

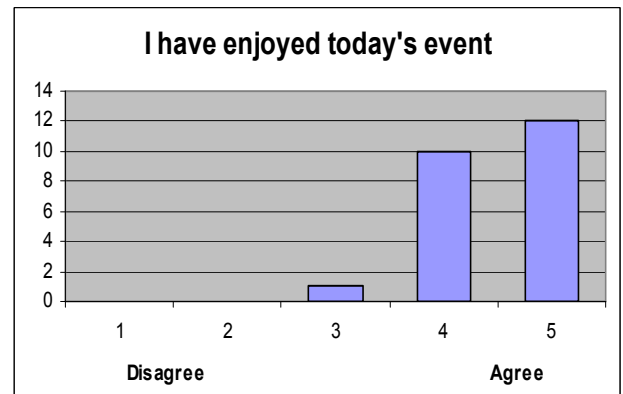
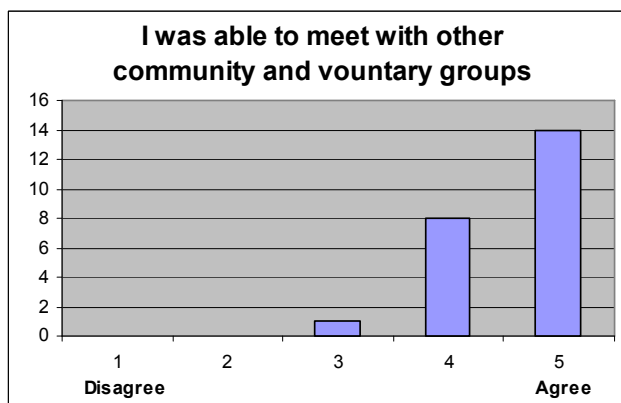
Volunteer Thank You Event Evaluation

Aims and Objectives

- To recognise the hard work and achievement of community and voluntary groups in the North East Inner Area.
- To provide an entertaining evening for community and voluntary groups.
- To provide opportunities for voluntary and community groups to network with other groups and gain information on issues such as funding, capacity building and best practice.
- Developing social capital - to encourage participation and involvement in community work in Inner North East Leeds.
- Promote the role of elected members.

Evaluation

Evaluation forms completed at the event show that response to the event was very positive. 25 people completed evaluation forms. Some of the responses are shown below:



Attendance was quite high at approximately 120 people, most of whom found out about the event through the invitations which were sent out. Evaluation forms and anecdotal evidence from the night showed people enjoyed the entertainment and thought the event was well organised. Many attendees appreciated the opportunity to network and met new people. Some of the groups which made new contacts included RJC Dance and Leeds Childrens Circus as well as REAP and North Park Lane Allotments. Most people stayed until the 8.30 finish time.

40 of the 250 groups invited attended showing a 16% attendance rate. An aim for future events would be to increase on this percentage as there is potential for many more groups to attend and to take advantage of the networking opportunities available.

A few problems were also encountered with the database of community organisations. Some contact details are out of date while the database does not include all the groups in the area. It would be useful for future community engagement activity if this database was redesigned to be as accurate as possible.

A total of £1,390 was spent on the Volunteer Thank You Event of which the majority was catering costs from Dine. £700 was approved by the area committee from the Well-Being Fund and the remainder of the cost was met by area management for this year due to the increased costs from Dine. If councillors wish to hold the event to a similar standard next year the area committee would need to allocate approximately £1,400.

DVD Proposal

It has been proposed that producing a DVD which shows highlights of the event would be very useful for the area committee. This would be broadcast throughout the year on the Big Screen in Millennium Square.

The DVD would:

- Record highlights of the event to be shown on the Big Screen in Millennium Square.
- Give the event prestige for those viewing the DVD and to the community groups who took part.
- Increase awareness of area committees and local councillors.
- Show that local councillors value the work of community and voluntary groups and encourage involvement in community work.
- Show the value of networking opportunities between community groups.

In order to promote the area committee and the Volunteer Thank You Event a copy of the DVD could be sent the community groups on our database to encourage them to take part in our events. The cost of producing 200 DVDs would be £94.50.

As the DVD will be produced by university students there is no cost to putting it on the Big Screen, except some issues with copyright law, which the Area Management Team are seeking a solution to. This may incur additional costs and the area committee will be consulted on this before approval is given.

Recommendations

The Area Committee is requested to note the contents of this report and approve the following amounts of Wellbeing funds to be released to the project listed

- 1) £95 for the production of 200 Volunteer Thank You Event DVDs to distribute to community and voluntary groups in the North East Inner area.
- 2) £50 for the purchase of a limited release copyright for DVDs.

Decision

It was agreed at the Well-Being Fund Working Group on 19th January that the event would happen again next year on 10th December, which has now been booked in the Civic Hall. Members also agreed to set aside £2000 from the Well-Being Fund for the event.