template for future appeal cases of this nature. This will be reported to Area Committee at a future meeting.

Sarah has also carried out further meetings with Parish Councils meeting them individually and having walkabouts in their areas so to get to know the areas.

The Town and Parish Planning Charter became a formal document at the beginning of the year. Sarah has been helping in implementing it, assessing how this is being implemented and how it is working. She will be involved in the review of this charter in summer 2010.