

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Warwick Area Committee

Date of Committee 8 May 2007

Report Title Report of Warwickshire County Council / Warwick District Council Community Support Team, 2006/7.

Summary The report provides members with information about the work of the joint WCC/WDC Community Support Team in 2006/7

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Councillor Boad, Chair, Warwick Area Committee.
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive
- Legal David Carter
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Warwick Area Committee – 8th May 2007.

**Report of Warwickshire County Council / Warwick District Council
Community Support Team, 2006/7.**

**Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and
Development**

Recommendation

That Members accept the report of the work of the joint WCC/WDC Community Support Team in 206/7.

1. Background

- 1.1** The joint WCC/WDC Community Support Team was established in April 2006. The team comprises two community development workers, Linda Price and Kath Banister and is jointly funded by the District Council and the County Council's Warwick Area Committee. The staff are employed by the District Council, but managed on behalf of the two councils by the County Council's Area Manager.
- 1.2** The team was set up to continue the high quality community support work that had previously been funded by the SRB 5 programme in Old Town, south Leamington and in Lillington through the SRB 6 programme. The team has continued to work in these areas, but has expanded to also work in Warwick West – the Forbes Estate and the Packmores / The Cape area, and also in Budbrooke. The work of the team contributes significantly to the achievement of LAA objectives, particularly in relation the Safer and Stronger Communities LAA blocks.
- 1.3** Appendices A and B to this report detail the key areas of work undertaken over the last year and provide members with information about how this key project, which the Area Committee funds, is progressing. It also provides and opportunity to comment on the work of the team

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director,
Performance and
Development,
Shire Hall
Warwick

20 April 2007

**WCC/WDC COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM
Linda Price & Kath Bannister, April 2007.**

Introduction

The Community Support Team was established by Warwick District Council in April 2006, in partnership with Warwickshire County Council, in order to provide continuity and expansion of the Community Development work which had been funded through the Regenesis and P.I.E. S.R.B. schemes. Linda Price and Kath Bannister were employed to continue working in the Lillington and Old Town areas of Leamington and also to begin working in other areas of the District, starting with Warwick West (Packmores and Forbes areas) and a specific youth project in Budbrooke

PACKMORES

1. Researched history of previous community work in the area and met with Councillors, Police, Youth workers, Adult and Community learning, school, pub, District and County Council officers to gain a picture of the current situation.
2. Liased with WDC Leisure over summer holiday sports provision in Priory Pools Park.
3. Worked with WCC and PAYP to complete the legal work, speed up delivery and organised radio/newspaper publicity of the POD in Priory Pools Park in August 2006.
4. Organised funding of £690, planned and ran a community launch Party in the Park for the POD in September 2006.
5. Met and are working with Warwickshire Clubs for Young People to develop additional activities for young people in Packmores in 2007.
6. Undertook a community consultation in August 2006 in the Lyttleton Road flats, (involving the PCSO and Tenants Support Officer) to inform residents of the POD and ascertain their community needs. Produced a report and circulated this.
7. Undertook a community consultation in November/December in Wathen Road and roads adjoining to gain views on the proposed Parking Permit Scheme, the Tree hazards and other local issues. Produced a report and circulated this.
8. Attended residents meetings and currently planning a residents meeting for 26.4.07 following consultation above.
9. Conducted a thorough search of Packmores and eventually located a potential multi purpose community base to include space for surgeries, small training sessions, mums and toddler group, and workers base in the old sheds area under Sussex court. Are working with WDC Housing Dept to gain approvals and consult with residents.
10. Organised and supported a CHOICES training session in the POD.
11. Met with Warwick Town Council clerk to commence building relationships.
12. Met with school head teachers and PTA to establish relationships and offer support.
13. Met with Police teams to establish relationships and offer support.

FORBES

14. Researched previous and current work in the area and contacted and met with all relevant workers (as in Packmores) to gain a picture of the current situation.
15. Worked with the former PCSO for the area and organised and promoted a course of Street dance sessions for local girls.
16. Gave support and advice to a new football coaching session initiated by 2 local young men, and targeting some of the most excluded young people in the area. (Purchased some basic equipment, arranged appropriate insurance, identified training). Newborough School Head teacher provided CRB checks and goal posts.
17. Organised and gained support for quarterly Networking Lunches held at Forbes for workers and volunteers in the area.
18. Gave contacts to the Newburgh school PTA for their summer fair.

BUDBROOKE

19. Attended Community Open meetings to address the issues of anti social behaviours in summer, 2006.
20. Worked to establish a management committee, consulted with local young people and implemented a weekly seniors and juniors Youth Group.
21. Worked with a group of young people to bid for £6,844 Youth Opportunities fund. The management committee bid for £6k from Local Network fund. The Parish Council and Area committee gave pump prime funding and the Round Table gave £500 to purchase games.
22. Compiled and wrote policies, practices and procedures. Affiliated to WAYC and continue to work to develop this facility.

LILLINGTON

23. Continuing to advise and attend management committee meetings of The CHAIN with a view to further developing their services.
24. Continuing to support the LINK Parent Support Group especially in forming a new management committee, writing policies and helping with fundraising – especially writing bids. Gained £2,250 to help with running costs in 2006.
25. Continuing to support the NE Leamington Allotments Association through a difficult year especially with removal of the asbestos contaminated tip, helping to organise and run an open day, helping to deal with challenging characters and situations on site, supporting the management committee, helping with fundraising and offering general support to keep this committee functioning.
26. Continuing to support the Lillington Community Centre Committee through a year of massive change including developing a partnership with SureStart Children's Centre staff, the new building being completed, co-managed and handed over, teething problems and setting up of new bookings. Gained 4,500 from Awards For All to decorate/ improve main hall.
27. Continuing to work on the SureStart Children's Centre Board, as Chair of the Economic Well-being Sub Group and generally becoming a link person to support the development work.
28. Continuing to support the Cubs, Scouts and Beavers by advising on funding issues, gaining a recycled computer in March 2007, recruiting for new volunteer staff, and generally acting as support to the existing lead.

29. Continuing to act as information point and to support the Lillington Youth Centre by working with their management committee to manage independent funds, fundraised extra £5k for school holiday activities summer 2006.
30. Continuing to support the Local Development volunteer in further developing Silverseekers group – a social group for people born before 1945. Helping to establish a management committee, gaining a recycled WCC computer, funds, organising activities, trips and visits.
31. Continuing to support the Lillington Fresh Foods Co-op to develop its membership, to organise and run seasonal events such as a Winter Veg Day and liaising with local retailers to ensure no hard feelings. Helped raise £1k development funding and also gain a WCC recycled computer.
32. Continuing to support the work on a Lillington Phase II development plan that involves applying to Advantage West Midlands to fund a new community complex (estimated cost of £1.2 million) that will contain an enterprise hub.
33. Trained a team of Research Assistants and undertook a research project to gather information to support the AWM bid.
34. Continue to support Lillington Men's Sports Football club, gaining £1,582 for ITC from Awards for all.
35. Continue to compile /write a weekly District Digest column for Lillington in the Leamington Courier, which offers good news stories and local information.

OLD TOWN/BRUNSWICK

- 36. Warwick District Welfare Rights Group - support to Steering Group: help to get the project running, overseeing policies of project, practical advice, submitted funding bid, involved in recruitment & selection, help with administration of steering group.**
37. Leamington Spa Credit Union – help with recruitment & selection process & related procedures, line management support to new development worker.
38. Eagle Rec – liaising between group/funders/WDC officers/contractors; co-ordinating planning meetings, consultation work.
39. Leamington Canal Festival 07 planning group – providing contacts, liaising between different parties, providing ideas and suggestions and experience.
40. The Women's Forum – helped to secure funding for programme of activities (£3529) and implementation of the programme (identifying, booking and liaising with tutors, publicity, reports etc)
41. Regenesis – general support and advice, organising focus groups (to inform both Regenesis and safer neighbourhoods) and advising on community research; providing information and signposting to callers. Limited support to ongoing pigeon management strategy
42. Spencer Yard – support to steering group - activities accessible to the local community. Produced short summary on the role of each group for publicity dissemination.
43. Designed and delivered training to group of community researchers, and then oversaw and conducted some research, in order to gain evidence to support both the Brunswick and Lillington AWM bids.
- 44. Funding advice (identifying funding sources, help with application forms) e.g. Elderly Asian Men's groups, Sikh Community Centre.**
- 45. Helped with funding applications to gain £6,900 in funds for Elderly Asian Men's group, Brunswick Asian Men's group and for bunting making workshops**

Appendix B

THE COMMUNITY TEAM

Aim: To provide Community work support to individuals and groups in areas of Warwick District with higher indices of deprivation in order to ascertain community needs and aspirations, and to work with local people to address these.

OUTCOMES	METHODS OF ACHIEVING OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	PROGRESS AT END MARCH 07
<p>1. More people taking part in group/neighbourhood activities and more sense of community <i>Community Plan: C1, C2, C3</i></p>	<p>Supporting and helping to strengthen existing groups. Encouraging the formation of new groups. Holding community events that could involve people from different cultures and different generations, and from different parts of the area. Improved communications - newsletters/posters/leaflets/etc. Promoting community venues.</p>	<p>No. of volunteers No. of new groups/initiatives No. of community events</p>	<p>35 6 4</p>
<p>2. People feeling safer and feeling greater pride in their areas. <i>Community Plan: S2, S3</i></p>	<p>Environmental projects (planting, painting etc.) Support people in taking measures to make areas safer. Feed the media with positive stories about the community/neighbourhood. Address issues of cleansing. Improved green spaces & communal areas</p>	<p>No. of environmental projects No. of community safety initiatives</p>	<p>2 2</p>
<p>3. Improved Health & Wellbeing in Communities <i>Community plan: H2, C1, F3</i></p>	<p>Affordable, locally based sports and exercise opportunities. Encouraging non-traditional exercise participants. Appropriate information for community groups and individuals. Availability of affordable fresh food. Access to money advice Accessible educational & leisure opportunities</p>	<p>No. of new sports/exercise initiatives No. of new/improved educational/leisure opps.</p>	<p>3 2</p>
<p>4. Increased capacity within communities to manage and determine their future. <i>Community Plan: F4, F2</i></p>	<p>Training (1:1 or small groups) in all aspects of running community groups and activity: Resources Committee skills Constitutions Writing successful FUNDING APPLICATIONS Attracting more members etc. etc. Access to other training opportunities. Tenants/residents groups & neighbourhood forums which are supported by relevant agencies. Work with groups to apply for funding. Work with residents to ensure that service delivery is appropriate and equitable.</p>	<p>No. of people undertaking community training No. of forums supported Amount of funds successfully secured.</p>	<p>8 1 £37,795</p>