

Report Heading: Area Manager's Update

Purpose of the Report:

To update members of the Area Partnership Board on progress made so far, in delivering the Neighbourhood Plans throughout the 10 neighbourhoods in Ellesmere Port and also to provide information on what immediate priorities the Area Management Team we will be working towards.

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership Board notes the delivery so far made and immediate priorities moving forward. APB partners to identify areas of the Neighbourhood Plans that will require support and joint delivery from partners.

Main Report:

The Our Place team have continued to build the Resident Advisory Panels for all 10 neighbourhoods. But it is now agreed, to save confusion of the groups and the authorities own RAP teams that these groups will now be known as Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs).

The current groups are continuing to grow in delivery and confidence and much emphasis has now been placed on them becoming established, fully constituted groups by late summer 2011.

We have struggled to gain interest in 3 particular neighbourhoods – Netherpool, Little Sutton & Whitby with very little turnout at programmed meetings so far. Meetings have been held at different times of the day and at weekends to see if any barriers could be removed, to little avail. In order to tackle this issue, a strategy has now been written to look at Our Place instigating a series of physical quick wins in these neighbourhoods that can then be exemplified to residents as to what can be achieved and only with their participation can we move forward and continue to improve and enhance the areas in which they live – I'm also confident that with budgets starting to be devolved at local levels, that an increase in interest will occur.

Many town wide projects have actually happened or are now underway; The Bus Station Arts project was launched successfully on 18 May 2011 with 17 of our primary schools taking part; 'Making the Difference' throughout the town took place on June 8th where many officers of the council volunteered to work

at various locations in the neighbourhoods; 'Heart Town', as well as 50 years celebration of the Westminster Bridge will take place on 28 July 2011; Trinity Methodist Church refurbishment into a multi-use centrally based Hub for activities not traditionally associated with a church is to start very soon; New Neighbourhood Inspection dates have been agreed till the end of 2011; the Our Place page in the Pioneer has now ceased at ward members request. We will now have a four weekly page in The Standard until March 2012, as this has a far wider distribution of 28,000. Where there are gaps throughout Wolverham and Rossmore, it has been agreed that 1,000 copies will be delivered to Civic Way offices on our particular print date, as community representatives in these areas have volunteered to hand deliver them.

The Our Place team are also actively involved with the ongoing asset management review, Regeneration & Development programme and also in the more generic elements of the Local Integrated Services implementation.

The HHEET delivery programme continues to develop with the first two clients securing permanent positions with the ever expanding Cheshire Neighbours Credit Union which has recently seen its 726th Ellesmere Port member join!

Update on Neighbourhood Activity

Each neighbourhood is developing at a different pace, dependant on residents wishes and willingness to progress opportunities -

Stanney/Wolverham Neighbourhood

- NAG will be fully constituted on 14 July 2011 with Leader Cllr Mike Jones in attendance
- First phase of fencing completed
- Thornton Road Play builders site now at tender stage
- New Gateway signage now in place in 3 locations
- 3 planters ordered to be situated underneath Gateway signs
- New estate signage in place
- New street / dog bins in place
- New monthly garage site cleaning programme established
- Monthly neighbourhood inspections successfully completed but will be carefully monitored for future dates as and when requested by residents
- Additional lighting being secured through Plus Dane
- Work on BASE Motopark has been under construction for the past 4 weeks

Westminster Neighbourhood

- NAG not yet constituted
- Environmental Action Plan developed and works commenced
- New Gateway signage in place
- Community Garden in Grafton Road
- Work commenced on raised bed allotments
- Work due to start on Jakes Yard to open access

- Westminster Food Action Project – potential food co-op
- Train Station Improvements
- Westminster Bridge Improvements
- Residents involved with neighbourhood inspections

Rossmore Neighbourhood

- NAG fully constituted
- Env Action Plan developed and works commenced
- Purchasing portacabin as community facility
- Developing relationships with partners
- Gateway signage erected

Grange Neighbourhood

- NAG not yet constituted but is very near
- Developed own neighbourhood inspections
- Friday Night Family Club started
- 'Atherton Road Green Space' project
- Gateway signage ordered

Parklands Neighbourhood

- NAG will be constituted on July 5th 2011
- Ongoing Youth Engagement Project
- Residents hosted 'fun day' on 28 May 2011
- Gateway signage on order
- Rivacre Valley project being developed
- MUGA will be 'netted' now, as more cost effective, but will still be appropriate

Central Neighbourhood

- NAG is currently new and not yet constituted
- Implemented Bus Station Improvement Programme
- Created freerunners venue
- Tarvin Close Development Phase 1
- Cambridge Road School Group

Great Sutton Neighbourhood

- NAG is constituted
- General Highway & Environmental improvements
- Establishing Children's play area
- Gateway signage now ordered

Netherpool Neighbourhood

- NAG struggling to be established
- Make the Difference Day was held at various locations, i.e. Rivacre Valley and Overpool Community Centre
- Gateway signage now ordered

Little Sutton Neighbourhood

- NAG being established soon
- Community Centre signage on order
- Gateway signage on order
- 'Friends of Little Sutton Train Station' is currently being established
- Sheepfield Close is having a Community Garden Event on 3 August 2011
- Make the Difference event attended Reading Rooms

Whitby Neighbourhood

- NAG struggling to be established
- Make the Difference event attended Whitby Park
- All new park signage has been erected including lifebuoy
- New gateway signage on order
- Mapping exercise project is in the process of being conducted

Wolverham Neighbourhood

- NAG still being established
- Gateway signage on order
- Initial summer fact finding event being organised

Immediate Priorities:

At Ward Members requests, we will continue with our ongoing projects around supporting vulnerable residents of all ages and also providing much needed mentoring where required to residents of different ages and capacities through our Mums to Mums & Young Carers projects which will now expand to look at a Young Persons Citizenship project.

We will also continue to deliver the following initiatives;

BASEmoto Launch
Planning for Mischief Fortnight
Create an 'Our Place' Small Business Charter

Name:

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