

# Partnerships West

A regular update on partnership developments in West Cheshire



**WELCOME....**to this month's news and activity from the West Cheshire Together partnerships framework.

Partners across West Cheshire are being invited to help shape the future of the borough as part of Cheshire West and Chester Council's forthcoming consultation on its **capital investment priorities** for the next ten years.

Looking this far forward is a bold and innovative approach which goes beyond normal local planning timeframes. However, it will present real benefits by providing us with a clear vision of where we want to be in ten years time and what we need to do to get there. Resources are likely to be limited in the future, meaning that we need to use them effectively and collectively maximise what we can achieve for our residents and visitors.

The consultation process, which will take place during the summer and autumn, will be launched at an event on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July** (between 8.45 and 10.30am) at the Council's HQ Building in Chester. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If any partners would like to attend, contact Lyn Raynor on 01244 972370 or e-mail: [lyn.raynor@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:lyn.raynor@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

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## Cheshire and Warrington Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Survey 2010

Ten years ago, a major survey was undertaken of the voluntary and community groups active in Cheshire called the "Hidden Power" survey. This now needs updating and the "Cheshire and Warrington Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Survey 2010" is being undertaken to refresh the information, show what has changed (or not) and the general direction of the sector, including challenges to be faced in the coming years.

Data gathered will be analysed by the Cheshire and Warrington ChangeUp Consortium as a collective response to look for trends and issues. It will provide an overall picture for Cheshire and Warrington and a view for the three unitary local authority areas - Warrington, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester - to use to show the strength and reach of the sector and evidence of needs within the sector. It will also be used to update the local directory of voluntary and community groups. Information on organisations will not be shared with other organisations or statutory agencies.

The survey can be completed online at <http://www.cwconsortium.org.uk/> and the closing date for responses received is **31<sup>st</sup> July**. All responses received by this date will be entered into a prize draw. First prize £100, second prize £50 and third prize £25 for your organisation.

For further information, contact Joanne Jones, Partnership Manager, on 01244 973129 or e-mail: [joanne.jones@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.jones@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## Draft Affordable Warmth Strategy: Consultation

Cheshire West and Chester Council is committed to promoting affordable warmth by tackling fuel poverty. Rising fuel bills and more energy efficient homes are concerns for us all and fuel poverty (where people cannot afford to adequately heat their homes) affects many people in the borough.

The Council and its partners want to tackle this by helping to make people's homes easier to heat through installing energy efficiency measures and other initiatives. To aid this process, a draft Affordable Warmth Strategy has been produced for the borough and local residents, community groups and organisations have been invited to have their say on the future provision of affordable warmth throughout the borough. All feedback on the draft strategy is encouraged, giving particular consideration to the five key aims within the draft strategy and suggestions on how these can be improved or added to. Submissions must be made **by 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010**.

The draft strategy can be viewed online at:

[http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/housing/housing\\_strategy.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/housing/housing_strategy.aspx) or copies can be obtained in libraries across the borough or by contacting Amanda Bloomfield on 0151 356 6424 or e-mail: [amanda.bloomfield@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.bloomfield@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## "Our Community" Survey results

As customer-focused organisations and partners, it is vitally important that we understand the views and priorities of our local community. Central Government currently requires all local authorities to undertake a "Place Survey" every two years - the last survey was conducted in 2008 before local government re-organisation. Many indicators from our Local Area Agreement (LAA) and other Council and partner plans are based on this survey and, as the LAA needs to be monitored annually, Cheshire West and Chester Council's Research, Intelligence and Consultation team were asked to undertake an interim survey during January and February 2010 called "*Our Community*".

The survey asked a random sample of local residents about a range of issues affecting their local area and quality of life, including their views on *the local area; environment; community safety and anti-social behaviour; respect and consideration; information and decision-making; being involved and participation in activities; and health and wellbeing*. Results are analysed by topic, by Area Partnership Board as well as by age, gender and also 'spotlights' such as areas of disadvantage.

The survey findings will be used as evidence for a whole raft of future policies, plans and strategies. In relation to West Cheshire Together, this work will enable us to:

- ✓ monitor key LAA indicators, based on the 'Place Survey', on an annual basis;
- ✓ blend this with other partnership work to 'paint a picture' of our local communities and improve quality of life;
- ✓ support partner organisations in their plans and policies;
- ✓ flag up any areas of under-performance early, so that measures can be put in place as soon as possible; and
- ✓ understand more about the reasons for any under-performance, to inform the development of partnership plans and policies to address key issues.

In addition to a full report, a short "key findings" report is also available giving a brief overview of results as well as a table showing performance against the national indicators collected through the survey. The results can be viewed at:

[http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/community/research\\_and\\_intelligence/publications\\_information.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/community/research_and_intelligence/publications_information.aspx)

For further information, contact Beverley Wilson, Research, Intelligence and Consultation Manager, on 01244 972176 or e-mail: [beverley.wilson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:beverley.wilson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## Local Social Enterprise going for Growth!

Congratulations to Furniture Finders of Winsford (FFoW) who have made it into the top 100 Social Enterprises in the UK (47th to be exact!) in terms of growth last year. This is according to the first SE100 awards recently hosted by the new Minister for Civil Society, Nick Hurd.

FFoW have a warehouse in Winsford and a new shop in Northwich and collect donated furniture and electrical items which they make available to all at low prices, with extra discounts to those on low income. At the same time they also provide work and volunteer placements to long-term unemployed, those with physical and learning disabilities as well as training and development for those who need a helping hand. In recognition of the fact FFoW is about more than just furniture, they also now have a new umbrella name: 'CLIC - Changing Lives in Cheshire'.

The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) SE100 data report - the first index to track the growth of the UK's social businesses - found the top high growth 100 social enterprises on the index grew on average by 78.93% over the last year.



Hundreds of UK social enterprises - with a combined annual turnover totalling £812m - voluntarily submitted company information for the index, which was developed by Social Enterprise magazine in partnership with RBS Community Banking. Further information about the awards, along with the full report, can be viewed at: <http://tinyurl.com/2w4s7gb>

FFoW are located at Road Two, Winsford Industrial Estate or Weaver Square Shopping Centre. You can contact them on 0845 026 4727, e mail: [gary.cliffe@ffow.co.uk](mailto:gary.cliffe@ffow.co.uk) or visit their website at <http://www.ffow.co.uk/>

## Successful Malpas Wellbeing Event

An event held on 26th June at Malpas High Street Church was very well attended with over 150 adults and children visiting the various stands and displays promoting the theme of 'Wellbeing'.



It was a glorious summer's day with lots of different activities taking place all around Malpas as part of the Malpas Family Weekend. NHS Western Cheshire offered residents sporting games on the Wii Fit, health promotion advice and taster sessions including head and neck massages. Other stalls and displays offered a mixture of leaflets/advice and free gifts.

Students from Bishop Heber High School dressed up in 'fruit' costumes and encouraged residents to come in and see what was taking place. Tarvin Children's Centre was the venue for face painting which proved a big hit with the younger children - butterflies and dalmatians being the preference of the day.

The Wellbeing events are aimed at supporting Rural West Area Partnership Board's response to improving access to services and community engagement. As we go to print, another Wellbeing event took place on 9<sup>th</sup> July at Neston Town Hall (feedback will appear in the August bulletin) and a further event is being planned in Elton in September.

For further information, contact the Rural West Team on 01244 973334 or e-mail: [ruralwest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:ruralwest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## Grozone receives Royal interest!

Grozone is growing! With the involvement of 22 partners, over 1000 hours of volunteer time and 26 volunteers actively involved, the Grozone project is going from strength to strength.

May saw the grand exhibition of the garden designs created by an inter-generational team consisting of staff and students from Reaseheath College and Rudheath Community High School, together with community volunteers. The exhibition was a great success with the Town Mayor and Mayoress, local press and a number of partners and volunteers viewing the five final designs. It was agreed that elements from all five designs would be incorporated in the project and the volunteer group will soon meet up to take this forward.



In June, as part of a visit to Reaseheath College, HRH Queen Elizabeth met with staff and students involved in the Grozone Inter-Generational Garden Design Project. She viewed the final designs and was very interested to hear about Grozone and the process undertaken.

July sees the end of the M&S funding which financed the running of volunteer sessions throughout the spring. Volunteers working alongside Groundwork Cheshire and British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) staff have cleared an area of scrub, pruned trees and bushes, cleared invasive weed species and litter, installed bird, bat and insect boxes and created paths, five raised beds, compost bays and seating. Rudheath High School pupils have planted tomatoes, potatoes and flowers in the beds and the site now has its own set of tools and a storage container. Thanks to Northwich and Rural North Area Partnership Board funding, these volunteer sessions can be extended into the summer whilst other funding application news is awaited. Broken Cross Action for Climate Change also donated over £600 to the project and thanks also go to them.

‘Grow and Eat’ is a Grozone satellite project - a collaboration between Groundwork Cheshire, BTCV, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Weaver Vale Housing Trust and Victoria Road Children’s Centre, with funding from the Community Grant Scheme funded by the European Social Fund and Ineos Chlor. The project works to train people in how to grow their own fruit and veg organically, with participants given the option of working towards a qualification. Monthly sessions will teach people how to cook their produce and create healthy meals as well as access to free training in first aid, food hygiene, health & safety and orchard management.

For anyone interested in Grozone volunteer sessions or ‘Grow and Eat’, contact Beth Brockett at Groundwork on 01606 723160 or e-mail: [beth.brockett@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:beth.brockett@groundwork.org.uk)

With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July, the Cheshire & Warrington Economic Alliance has been renamed the **Cheshire & Warrington Enterprise Commission (CWEC)**. This is the economic development partnership for the sub-region, funded by the Northwest Regional Development Agency and the Local Authorities of Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East and Warrington.

The new website address is [www.cwec.org.uk](http://www.cwec.org.uk)

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Cheshire West and Chester Council Policy officers have begun producing weekly summaries of key announcements from central Government in a bid to keep track of national issues and changes affecting local Government. These “**Spotlight**” briefings can be viewed at:

[http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/democracy\\_and\\_elections/about\\_the\\_council/policies/spotlight\\_briefings.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/democracy_and_elections/about_the_council/policies/spotlight_briefings.aspx)

Continuing their bi-monthly arrangement, the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the five Thematic Partnerships met with the five Area Partnership Board Chairs on 5<sup>th</sup> July and considered a full agenda, including an update on the national policy and budget situation. Cuts in government expenditure are being announced daily, with major reviews such as the future of Government Offices being conducted. At the same time, Councils and their partners are being encouraged to support local activities which meet customer aspirations.

Partners heard about work being undertaken at the sub-regional level to consider the sustainability of funding which supports community safety and criminal justice activity. This has sought to quantify the risk to funding and continuity of activity across this area, identifying a number of areas of vulnerability, particularly around the reduction in Area Based Grant. Partners discussed the need to undertake similar assessments across other areas.

Another key presentation was received from the Council's Research, Intelligence and Consultation team who presented the findings of the "Our Community" Survey (see article on page 2) which provides comparative results to the Place survey which is conducted every two years. The survey helps to monitor changes in public attitudes on a variety of topics used to monitor the Local Area Agreement. Once again, fear of crime is a huge issue for our community, despite actual crime figures falling.

The minutes of this meeting will shortly be available on the West Cheshire Together partnerships website at: [http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/strategic\\_themes.aspx](http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/strategic_themes.aspx)

### News from individual Thematic Partnerships

**Safer and Stronger Communities** – members of this Thematic Group took part in a **Scrutiny Workshop** on 10<sup>th</sup> June, focusing on the mechanisms and processes used by partners to respond to anti-social behaviour. The aim of the workshop was to ensure partners in West Cheshire deliver a joined-up response to supporting victims of anti-social behaviour, to guard against cases similar to that of Fiona Pilkington happening locally. Partners worked through an exercise scenario, highlighting current methods of practice, identifying gaps and exploring ways of working together to deliver an effective level of service. The main theme to emerge from the workshop was to focus on the victims of anti-social behaviour.

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The Thematic Partnership also hosted a **Reducing Re-offending conference** on 28<sup>th</sup> June, chaired by Steve Collett, Chief Probation Officer. The conference focused on delivering key pathways known to reduce levels of re-offending by offering comprehensive packages of support. The pathways include: *accommodation; education and employment; health; and think family*. Partners embarked on an action planning session and rose to several challenges set to them, including:-

- ⇒ securing five units of accommodation for offenders by October;
- ⇒ discussion regarding developing an offender health unit;
- ⇒ development of a parenting strategy for offenders; and
- ⇒ delivery of ten supported jobs for offenders within West Cheshire.

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Three **Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Units** have now been set up across the borough, providing a dedicated ASB response in the geographical areas of Ellesmere Port, Chester and Northwich/Winsford. The units include teams consisting of a Community Safety Officer, a Police Constable, a Registered Social Landlord and a Community Safety Warden Supervisor. These teams will ensure an improved and timely multi-agency response to reported incidents of ASB.

A policy entitled “**Making Places Safer**” and aimed at targeting problematic locations including alley-ways, was agreed by Cheshire West and Chester Executive Committee in June. An Alley Gating Order is a useful piece of legislation that allows alleys affected by crime and disorder to be restricted to the general public by using a lockable gate. Alley gating is not always the answer, however it is a tool that has been proven to be successful in reducing domestic burglary, shed break-ins, criminal damage, anti-social behaviour, youth nuisance and alcohol related disorder. They can also increase feelings of safety and encourage feelings of ownership within neighbourhoods. Further information regarding this policy can be viewed at:

[http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/community/community\\_safety.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/community/community_safety.aspx)

For further information, contact Jane Makin, Community Safety Partnership Team Leader, on 01244 973464 or e-mail: [jane.makin@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:jane.makin@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

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**Environmental Sustainability** – met on 22<sup>nd</sup> June and considered a range of items including the Green Doctor project and a risk assessment for the thematic group. The main presentation was about the establishment of a Waste Awareness and Prevention Delivery Partnership. This will bring together relevant key delivery partners across West Cheshire to ensure the Council and its partners can meet their Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets. A particular focus has been a project funded by Cheshire West and Chester and Cheshire East Councils to review waste awareness and behaviour using data from the former Cheshire Councils. This was presented to a workshop in March 2010 where attendees used this data to prioritise the future work of the partnership. The prioritisation process involved evaluating projects against criteria such as tonnage diversion, cost benefit and potential partnerships. As a result, key priority projects for 2010-11 include the *Love Food Hate Waste Campaign*; the *Waste Prevention Volunteer Scheme*; *textile reuse and collection*; and *small electrical items*. In 2011-12 there will be a focus on *real nappies* and *junk mail*.

For further information, contact Peter Bulmer, Climate Change Manager, on 01244 972427 or e-mail: [peter.bulmer@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:peter.bulmer@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

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**West Cheshire Together for Health and Wellbeing** – This summer there are a range of tobacco control activities to protect children from tobacco smoke, discourage them from starting to smoke and to tackle the availability of illegal tobacco. The measures include:

- ⇒ **‘Take 7 Steps Out’:** Smokefree North West’s new campaign is targeting parents and carers who are not ready to quit but recognise the dangers of secondhand smoke. It encourages smokers to protect their children by going outside to smoke, close the door and take seven steps away to prevent tobacco smoke from drifting back into the home. The campaign starts on 10<sup>th</sup> August and includes advertising on regional TV, local radio, billboards and bus shelters. There is also a regional roadshow which will visit Ellesmere Port in August.
- ⇒ **School resources:** In June, new tobacco control resources went out to schools to support school health advisers and help teachers plan health related activities for the school year. Primary schools received an updated training pack, whilst secondary and special schools received a new toolbox featuring DVDs, posters, leaflets, a 10-a-day tar jar and lesson support pack.
- ⇒ **The *Illegal Tobacco, Keep It Out*** campaign began in June, aiming to raise awareness of the impact of cheap, smuggled and fake tobacco. Illegal tobacco encourages smoking and brings crime to our neighbourhoods, often linked to the sale of illegal alcohol, drugs, people trafficking and terrorism. Partners across the North of England including Police, Trading Standards, HM Revenue & Customs and Health are working together to support this campaign. Visit the website at [www.get-some-answers.co.uk](http://www.get-some-answers.co.uk) to find out more. Information such as locations where children are being sold cheap tobacco can be reported to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)



For further information, contact Julie Rogers, Public Health Improvement Lead, on 01244 385044 or e-mail: [julie.rogers2@wcheshirepct.nhs.uk](mailto:julie.rogers2@wcheshirepct.nhs.uk)

## Visionary leader required to chair Ellesmere Port Regeneration Company

Cheshire West and Chester Council is looking for a leader of vision to chair a new company dedicated to the regeneration of Ellesmere Port. The Council is to launch an **Ellesmere Port Regeneration Board** - a blend of public, private and community sector expertise seeking to ensure a bright future for the area and its communities.

Once one of the region's leading industrial centres, the area, like many others, has suffered both before and during the recession and now faces a range of socio-economic challenges - including the highest unemployment rate in Cheshire. The 10-strong Board will work with key public and private sector investors and local, regional and national partners to re-energise and reshape the town and its surrounding areas.

Supt Jon Betts, chairman of the Ellesmere Port Area Partnership Board and Neville Chamberlain, former chairman of URENCO will form part of a recruitment panel to be chaired by Cllr Herbert Manley, Executive Member for Regeneration.

The successful candidate will possess a variety of skills and experience varying from business leadership, marketing and brand development to regeneration, property development and housing. He or she will need to demonstrate the ability to work in a team and possess skills in the development of strong partnerships with a range of stakeholders.

To apply, e-mail your CV with a short statement saying why you would be ideal for the role, to [tony.clark@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:tony.clark@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) or telephone Tony Clark on 01244 973168 for further information. The closing date for applications is **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July**, with interviews taking place on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

## Youth Parliament Members finding their voice

Daniel Palmer and Rose Proudfoot, the two West Cheshire MYPs (Members of the UK Youth Parliament) and their four Deputies - Jessica Colston, Hannah McMurray, Lewis Williams and Jonathan Hardy - have been becoming accustomed to their new roles following their election earlier on this year. Daniel and Rose have recently been co-opted onto Cheshire West and Chester Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and, along with some of their colleagues, have been busy attending Community Forums and local and regional Youth Forums.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July, Daniel and Rose, with their counterparts from Cheshire East, will be joining all the members of the UK Youth Parliament for the annual four day sitting in Belfast. We will hear how they got on in our next edition.

MYPs and their Deputies can be contacted through Ron Davies, Connexions, on 01606 350750 or 0776 988 7959 or by e-mail: [MYPCheshireWest@connexions-cw.co.uk](mailto:MYPCheshireWest@connexions-cw.co.uk) You can also visit the website at <http://www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk/>

**FINAL REMINDER!** Our June edition listed some of the local events we were aware of as part of the national **Big Lunch** initiative on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July**. Here are just a few more local events:-

- ⇒ Winsford Community Action Project, The Edge, Cheviot Square, Winsford (9am – 4pm)
- ⇒ Stanney Fields Park, Neston (12 noon – 4pm)
- ⇒ The Catholic High School, Chester (from 11am)
- ⇒ The Lock Project, Ellesmere Port (Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 12 noon – 4pm)

To find a Big Lunch in your area, or to find out how to run your own, visit the website at [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com) or contact Caroline Rams or Leena Patel in the Big Lunch Press Office on 020 7307 3104.



## Feedback from recent Community Forums

**Eddisbury** – met on 1<sup>st</sup> June at Sandiway Church Hall, its first meeting following the Council's decision to separate Gowy and Eddisbury Community Forum on a pilot basis for 12 months. This inaugural meeting was well supported by Local Council representatives, community groups and members of the public who heard about how to set up and become involved in Homewatch schemes in their local neighbourhoods. The Council's Waste Management and Streetscene officers gave an update on the forthcoming consultation on recycling and waste collections.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September (venue to be confirmed).

**Northwich West & Abbey** – met on 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Leftwich Community Primary School and heard from the Council's Road Safety and Sustainable Transport Manager, Anna Geroni, on the work that the Council and partners are undertaking to improve road safety, focusing on the principles of engineering, enforcement and education. The Forum also heard about a number of proposals currently being considered in line with the recommendation of the recent speed limit reviews.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (venue to be confirmed).

**City Community Forum** – met on 14<sup>th</sup> June at Wesley Methodist Church where Cllr Tom Parry (Community Forum Chairman) and Cllr Mike Jones (Council Leader) responded to concerns raised by local residents around city traffic and parking issues. Inspector Ian Thorp gave an update on community safety in the city, a safe place to live and visit according to reduced crime figures for the area. Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service provided updates on its proactive approach to fire prevention in the area. Following discussion, presentations were received on:-

- ⇒ the future of waste collection and recycling across the borough, encouraging everyone to complete the survey delivered to their home; and
- ⇒ the Cheshire West and Chester Cultural Business Plan 2010/2011, outlining the service vision to make the borough economically and culturally richer by using 'culture' as the catalyst to drive economic, social and community regeneration.

**Date of next meeting:** A 'special' meeting has been arranged for **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July**, 6.00pm, at the Quaker Meeting House, Chester to give attendees an opportunity to view plans around "*Chester Central – a new business quarter for a world class historic city*".

**Northwich East, Shakerley and Marbury** – met on 15<sup>th</sup> June at Byley Village Hall (specifically for the rural areas) and the meeting began with a regular Police update from Inspector Paul Loughlin on performance figures relating to local crime and anti-social behaviour. It was noted that there was a 3% drop in crime within the rural areas and Paul answered a range of questions relating to rural crime. Helen de Lemos, the Council's Senior Waste Strategy Manager, encouraged the Forum to have its say on the future of recycling and waste collection in the borough by completing the consultation survey delivered to households. The Forum also received an overview of the Council's new Community Enforcement Team which, from May, has seen front-line staff from several Council services (including Community Safety, Streetscene and Parking) come together as one multi-skilled team in a totally new way of working. A further Forum was held on 7<sup>th</sup> July at Northwich Memorial Hall where urban area residents could also consider the items mentioned above.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October (Northwich Memorial Hall).

**Winsford** – met on 16<sup>th</sup> June at Winsford Library where Steve Bakewell, the Council’s Senior Waste Collection Manager, updated on progress with a major consultation exercise into the harmonisation of waste collection and recycling services in West Cheshire. Ann Moore, Head of Achievement at the Council, presented an update on the consultation into the closure of two high schools in Winsford including the timetable for key decisions.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September (venue to be confirmed).

**Boughton Heath, Vicars Cross and Overleigh** – met on 16<sup>th</sup> June at St Luke’s Church, Huntington and received an overview of how the Chester Health Living Centre, which will be based in Blacon, will operate on a hub and spoke basis and thus provide a service to all areas. This new centre will provide outreach service in local communities on a bespoke “as needed” basis, providing a wide range of services. The future of recycling and waste collection was also discussed at length, with residents being encouraged to return the consultation survey forms recently delivered to every household. Police and Community Safety Wardens provided updates on how they are tackling anti-social behaviour.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (venue to be confirmed).

**Central, Grange, Westminster and Rossmore** – met on 21<sup>st</sup> June at Ellesmere Port Civic Hall and residents raised a number of issues affecting their quality of life which they hope can be addressed, including taxis and Asda vans parking in the cycle lane/lay-by on McGarva Way; the need for the hedgerows in Sutton Way to be cut (it was noted this won’t take place until the end of August due to nesting birds); and youngsters using a piece of green space at Wellesley Avenue to ride their bikes. The Council’s Community Engagement officers from the Ellesmere Port Area team are now working with the youngsters to identify a suitable area for a cycle ramp. In addition, the potential loss of Ambulance service between 9pm and 9am was raised. Finally, the future of recycling and waste collection across the borough was discussed.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September (venue to be confirmed).

**Broxton** – met on 26<sup>th</sup> June as part of the Rural West ‘Health Promotion Day’ in partnership with NHS Western Cheshire – see article on page 3.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September (High Street Church, Malpas).

**Groves, Whitby, Sutton and Manor** – met on 30<sup>th</sup> June at St Thomas and All Saints Church, Ellesmere Port where Ian Mealor, the Council’s Waste Collection Manager, gave an overview of the Council’s waste collection and recycling consultation currently underway. Residents were encouraged to complete and return the consultation forms delivered to every household and “have their say”. There was also a discussion on the proposed Academy and it was noted that a future meeting will be held to discuss this in more detail.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September (venue to be confirmed).

**Hoole, Upton & Newton** – met on 5<sup>th</sup> July at the University of Chester, Kingsway Buildings and received a presentation from Chester Performs on their Summer programme. There was an update on the Lightfoot Lodge and Woodfield site consultations and attendees were also encouraged to have their say on the future of recycling and waste collections. Louise Chambers (Chester & District Housing Trust) also answered questions on a proposal to develop a Sheltered Housing Scheme at Adherne House in Upton.

The Community Forum also hosted a public meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June at Hoole Community Centre regarding issues at the Narrows Community Park in Hoole. It was well attended by residents who enjoy using the park but have concerns about its maintenance amongst other issues. A list of actions and a way forward is now being developed, including a community litter pick, thinning of trees and bushes and improvements to the park’s entrance.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September (Upton High School).

**Blacon** – met on 6<sup>th</sup> July at Holy Trinity Church Hall where Councillors were presented with two petitions from local residents. One relating to the charges for bulk collection items and the other around proposals to close Blacon Day Centre. The meeting also included presentations on the Low Carbon Communities project, the future of recycling and waste collections in the borough and the new Blacon Quality Bus Partnership which is due to be launched at the end of August. The Police and Community Safety Wardens gave progress updates and there was feedback from a recent meeting looking at Access to Care for Older People from local resident and Vintage Blacon representative, Brendan Doyle.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September (One Voice for Blacon meeting) and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October (Community Forum) both at 5.30pm at Blacon High School, Community Wing.

## Forthcoming Community Forum Dates

As we go to print, the following Community Forums are due to take place as follows:-

<b>Frodsham, Helsby and Weaver</b>	<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July, 7.00pm, Frodsham Scout Hall, Overton</b>
<b>Mickle Trafford</b>	<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 6.30pm, The Oaks, Long Green, Barrow, Chester</b>
<b>City</b>	<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July, 6.00pm, Quaker Meeting House, Frodsham Street, Chester</b> <i>‘Special’ meeting to give residents the opportunity to view plans around “Chester Central – a new business quarter for a world class historic city”.</i>

### **FEEDBACK.....your views or news**

Your comments on this bulletin, or any partnership news you would like to share, should be forwarded to either:-

Alistair Jeffs, Head of Policy, Performance, Partnerships & Transformation

E-mail: [alistair.jeffs@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.jeffs@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

or

Julie Gill, Head of Resources

E-mail: [julie.gill@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:julie.gill@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

What to look forward to in **August's** edition 19:-

- ⇒ **Launch of the DORIC (Data Observatory and Research & Intelligence Collaborative) Phase 1 Observatory – bringing together on-line information sources**
- ⇒ **Feedback from the latest West Cheshire Together LSP meeting**
- ⇒ **News on recent Youth Parliament activity**
- ⇒ **Area Asset Management Plan progress**
- ⇒ **Health Impact Assessment Policy and Screening**