



Walsall Area Partnerships

Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall & Shelfield Area Partnership Area Manager Report - Updated September 2013

Ongoing Updates on the Actions for Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall & Shelfield 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 the area. The information in the report was correct at the time of writing, 16th September 2013.

2. Work Stream Priority – Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

2.1 Partners Involved – Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Unit, Integrated Young People's Support Services (IYPSS), West Midlands Police, Walsall Area Partnership, Walsall Housing Group

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

- Camera 1 Oaklands Way, Pelsall
- Camera 2 currently in storage.

2.2 **IYPSS** continues to provide detached youth work as and where required. Most of the teams have been involved in the summer activities programmes. Generally, overall, the ASB has once again reduced over the summer period.

2.3 To encourage positive activities for young people, each Area Partnership has been offered some activity sessions from the Move Truck and the Reach up Tower. Sessions were provided on the Clayhanger Community Centre.

2.4 **Off-Road Biking** around Rushall and Pelsall has been an issue. A number of section 59 warning notices were issued previously, but this continues to be an issue. The police





Walsall Area Partnerships

continue to monitor the situation closely and are working closely with Bloxwich Neighbourhood Team as the culprits are believed to be from that area.

- 2.5 **Ravens Court** , Brownhills, was an issue, due to the high number of youths causing ASB. However, since the site has been secured by the owners and all entry points have been boarded up, ASB has declined.
- 2.6 **Pelsall Village Centre** – A meeting was held with local residents from Townfold. There were 15 residents in attendance, who were experiencing problems with parking and ASB on the car park. As a result of the meeting, CCTV signage was put up in the car park. Highways were in attendance at the meeting and they were able to give full explanations regarding additional parking bays at Townfold and why certain schemes could not be done. Concerns were also raised about parking at the front of the health centre, hopefully the problem will be resolved as yellow lines will be put down.
- 2.7 **Oakland's Way, Pelsall** – A meeting was held with the residents from Oaklands way. Over 20 residents attended, concerning ASB issues. An action plan was put in place with the ASB Unit and Police, in agreement with local residents and CCTV was deployed in the vicinity.
- 2.8 **Grange Crescent / Hawthorn Road, Shelfield** - There have been several issues raised regarding the alleyway that links Grange Crescent and Hawthorn Road, that include burglary, ASB and overgrown shrubbery on council owned land, opposite the alleyway, being used to store stolen items. A site was held with partners and residents to discuss the issues and agree a way forward, which is to look at a Gating Order, residents to report all incidents of anti social behaviour to the police and to the Anti social behaviour Unit. Shrubby opposite Grange Crescent to be thinned out.

3. Work Stream Priority – Creating Cleaner and Tidier Neighbourhoods

Partners Involved –, Walsall Area Partnership, Clean and Green Services, Countryside Services, Walsall Housing Group, Friends of Parks groups

- 3.1 **Brownhills Common** - A series of consultation events across Brownhills, including schools and at some local events. These are being held to consult on the revised plans for Brownhills Common and to establish interest in setting up a Friends group
- 3.2 **Pelsall Village Centre** - Issues around car parking have been raised by local residents in the area. The car park was not being utilised, as many saw it as a private car park and as a result, were parking outside the Centre which was causing poor visibility for oncoming





Walsall Area Partnerships

traffic from the High Street. Once the road has been re-surfaced, yellow lines will be marked out and signage installed to the car park.

4. Work Stream Priority – Healthy Lifestyles

Partners involved – NHS Walsall, Walsall Housing Group, Walsall Partnership, Extended Schools, Social Care and Inclusion, IYPSS, Clean and Green, Sports and Leisure

4.1 Brownhills West Cherwell Drive Hub - physical activity for elderly in the community such as:

- arm chair exercises
- walk a route
- smoking cessation
- health check event - later this year whereby blood test, diabetes checks, BMI, etc, will be done

4.2 We are looking at the possibility of running aqua natal classes for mums to be and Parent and Toddlers, as there is no such provision in the area. NHS colleagues have spoken to mums and they are keen to see the start of such an activity, which will help to encourage a healthier lifestyle and encourage toddlers to continue to take up swimming.

4.3 Identification and Briefing Advice session was arranged for front line staff of silver keys project, the community social worker and the Neighbourhood Community officer. to help them identify individuals who are at risk of heavy alcohol intake, to recognise the signs and ask the right questions to identify and to referral onto the relevant service.

5. Work Stream Priority – Positive Activities for Young People

5.1 Gym equipment was been installed at High Heath Park, Shelfield. This has been very positively received by both young people and residents in the area.

5.2 Skate Park at Rushall Park - There has been a demand from young people for a skate park in the area. In consultation with partners, Friends of Rushall Park and Rushall Development Group, we have now arranged some dates to carry out consultation with the wider community on the proposals for Rushall Park. IYPSS have already undertaken consultation with students at Shelfield Academy and will be looking to follow up on the consultation. A group of young people have already come together to form a steering





Walsall Area Partnerships

group and we have received interest from other young people in Rushall who want to be involved with the development of this project.

- 5.3 Brownhills West Community Hub - NACRO has taken over the provision of delivering positive activities for younger children on Monday evenings and continue to build on the good work of the detached IYPSS team.
- 5.4 Junior Street Champions – This was launched in the Partnership in May and prior to the end of term, the two schools took up the invitation to have Partners come to the school to talk to the young people about a variety of issues, including environmental issues and ASB .The two sessions were held at the New Leaf Centre and at Pelsall Village School. The sessions were well received by both schools and the New Leaf Centre has asked us to come back and do additional sessions with the young people. At Pelsall Village School, two year groups were covered and they were very interesting sessions. The children from the classes wrote in after our visit highlighting concerns, including graffiti, dog fouling, drug taking, bullying and so forth. I plan to return to the school later in the term and let the young children know how Partners intend to tackle some of the issues that they have raised.

We will be looking to contact the Primary schools again to take up the Junior Street Champion initiative.

6. Work Stream Priority – Support for Elderly

- 6.1 Launch of a newsletter aimed at the elderly. At the moment, the newsletter is e-mailed out to those on e-mails. We want to make the newsletter a regular item that we can send out hard copies to all elderly in the Partnership, with useful information about benefits, clubs, tips, etc . We want to encourage more elderly residents to contribute towards the contents of the newsletter with their life experiences and knowledge
- 6.2 The community garden, *Growzone* in Rushall, which is run and managed by the elderly and is steadily growing in numbers. The gardeners have developed their own network and share tips and help each other. The fruit and vegetables are used in the kitchen at Manor Farm Community Association.
- 6.3 Looking to introduce some light physical activity into the coffee morning with the support of NHS lifestyle team

Other Activity :-





Walsall Area Partnerships

- The Knock Out event on Holland Park, held on the 10th August, raised over £600 for the Air Ambulance
- Brownhills Community Association also held a open day on the 10th August, supported by Walsall Housing Group, Fire Service, Sea Cadets. Over 500 people attended
- Pelsall Children's Centre will be launching an L2 qualification for young parents in beauty, to be run from the centre
- Working with Elwood school, Manor Farm Community Association and Pelsall Children Centre, to bring back into use the vocational centre at Elmwood School, which has not been used, looking at the feasibility of opening up the vocational centre to the public. The vocational centre houses kitchen facilities, hair dressing salon training centre and carpentry centre. The intention is to bring in young parents to learn new skills and gain some qualifications whilst the Children Centre will look at providing support to parents via crèche facilities, with opportunities to do family workshops around healthy cooking. The potential is there to deliver short courses to young parents and the community, with Manor Farm helping with transport and tutors.

Report Author:

Ranjit Kaur
Brownhills, Rushall- Shelfield & Pelsall Area Manager
☎ 01922 653710
✉ kaurranjit@walsall.gov.uk

