

Community Partnership Meeting – 16th November 09
held at Sketty Park and District Community Centre, 7pm

Those Present

Barbara McGill – Resident, Johanna Davies – Group Gwalia, Mandy Harvey – Parkland church, Maggie Wood – Hanover Parkland, Ray Morgan – Resident, Albert Rogers – Resident, Louise Johnson – Resident, Brian White – Resident, Orla Banville – CCS Play Team, Valerie Horlick – Resident, Julia Mitchell – Resident, Alexandra Aspinwall – PCSO, Andy Evans – Youth Service, Vicky Morris – Youth Service, Cheryl Philpott – Councillor, Fred Lerwell – PCSO, Paul Meara – Councillor, Peter – Resident, Claire Jones – Communities First, Jason Williams – Communities First, Nasir Shahzad – Communities First.

Apologies

Sarah Mann (Hazel Court Manager), Claire Smith (LASA Manager), Phil Davies (keep Wales Tidy), David Evans (Social Services).

Welcome to the meeting:

Jason Williams opened the meeting with welcome and introductions.

Introduction to Communities First

Jason Williams gave further explanation of the Communities First Programme, stating that it is the Welsh Assembly Government's flagship Programme to improve the living conditions and prospects for people in the most disadvantaged communities across Wales. Sketty Park is identified as a Communities First area with the team having been appointed for a confirmed period of 3 years. Jason further said that local residents decide the priorities and needs that their communities face and are assisted to make changes happen by working with different organisations, Service Providers and local residents.

On the 27th of July 09, Communities First held a community meeting in Sketty Park, where we considered local concerns and issues, discussed work that could bring benefit to the community and looked at local needs and priorities. Sketty Park residents, who were able to attend, identified the work that Communities First should address locally as priority.

The top four priorities identified in the meeting were:-

- Youth Provision and Facilities
- Substance Misuse problems (drugs and alcohol)
- Employment, Training and Learning
- Community Safety & PACT

These priorities and comments were taken to a service providers and local organisation's forum in late October 09. The priorities were then matched with existing service provision available and suggestions were made on how these organisations can work together to bring benefit to Sketty Park.

Work Programme

Jason Williams explained that all the information from the meetings has been put into the draft Work Programme which is attached. This programme will be finalised and submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government in February.

Jason spoke through the main areas of the Work Programme highlighting points and targets, which were then discussed within the group. Please see attached Work Programme for further details.

Questions and Answers

Jason Williams asked the partnership about their thoughts and any question arising.

- It was suggested that some of the targets were set in the distant future; and they could be brought earlier for those who are ready to get involved now.

Jason Williams replied that if there are enough people to involve themselves then we can establish work and achieve targets earlier. At the point of drafting the work programme, he felt it more appropriate to set achievable dates. He further said this is where the community can help to take matters forward through their involvement.

- Councillor Philpott asked who will be in a safety action forum or PACT Panel. Jason Williams explained that the PACT Panel would be developed in partnership with the police; this panel would work at driving forward the priorities of the PACT meetings and running future meetings. Membership could not be decided by Communities First.
- Johanna Davies (Group Gwalia) asked if available facilities were outside of the Communities First area how we would increase local accessibility. Jason Williams replied that Sketty Park is a geographically small area; if provision and facilities are outside of the area we would look to see if it is feasible to bring services closer. If that were not possible we would work to encourage better access opportunities..
- Maggie Wood (Hanover Parkland) said that she had discussed intergenerational activities with Jason Williams; and suggested we use the Community Centre for a future intergenerational forum that will develop future activities. This will be a focus for the Communities First partnership's work during 2010.
- Councillor Philpott asked of the potential of getting more organisations included in the Work Programme?

Jason Williams replied that there are many more organisations involved in Communities First, than those listed in the 'potential partners' column. The list of organisations listed in the initial draft were included from the previous partnership meeting as having given specific entries into the Work Programme. Jason accepted that this list might have suggested only those detailed were involved in the work but stated that this was certainly not the case. This 'potential partners' column as a result will be removed to avoid possible misunderstanding.

- A resident asked the question on how much time is required by individuals to put into any groups if they were to get involved?
- Jason Williams stated that any person could give whatever time they wished to. Attendance of the meetings may be felt enough time for some to give, while others may want to get more involved in specific work. All of those involved in, whatever amount of time they give, are automatically entitled to free training and support.
- A resident referred to the Credit Union claiming 'we had it before and it didn't work'. It was recognised that a Communities First partnership would be able to better support a future provision, to make it a success.

- A resident asked if a food co-op could be setup. Jason Williams replied that we have had talks with the Rural Regeneration Unit concerning this possibility. We are keen to ensure that local shops are familiar with and support fully the concept of a local food co-op. Jason will follow this up and bring it to a future partnership meeting for discussion.
- Orla, City and County of Swansea Play Team, asked if this document will be provided to businesses, shops and local organisations.
Jason said we had a meeting on 27th July and 37 people attended that meeting, and in the October meeting we had 15 service providers attend. We will continue to contact people for meetings, and constantly keep everyone involved. This Work Programme will be circulated to local organisations and businesses.
- A resident suggested that there needs to be a family support service for families suffering from substance misuse.
Jason Williams said we are looking into the available services and opportunities, and would welcome input and guidance from others in this and all the issues raised within the partnership meetings.

Jason Williams said that we are currently working with local people, agencies, organisations and the Council to achieve long lasting benefits for Sketty Park. For this to be fully effective, we need community involvement. Those in attendance were asked to complete a registration form stating their particular interests on the registration form provided.

Training

Claire Jones, Communities First Development Worker, said that we will give support and training to help all involved be a part of this local work and the Communities First process. Claire further said in the next 2 months we would hold information sessions on various training opportunities. These will include committee skills, community development, intergenerational work, book keeping, events management and organisation, and others. Contact Claire or Jason for further information on 284740.

Next Step

Jason Williams said this is the draft work programme if you want to find out more, please contact us by phone on 284740 or call into our office: 134 Clyne Court, Sketty Park. Jason Williams reminded the group that the Work Programme will be submitted to WAG in February so if there are any concerns or additions felt necessary; please contact Jason as soon as possible to discuss before this document is submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government.

Any Other Business

Julia Mitchell mentioned that the Salvation Army concert is open to every one and it's free. Contact the Community Centre for further details. Julia also mentioned that the Christmas Fayre is on 5th of December from 11am and encouraged all to attend..

Next Meeting

Monday 18th January 7pm at Community Centre Sketty Park.

**NOTE: THE NEXT MEETING TIME AND VENUE HAVE CHANGED TO:
Parklands Church, Maes y Gollen, Sketty Park. SA2 8HQ
at 6pm on the 27^h of January.**