

Willenhall Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 8th November 2006

Community Action Groups

Purpose of the Report

To provide an update on the progress of the Community Action Groups

Recommendations

1. For LNP members to continue in attendance at the Community Action Group meetings.
2. For the LNP to note progress of Community Action Groups
3. For CAG chairs to feedback on progress at the next LNP meeting

Update

Since the last LNP 1 CAG have taken place:

11th October – Health & People CAG:

This CAG looked at regeneration initiatives taking place in Walsall as a borough and local developments specific to Willenhall.

Environmental regeneration officers covered regeneration programmes such as the district regeneration plans, corridors developments and Walsall Town Centre plans.

Plans directly affecting Willenhall included:

- Black Country key way
- Portobello Roundabout
- Willenhall War Memorial
- Lane Head (Short Heath) War Memorial
- Forest Gate (New Invention)

A more detailed action and notes sheet is enclosed.

Future CAG'S

CAG's taking place before the next LNP:

1. 16th November 2006 – Safer and Stronger CAG, 6pm-8pm @ Community Offices, The Square, New Invention, Willenhall. WV12 5EA
2. 13th December 2006 – Health & People CAG 6pm-8pm, Venue TBC

Contact Officer

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Community Action Group Action Sheet

LNP: Willenhall

CAG: Health and People

Date: 11th October 2006

Pledge: To keep up to date and influence future developments

Issue	Action	By whom
<u>Short Term</u> (within 3 months)		
<u>Relocation of the Portobello War Memorial</u> Majority of the community cannot access the New Invention war memorial site. The improvements will consider -A general clean up -Additional fencing around the site -Restoration of steel fencing	Invite local community to seek their views on this. Set appropriate dates and times for consultation	Cherry Shine
Enhancements to the Willenhall War Memorial	Involve the LNP in consultation activities including the 'market day' consultation event for the enhancements	Jo Nugent
Willenhall LNP projects	Progress project ideas at the next SSC CAG	Simon Tranter/Gurdeep
Present project ideas to main LNP	Form a brief update for the LNP meeting on 8 th November outlining project details	Simon Tranter/Parpinder Singh

Community Action Group Action Sheet

Accompanying Notes: Please note these are notes and not minutes for the CAG and are intended to give you a brief update.

Update on Previous Actions

Support to concerts at memorial park

The portfolio holder has requested the cabinet include the cost for this in their budgets process, with the assistance from the friends groups.

Walsall Housing Group (WHG)

Raj Singh provided a presentation on WHG Developments and Policies to the LNP; copies of the presentation are available on request.

Project for Young People

Nigel Patterson has submitted a bid on behalf of the Youth Services to the LNP funding pot. The cost of the project is currently being negotiated.

Street pride Schedule and Budgets

Awaiting information

Regeneration in Walsall- Simon Tranter

The Borough wide context: Regeneration in Walsall

Instances of Regeneration initiatives have included clearing litter in hotspot areas, transforming derelict sites and enhancing local focal points by improving the lighting on buildings.

There are 3 key areas for regeneration in Walsall, these include:

- 1) Walsall Town Centre
- 2) Districts
- 3) Corridors

Design guide and planning process by the Walsall Regeneration Company need resolution from the LNP in future

In total there are 53 projects in the borough and these will need to be prioritised, Factors are dependent upon match funding and deliverability of projects.

Community Action Group Action Sheet

The local context: Regeneration in Willenhall

Black Country key way

Suggestions to raise the standard of the keyway around the Black Country Route to M6 Junction 10 were discussed. This included replacing overgrown shrubs/planting along the keyway with more structural landscaping, such as distinct art features and high quality advertising screens.

Portobello Roundabout

Improvements to the roundabout and the Assa Abloy site can provide an attractive gateway to Walsall by hard landscaping (replacing shrubs and grass verges with hard paving), As well as introducing an innovative Artscape project, where the community is involved in choosing an appropriate local theme and design to the public art feature.

Willenhall War Memorial

As part of the work being undertaken within the district centre, initial designs were discussed and examples of previous public realm work were shown to highlight the enhancements proposed for the War Memorial. Consultation, supported and undertaken in partnership with the LNP is planned for November 2006- this will include the LNPs idea to utilise the market as a place to reach the wider community.

Lane Head (Short Heath) War Memorial

A site visit has been taken to the site by regeneration officers to appreciate the works required at the site in view of the LNPs desire to fund improvements works (£5k) at this site. This has resulted in the damaged pergola being made safe by the Establishment Service. Further maintenance works are planned. Regeneration officers suggested that it was essential for the maintenance works to be completed before the LNP viewed what other enhancement works could be undertaken with their funding.

Forest Gate (New Invention)

Officers from the Green spaces service undertook a site visit with members of the New Invention Community Forum. An application for funding is being made by the Forum to the Local Area Agreements Green spaces fund that if successful will bring additional funding to that already approved by the LNP (£5). Regeneration officers have agreed to bring an update of the progress of this improvement project to the next CAG.

A detailed report is available on request.

Date of Next Meeting : Safer and Stronger Community Action Group, 16th November, 6.00pm-8.00pm at the Community Offices, The Square, New Invention, Willenhall. WV12 5EA

: Health and People Community Action Group, 13th December, 6.00pm-8.00pm. (Venue to be confirmed)