

Report to Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall – Shelfield Area Panel

Draft Area Community Plan Refresh 2014-15

Tuesday, 15 July 2014

1. Context

1.1 On 8 April 2013, Walsall Council approved 'The Walsall Plan 2013 - 16' – the Sustainable Community Strategy for the Borough. This sets out a three year vision for Walsall as a “great place to live, learn and invest”. The Walsall Plan identifies four strategic priorities;

- Supporting businesses to thrive and supporting local people into work
- Improving health including well-being and independence for older people
- Creating safe and sustainable communities
- Improving safeguarding and the learning and life chances for children and young people

1.2 In order to inform the public of Area Partnership activity, a summarised Area Plan document for each Area Partnership has been drafted. The draft summarised Area Plan for Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall – Shelfield Area Partnership is attached at appendix 1.

1.3 The Area Community Plan summary document contains details of activity undertaken across the Area Partnership together with planned activity for the future.

1.4 The Area Community Plan summary document for the Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall – Shelfield Area Partnership is submitted to the Area Panel for their consideration, noting it highlights for Elected Members and the community, the range of activity undertaken in their locality, in accordance with the multi-agency arrangements put in place for Area Partnerships.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Draft Area Community Plan summary document be approved, with amendments to the final version to be agreed by the Chair and Vice Chair.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 It is anticipated that the Area Community Plan summary document will be updated on an annual basis, to ensure Elected Members and the community are kept informed.
- 3.2 The Area Community Plan summary document will be made available by the end of July 2014, in print and on-line, to inform of the work of Area Partnerships.

Ranjit Kaur, Area Manager – Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall – Shelfield
Communities and Public Protection
01922 653710 / 07983 612389
kaurranjit@walsall.gov.uk

Supporting Business to thrive and supporting local people into work

- Networking event to raise awareness of activities & clubs in the areas
- Brownhills in bloom to enhance Brownhills Town centre and attract more footfall into the area
- Regeneration of some areas by whg will see more properties on Silver Court Gardens site, potentially Silver Street and redevelopment at Radford Drive, Shelfield, previously a garage site
- Promotion of Walsall Works apprentice scheme programme
- Job clubs run by local community Associations going from strength to strength, providing local support for local residents

Improving Health including well-being and independence for older people

- Health watch events held across the Partnership to raise awareness
- Volunteers at Manor Farm CA trained in Brief Intervention and Briefing Advice to ask the right questions and refer on to the appropriate agencies when recognises symptoms of alcoholism
- DUST (drugs and alcohol screening tool) IYPSS colleagues trained in the use of this tool, helping front line worker to identify substance misuse and respond by referring to the relevant agencies
- Learning Education centre, along with Healthy Weight team, linked up together to deliver sessions to local primary schools on healthy eating, drugs and alcohol awareness
- Installation of gym equipment in two parks to help toward improving health of all communities

Creating safe, sustainable and Inclusive communities

- Bogus Caller delivered across the whole Area Partnership with Partners aimed at the vulnerable in the community
- Encouraging and supporting local schools on the Forest learning involving parents and children to enhance their learning of the surrounding environment and increase their appreciation of their surroundings
- Grass verge programme in Rushall to convert verge to create additional parking in the area.
- Safer Walsall Question event held in March at Shelfield Academy with Senior Representatives from Various organisations on the Panel to answer questions from the audience

Improving Safeguarding, Learning and the life chances for children and young people.

Enhancing life in the community project run at Elmwood school in cooking on a budget, hairdressing and beauty taster sessions, general DIY

- Performance in Education delivered at Shelfield Academy and Brownhills, a hard hitting drama performances depicting the impact of drugs and alcohol to young people and their families

- A number of young people have become Youth Inspectors from the Area Partnership have been trained and will visit youth centres and use their influence in shaping the future of provision in the borough

Brownhills

- Brownhills common saw restoration works to preserve heath land and the Site of Special Scientific, reduction of trees on some sites on the location
- Friends of Brownhills common group established
- Litter bin installed at Clayhanger common due to requests from the Local Street Champions in the area
- Refurbishment of Holland Park
- Holland Park Skate Park was redecorated by the young people to make it more appealing
- Community Payback undertook litter picks in Coppice Side and Coppice Lane to improve a blighted area
- Bollards installed on The Parade to prevent further parking damaging the grassed area
- Young people from Goldmine Studio painted bins, bollards and benches along the High Street
- Junior Youth club and Senior Youth Clubs established in Brownhills West
- Resident Group set up on Brownhills west

Pelsall

- Launch of the Food Bank at Pelsall Methodist Church
- Car crime packs delivered to raise awareness of drivers to keep their vehicles safe
- Young people at Pelsall Youth Club, attended Pelsall Hall Home to sing to the residents at Christmas, helping to break down barriers
- Work with St Michaels school, Radleys School to set up Forest learning, outdoor educational programme
- Community social worker based at Pelsall Medical Centre, Wednesday Mornings, to support Health professional, GP's and local residents
- Community Payback cut back shrubs by Church Road gardens to help improve environment
- Pelsall Village Centre car park improvements outside the building

Rushall – Shelfield

- Additional parking spaces created at Stanley Road, Rushall
- Installation of gym equipment at Rushall Park and general improvements to the park, such as to the footpaths and additional footpaths created around the park
- Skip day held at Friary Crescent, in excess of 15 tonnes of waste was disposed of .
- Rushall Park improvements – a number of consultations events were held at Rushall Community Centre
- Bogus callers and security awareness sessions were held at Labour Club targeting over 200 residents at a time.
- Installation of outdoor gym equipment at High Heath Park, Shelfield