

**Report of: The West North West Area Leader (Citizens and Communities)**

**Report to: The Inner West Community Committee (Armley, Bramley & Stanningley and Kirkstall)**

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**Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

**For Information**

**Community Committee Update Report**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report updates the Community Committee on the work of the sub groups of the Committee: Children and Young People and Environment.
2. This report updates the Committee on community events, local projects and partnership working that has taken place in the area since the last meeting.

### **Main issues**

#### **3. Children & Young People – Champion: Cllr C Gruen**

There was a sub group meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December. The following items were discussed:

- Fostering Leeds – an update was given by Social Services on the different types of fostering carried out in the City. In the Inner West area there are 25 registered LCC foster carers but there are also other routes into fostering.
- Youth Service Review – Chris Dickenson (Commissioning) and Andrea Richardson (Head of Learning for Life) attended and gave an overview of what was within the parameters of the Youth Service Review – ensuring correct contracts are in place with external organisations and whether the Youth Service are meeting the needs of users. A request was made for more monitoring of quality.

- Early Years Update – Obesity levels for young people in Armley and Bramley are increasing against the city wide trend of reducing levels.
- Graeme Tiffany – a specialist in detached youth work gave an interesting presentation on the benefits of outreach and detached work

### **Environment – Champion: Cllr Illingworth**

The Environment Sub Group met on 26<sup>th</sup> January and the following issues were discussed:

4. Taxis parking in the cycle lanes along the A65 and what parking enforcement measures can be taken. There was also a discussion about parking outside schools and Members were encouraged to report and incidents to the Parking Enforcement Team.
5. Trials have taken place in other parts of the city to install ‘Do not park on the verge’ signs. Although the signs are not enforceable, they have worked. A discussion took place about introducing them in Inner West.
6. Housing Officers hold a quarterly walkabout estate walkabouts and Members were encouraged to attend. Members asked for the walkabouts to be advertised at least a month in advance in order for Members to attend.

### **Health & Wellbeing & Adult Social Care – Champion: Cllr Lowe & Cllr Venner**

#### Best Start

7. This project is a broad preventative approach across some of the poorest areas of the city which looks at making the first 1001 days of a child’s life the very best it can be. Current projects include;
  - The safer sleeping project and the promotion of Baby Boxes.
  - Accident prevention awareness for families.
  - The promotion of the LCC Talk-Learn-Share app which shares prompts with parents to help them positively interact with children to develop skills in readiness for school.

#### Migrant Access Project in Armley

8. Touchstone has recently been commissioned to deliver a migrant community project across Leeds to help and support migrants and improve migrant health. Part of the project will involve embedding community development workers in local GP practices to help health care staff and clinicians offer the best support and medical advice to migrants. Community outreach workers and practice staff have been trained and are starting to commence their work.

#### Better Together

9. This outreach contract is currently working on the Wyther’s estate. It has successfully established a drop in residents group at Gott’s park café and a Mum and Tots group for

local residents. It is currently running an outreach bus service on the estate sharing information with local residents about local services.

### Winter Wellbeing

10. Winter Friends has successfully delivered information to over 122 organisations citywide including West Yorkshire Police, Libraries, Neighbourhood Communities Teams, Children's Day Services and various voluntary sector organisations. We are also working more closely with other directorates across the council incorporating teams from Adult Social Care, Children's and Families and Environments and Communities into the city wide network. The brand new Stay Well in Leeds this winter leaflet consists of more localised information for residents about pharmacies, GP practises and local services across the city

### Community Safety – Champion: Cllr Ritchie

#### **Crime Reporting Video**

11. In June 2016, the Community Committee held a Drugs and Young People themed meeting. The focused was on young people and crime, and in particular the barriers to young people reporting crime. The main issue coming out of the meeting is that young people do not trust that their report will remain anonymous. One of the actions that came out of the meeting was to create a campaign to encourage young people to report crime and bust myths around security and data protection.
12. The Communities Team successfully applied for funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner to create a video campaign that would be used on social media. They worked closely with local youth groups to consults on the campaign and worked closely with the West Yorkshire Police to create scripts for the video. Students from West Leeds Academy have agreed to act in the video and filming is due to take place in spring 2018.

### Armley Forum

The Armley Forum met on the 21st November 2017 and 20th February 2018.

13. At the November forum Lee Hemsworth and Diane Gill attended to discuss Universal Credit. There was an update from Housing Leeds, Sharon Guy addressed the forum. Lee Wilson provided information about the services that Forward Leeds provides in the Armley area. The new Wade Ranger, Claire Rogers, attended to let residents know about the work which is ongoing in Gotts Park. The Police attended to provide crime figures and address any concerns from residents.
14. At the February forum Christine Lunn from One You Leeds (OYL) attended. Christine advised about the variety of services that they will be offering and how residents can access this services. The Police attended to provide crime figures and address any concerns from residents.

## **Bramley & Stanningley Ward Forum**

15. The Bramley Forum met on 30<sup>th</sup> November and discussed the following:

- Policing issues including an overview of crime statistics for the area
- The Viewpoint Development
- Highways Update – Traffic Lights at Kirkstall Bridge have caused considerable impact locally and this is now in the top 3 of traffic hotspot areas in the City. An assessment is being done to look at options of improving traffic flow. Discussion was had about the reliability of buses and how many arrive at the timetabled time.
- West Leeds Academy – An update was given on changes within the school including changes to the management. A set of key principles has been established that the school is working towards following some challenges in recent years.

## **New Wortley Priority Neighbourhood Update**

16. The New Wortley Core Team continues to meet every 6 weeks to bring together partners, monitor progress against agreed actions and ensure there is a collective, joined up approach to work taking place within the priority neighbourhood. The last meeting took place on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

### Housing

17. There is an ongoing discussion to create a bespoke Annual Home Visit form for residents in the Priority Neighbourhoods which would be able to monitor customer satisfaction and perceptions of improvements.

### Financial Inclusion

18. Money Buddies have been in New Wortley CC since September 2016. Whilst only 31 clients have been seen the service reports an increase in take up over the last 6 months. Of the clients seen;

67% clients had debt issues and were referred for debt advice.

83% clients were in debt and of low income

Total Financial Gains = £38789.69 ( this includes savings on gas/electricity/ cash-flow improvements as a result of additional benefits being identified and repayment negotiations pending debt advice).

Average financial gain per client = £1251

Average financial gain per session =£718

It is clear there is a need for financial capability support in New Wortley. As part of the partnership working, which is improving following the Money Buddies efforts to raise awareness with and through staff/volunteers at the centre and an ex-councillor more promotion from local partners-including the local Medical Practice(s), local support groups would help in raising awareness too.

### Communities

19. The New Wortley Community Centre is planning a 2 day Festival the 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2018, the 4<sup>th</sup> will be dedicated to employment and learning and the 5<sup>th</sup> will be a community fun day with activities for young people, advertisement of local service provision, food and entertainment.

### Local Centres Programme

20. The Communities Team and New Wortley Community Centre have submitted an Expression of Interest to the Local Centres Programme Fund. The centre is utilising their relationship with Leeds Beckett's to look at potential options and will engage them to work with the community to develop those ideas. Proposals are based around the creation of a gateway to New Wortley and improving the Tong Road/Green Lane junction.

Suggestions include;

- creating a New Wortley sign in metal alongside the fencing outside the Clyde blocks.
- lighting up the tower blocks in different colours
- creation of a pond dipping area with seating on the adjacent community centre land
- creation of a mural

### Urban Mapping in New Wortley

21. The School of Geography at Leeds University are working with the Open Data Institute to come up with a project called Common Ground to be trialled in New Wortley. This is an Open Street map version of Google Maps. The idea is it will be a tool for local residents to be able to comment on the map and we can use to capture information and feedback from the community.

### Active Lifestyles

22. An update was provided on the picture of activities taking place over the past 6 months.
- Female only bike rides for over 14s
  - Bike maintenance and rides for younger ones to start again in spring with support from the Bike College
  - Cycle to Success Leeds University volunteers could come to New Wortley
  - Bumps and Babes sessions for 12 weeks at Armley Leisure Centre
  - Castleton West Leeds Rugby club to start a running club for new runners
  - Armley Park Run plans are continuing to get this up and running
  - Run and cycle in Armley Park in April with Yorkshire Sport

### Youth Service

22. The service have plans in place to work with Active Leeds this summer. A question was asked if Pathways could be linked to the Care app so that they can report issues when out and about on the estate.

A report of on the transition work carried out last year was provided detailing the partnership programme that had taken place to support the Year 6 cohort leaving Castleton Primary to go to 16 different high schools across Leeds.

### Employment & Skills

23. A Care sector event is to take place on 27th February following on from the Introduction to Care learning that took place. A CLLD bid will go in too to support getting people into paid employment similar to Talent Match

## Communities Team

An Integrated Services meeting took place in February to look at how services from New Wortley could work better together, signposting and advertising and how to improve customer access.

### **Bramley Our Place Update**

24. The Bramley Our Place Partnership was brought together to develop a local improvement plan for Bramley, focusing on the Broadleas and Fairfields.

25. The Our Place Steering Group met in October 2015 to reorganise the partnership against the new Indices of Deprivation statistics which showed a marked drop in both neighbourhoods, particularly under the 'Education, Skills and Training' domain.

26. Bramley Our Place has recently undertaken a refresh of its work programme and identified 3 priorities which are underpinned by community engagement;

- Children & Young People
- Community Safety & Environment
- Jobs & Skills, educational attainment (increased employment and more of the community in learning)

27. The first initiative since the refresh focused on the environment and children and young people. This was a joint project working with Bramley Primary School, Housing Leeds, Waste Management and the Cleaner Neighbourhoods to deliver a dedicated school week focusing on the environment. The school devised a program that fitted in with the school curriculum and partners enhanced the students experience by coordinating a 2 day estate walkabouts and litter pick as well as presentations throughout the week at school assemblies. Following the success of this initiative it is planned to continue this initiative over the course of the year. The main aim of this initiative was to build aspirations amongst the students about keeping their environment clean and tidy.

28. Further initiatives are now being explored by the partnership as they construct a development plan to set measurable targets and understand what difference was being made on the ground.

29. There is strong commitment to partnership working amongst partners as well as access to a number of community buildings and green spaces. Particular opportunities are offered through the recent refurbishment of Bramley Library into the new Bramley Community Hub. This offers a key asset for the partnership to deliver further change.

### **Hawksworth Wood Update**

30. Planning permission has been approved for a variety of upgrade works to Cragside Recreation Ground that the HAVA Board and Groundwork have been developing. Plans include a skatepark and path around the greenspace.

31. The Hawksworth Wood Hub had its official opening at the beginning of March. The site is in the old Community Association building and will offer all the Hub services and be open Monday to Friday. It is anticipated there will be a variety of services and sessions supported by local groups and organisations delivered from the site.

## Wythers Update

32. The Communities Team have been working closely with Housing and Voluntary Action Leeds on the Wyther Park Estate for the past 18 months, engaging with local residents to encourage positive action in the community. An initial group of residents were enthusiastic about linking in on this work, however, for a variety of reasons, they opted to step away from the project. This led to the Communities Team, linking in with Housing, Voluntary Action Leeds, Libraries, Youth Services, West Leeds Activity Centre and the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team to bring about clearing a piece of land on the estate to deliver a programme of summer activities and seek to engage with more residents.

33. One of the key points to come out of this consultation has been that residents feel that there is a lack of community facilities in the local area. The Communities Team subsequently met with the local church – The Venerable Bede – and agreed access to the hall there on a free let basis and use of equipment for a parents and tots group. A community development worker, employed by Voluntary Action Leeds, has picked up on this work over the past 6 months. This has led to increased community engagement on the estate and a regular group of parents now agreeing to take on responsibility for the running of the group at the local Church. This group will continue to be supported, with new activities and further engagement to be encouraged. There is an ongoing piece of work with services as well, looking at which organisations are currently delivering on the estate, and how links between them and residents can be improved.

## Corporate

34. **a. Consultation and engagement** - Local priorities were set through the Community Plan process.

**b. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration** - The Business Planning process takes into account equality, diversity, cohesion and integration issues.

**c. Council policies and city priorities** - The themes in the Business Plan mirror the themes and priority outcomes at a city wide level and also reflect the delegated functions and priority advisory functions.

## Conclusion

35. The work of the sub groups are essential in the delivery of the Community Committee priorities. The Communities Team continues to look at opportunities to develop projects and promote new ways of working to achieve the objectives outlined in the Community Plan.

## Recommendations

36. To note the report including the key outcomes from the sub groups and approve the new Community Plan.

**Background information**

- None