



# Walsall Area Partnerships

## **Brownhills, Rushall-Shelfield & Pelsall Area Partnership Area Manager Report**

**– updated January 2014**

### **Ongoing Updates on the Actions for Brownhills, Rushall-Shelfield &Pelsall Area Plan**

#### **1. Purpose of the report**

This report seeks to inform the elected members of the Brownhills, Rushall-Shelfield & Pelsall Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within Brownhills, Rushall – Shelfield & Pelsall wards. The information in the report was correct at the time of writing, 13th January 2014.

The headings of the work streams have been changed to reflect the four main priorities of the Strategic Walsall Plan, which are as follows:-

- **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- Reducing levels of crime and providing the right Environment for people to live in.**
- **Improving Safeguarding and Life Chances for Children and Young People**





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## 1. Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work

Partners involves – Town centre Management Team, Walsall Area Partnership, Brownhills Town Centre Partnership, Walsall Housing Group, Local Primary Schools

- a. **Brownhills Town centre Christmas event** – was extremely well attended and attracted residents from other areas of the borough which in turn increased footfall into the town centre.
- b. **Brownhills West Hub** - various ideas are being explored, including the potential of running short courses from Brownhills West Hub such as volunteer's course and Youth Leadership skills course L1 and hopefully getting them to enrol into higher level courses at Walsall College or Walsall Adult and Community College. The idea of using the hub as a drop in centre to access advice and guidance to other services is also being considered.

## 2. Improving Health including well being and independence for older people

Partners involved –NHS Walsall, Walsall Housing Group, Walsall Area Partnership, Social Care & Inclusion, IYPSS, Green spaces, Sports and Leisure, Pelsall Medical Centre

**2.1 Community Social Worker** - From the 22<sup>nd</sup> January will see the launch of a pilot from Pelsall Village Centre. A Community Social worker will be based at the medical On Wednesday mornings to work closely with the community nurses and GP's. The Aim being to improve and build closer working relationships with the medical practise , Improve the level of service given to the client, as the nurses & GP's will be able to liaise directly with the Community Social Worker to discuss the appropriate service required for the client and if potential referrals are required.

I am hopefully that I will be able to link the Neighbourhood Community Officer (NCO) into the service.

**2.2 A Christmas Party** was held for the local elderly residents at Rushall Community centre on the 19<sup>th</sup> December by Manor Farm CA as part of the silver scheme project. The party was well attended the elderly in the community and enjoyed by all. They were treated to a choir from a school, a local singer and there was plenty of Christmas cheer to going round.





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## 3 Creating Safe and Sustainable Communities

Partners Involved – ASB unit, IYPSS, WM Police, Walsall Area Partnership, Walsall Housing Group, Trading Standards, Clean & Green services, Countryside services, Friends of Parks groups, whg, Nacro, IYPSS,

**3.1 Apache CCTV** for Brownhills, Rushall-Shelfield & Pelsall -we currently have access to two cameras that can be deployed in the area.

- Camera 1 Highfield Rd North Street, Pelsall
- Camera 2 Ivatt Close, Shelfield
- Camera 3 Pelsall Lane, Rushall (On loan from Area Partnership 2).

**3.2 Pelsall Village centre** – Anti social being caused by groups of young people inside the centre. Some of the individuals have been identified by the police/ Anti social behaviour officer & Police. The individuals will be written too and appropriate course of action will be which may involve Acceptable Behavioural Contracts being considered for the young people involved in the incidents.

**3.3 Bogus caller Campaign** – The whole of the Area Partnership has been targeted jointly with the Police and officers from Trading Standards, to raise awareness of bogus / rogue traders. Areas of high concentration of elderly and vulnerable residents were targeted by Partners. Moving forward Intelligence data will used to identify any hot spot areas that will be needed to be targeted by partners.

**3.4 Rushall Labour Club** – A second information & rising awareness session was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December t the resident of the attendees, to target the elderly who attend a regular show. We were able to target approx. 150 elderly residents from across the Partnership to raise awareness of the darker nights, bogus callers and personal safety.

**3.5 Holland Park, Brownhills** –Work is due to commence this week by JP Landscapes to resurface the drive to the main entrance from the Park view centre, several footpaths within the park and the play area, resurfacing of the safety surface with Nott's sport, removal of old infrastructure around the site (including slabs, crumbling brick planter).  
In addition a programme of winter works will be taking place including phase 2 thinning of the wooded area by the tennis courts.





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- 3.6 Bin Installation** – In consultation with our Brownhills Street Champions, a Bin has been installed on Brownhills common from across the Bridge on the way to the Clayhanger. A hot spot that had been identified by the Street Champions.
- 3.7 Street Champions** for Brownhills have been extremely active in ensuring that the Clayhanger common has been kept litter free, they have been at times been collecting as much as 10 bags on some occasions. In consultation with Clean & Green services we have been able to arrange a suitable location for the black rubbish bags to be collected by the team. This has helped the Street champions from having to making numerous long journeys with black bags to the collection point.
- 3.8 Rushall Park** the main footpath resurfacing works and entrance improvements are now complete and work is due to start w/c 20<sup>th</sup> Jan to remove the hedge along Rowley Place and replace it with a low trip rail. Work will be completed by end of Month. In addition, bids to the value of £200k have been submitted in partnership with the Friends Group toward a £250k scheme if approved to create a new skate park and provide new key infrastructure including a perimeter health trail.
- 3.9 Verge Parking Update** - following initial consultation a number of car parks were identified by the Area Partnership in conjunction with the Area Panel's. A planning application(s) have been submitted for the proposed car park, residents have been advised via letter w/c 6/1/14 that they will have an opportunity as part of the planning process to comment on the proposal. The time scale if everything goes to plan is as follows:-
- Information plan to the residents week ending 10/1/2013
  - Planning application (submitted 8/1/2014) anticipated determination 6-8 weeks
  - Construction anticipated March 2014 subject to a positive outcome following planning submission
- 3.10 Brownhills West Community Hub** – we have two very successfully youth clubs running from the hub twice a week by NACRO. The youth's groups are strong in membership and continue to engage positively with the youth leaders. We are now working with all the stakeholders in the area, whg community champions, NACRO, Integrated Youth support service (IYPSS) Housing Providers in the area, Brownhills children centre, to look at ways of engaging the wider community, the local residents in utilising the hub more, and potentially setting up a residents group to take ownership of the hub with support from partner agencies. With financial cuts and limited resources various avenues are being explored to ensure long term sustainability of the community hub.
- 3.11 Brownhills Networking event** will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 6pm – 8pm. To bring together local groups to network and discuss potential funding opportunity with the funding officer and Walsall Voluntary Action representatives





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### 4 Improving Safeguarding and Learning Chances for Children and Young People

**4.1 Tony Brown** senior operations lead for Positive Activities has left the Council, we do have an interim colleague in place.

**4.2 Schools** – The Park Ranger is looking to work with a number of Schools in the Partnership in developing a Forest schools project with some of the schools in Rushall and Pelsall area. The idea being to enhance the younger children's perception of the outdoors areas and to encourage them to brace and look after the green spaces that we have, and to think about Environmental impact on our green spaces. It is hoped that we will be able to link into the Turner Woods Trust project, so that schools have a regular facility that they can utilise. Some of the schools governors from the schools involved are looking to meet and see how they will be able to work in partnership to take this forward.

**4.3 Pelsall Youth Club.** – A group of young people from the Pelsall youth club organised a Christmas carol at Pelsall Hall residential home. The vent was enjoyed by the residents of Pelsall Hall. The whole concept was the idea of the young people and they, with help and support from the Senior Youth worker were able to turn the idea into reality. For some of the young people t was quite a confidence building project, as they had never sang, especially in front of an audience partners.

**4.4 Christmas Grotto Brownhills West Hub** - Young People were instrumental in bring Santa's Grotto to Brownhills West. They turned the hub into Santa's Grotto with very little resources. They came up with the concept and worked tirelessly to convert the hub into a magical grotto, with very generous donations from the local residents. The young people learned to work as a team, through task delegations and learnt how to project manage. The project that was enjoyed by all involved and it benefitted the wider community

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