

Team Winsford and Rural East

An Update from the Winsford and Rural East Area Working Team

Issue: 2 | August 2011



Welcome to the latest publication of the Winsford and Rural East newsletter providing a summary of the latest work of the Area Working Team.

Children and Young People

Leaving School Drop In

The Area Working Team working in partnership with Connexions held a leaving school drop in for young people to gain information, advice and guidance on range of issues related to leaving school. The event was supported by Mid Cheshire College, Skills Junction, and Changing Lives in Cheshire with Connexions Advisers available on the day to give first hand advice.

Junior Wardens

Junior Wardens from Greenfields Park joined Weaver Vale Housing Trust staff on their annual Neighbourhood Stroll which aims at addressing environmental issues including graffiti, vandalism and external repairs.

The aim of the Junior Neighbourhood Warden Scheme is to give youngsters the opportunity to make a difference to the neighbourhoods in which they live. The Junior Warden Scheme is designed to develop a sense of pride amongst young people by encouraging them to join in fun activities that benefit the community.

Wardens visited the Trusts Headquarters at Gadbrook Park in Northwich to report the issues that they identified on the stroll. These issues included reports of graffiti and the wardens were able to take part in a graffiti removal demonstration with the support of staff from Streetscene at Cheshire West and Chester.

The event was a great success and the young people involved gained a better understanding of the role of Weaver Vale Housing Trust, working in partnership and the importance of making a positive contribution to their local community.

Community Strolls

The Winsford and Rural East Area Working Team took part in area community strolls which began on 7th June on Crook Lane Estate, 9th June on the Dene Estate, moving to Over Estate on 5th July, Wharton Gardens on 12th July finishing with the Greenfields stroll on 9th August.

The strolls were supported by the Highways and Streetscene departments, PCSOs, Elected Members and Town Councillors, working in partnership with Weaver Vale Housing Trust. Having so many partners ensures that the issues raised are dealt with quickly and efficiently. They are organised to identify and address the issues that have been raised by residents in the area and also to flag up any potential future issues. Some of the issues raised were around street lights, highway maintenance, fly tipping and particular housing issues. A cat was found malnourished and ill treated at a property on Park Avenue details were taken and passed to the Animal Health & Welfare Team who dealt with the situation via the RSPCA. Another stroll is planned for the Gravel Estate to take place during September 2011.

A rural stroll took place in Cuddington on 14th June with members of the Parish Council, internal partner departments and the local PCSO. Issues raised in this area were overgrown shrubs and trees and carriageway problems which were dealt with by the Streetscene and highways departments. Other issues raised were around parking problems outside the Primary school and possible sale of vehicles from a domestic property.

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West Winsford Update

The Greenfields Park Residents Association and community volunteers from GGO (Glebe Green, Greenfields and Over) West Winsford held a fun day at the 'Dig It – Growing Together' community kitchen garden project off Finsbury Walk.

Activities included a tombola, a tuck shop run by the younger people on the estate, a bouncy castle, wild meadow planting, live music and a Barbeque.

The event was all about celebrating the success of initiatives such as the Dig It – Growing Together project, which has helped to bring the local community together to do something really positive that will benefit people living on the estate.

"It was also an opportunity to look forward and see what further initiatives can be done in Greenfields in the future to bring the community even closer together," said Georgia Winstanley, Neighbourhood Development Officer for Weaver Vale Housing Trust.

The kitchen garden is being led by the Greenfields Residents' Association, with support from Cheshire West and Chester Council, Weaver Vale Housing Trust and Enterprise and Education Alliance.

Installed in December, the garden includes raised planting beds, an orchard for growing and selling organic fruit and vegetables and an area to help nurture wildlife.

Talkabout!

Volunteers are working hard on the next edition of Winsford's Community newsletter 'Talkabout!' The autumn issue, which is set to be released in October, will be the newspaper's second issue to date.

The community newspaper provides the people of Winsford with good news stories from the area and an up to date 'what's on' guide for a whole host of positive activities and events in and around Winsford.

'Talkabout!' has been developed by WINCAP and volunteers with support from the Winsford and Rural East Area Team and funding from the Winsford and Rural East Area Partnership Board.

Mark Baker, Volunteer Coordinator at WINCAP said, "We're very proud of the great work put in by all the volunteers who are just about to release the Autumn issue. We want residents of Winsford to be totally involved in this community newspaper so the more positive stories and activities, the better! We also need to make Talkabout! self-sustaining through the sale of advertising space so we urge businesses to get in touch as we offer very competitive rates".

