



Communities First Report  
Sketty Park – October 2010

The Sketty Park Communities First work has continued well, despite staff shortages. Claire Jones, our development worker, left the team to move on to Penlan Communities First. After three long and busy months, Orla Banville has now started with us. Orla has attended previous meetings, representing the local authority's Play Team, so will be a familiar face to many.

The partnership has developed well with an increased sense of ownership demonstrated by its members, particularly in projects and work such as I Love Sketty Park, digital inclusion activities, work around children and young people, and residents associations.

**AREA OF WORK: Jobs, Business and Income Generation**

The Swansea Workway/Gateway project is now well underway with Communities First across Swansea. Sketty Park has so far referred three people into this project with the Communities First team looking at ways to develop joint work that will increase the support available from this project's workers to local residents. Potential options include a local job's fair day, employment preparation support through drop in surgery sessions, and CV workshops.

The development of a local IT consortium looks promising with a number of organisations and community groups already stating positive support and commitment to such an initiative. If all goes well, we could have local computer training, access to computers and the Internet at various locations, with local support work early next year. This consortium holds potential to provide local access to IT, learning and employment support. The first joint meeting to develop this initiative takes place November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Olchfa School.

The Max Your Money Project, run in partnership with the Swansea Financial Inclusion Steering Group, is due to deliver its first stage of local work – Energy Promotion. The work will involve a community engagement vehicle, door knocking and visits to local groups, to promote energy efficiency and the associated savings. See additional paperwork for further details.

Early next year, our second stage of the Max Your Money initiative will include promoting a local Credit Union (CU) facility. Please do contact us if you will be able to take part in a local CU, open an account or find out more.

### **AREA OF WORK: Education and Training**

We had a successful 6 weeks of IT training during August and September. Since this ended, we have had IT training being offered by Parkland Primary School from 2.15 until 3.15pm on a Friday (next date 5th of November).

We have also arranged for a four week basic IT course at the Sketty Park & District Community Centre – 18th & 25th November, 2th & 9th Dec December (10-12 am). You will need to bring your own laptops, one for two people. This will hopefully take place at the community centre. Plus, on the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th of January, there will be a separate 4 week course which will require Internet access. We will most likely look to run this out of another venue (school or church).

All are invited to attend. Please let us know on 284740 if you are interested or with any questions.

Plans are now underway to develop Communities First Partnership training, likely to start in the New Year. With the partnership focusing on its development, constitution and establishing sub groups, the opportunities will increase for partnership specific training.

### **Communities First Trust Fund (CFTF)**

Of the £10,000 Communities First Trust Fund money for Sketty Park, the current status is as follows: Approved - £6,809.32; Pending - £1,677.06; Remaining - £1,513.62.

There is still funding available in the CFTF and we encourage further applications. Note that applications above the £10,000 barrier of available funds, will still be considered, once all other areas have completed their applications. Often money is not spent in other areas and can therefore be made available to our area. Please note the deadline for applications is 31 January 2011

### **AREA OF WORK: Community Safety**

The Safer Sketty Park initiative has not progressed, partly because of staff shortages. The progression of this work should start in December, depending on the availability

of members from the Community Regeneration Unit and the Safer Swansea Partnership. Updates will be given at the next partnership meeting.

The PACT priorities at the last meeting held on 02/09/2010 were:

- Rowdy/Nuisance Neighbours; in particular at Aneurin Close with Youths playing football on the green at the location, annoying residents.

There was a report of anti social behaviour made on 16/09. Patrols carried out on 20/10 and 07/10, spoke to a few residents, youths still playing football in area but no asb reported to police. This is an ongoing problem and residents have been spoken to regarding the matter. The housing officer for the area has also been contacted and is aware of the issue. At this time mediation is in progress. Residents have already been issued with PCSO Fred Lerwell's telephone number (07805 301605) and are to contact him if there are any issues.

The Next PACT meeting is on the 11<sup>th</sup> November at Sketty Park Community Centre starting at 7PM. All members of the community are welcome to attend and highlight concerns or issues they have by bringing it to the attention of the Police, Councillors and other Multi Agency Partners.

The Community Cohesion bid was successful in bringing £5,000 into the area. This fund will now be used by the I Love Sketty Park group to develop workshops in dance, music, arts and local history, with a main celebration event in February of 2011. Support is needed for this work to be a success so please give you name to the Communities First team, or telephone us on 284740.

### **AREA OF WORK: Children and Young People**

The Youth Provision meeting held at Parklands Church recently was successful in highlighting support for facilities and provision to be developed. A lot of data was gathered at the meeting and a planning meeting is to be scheduled for taking identified solutions forward. The analysis of this data has been delayed because of staff shortages, but with the new development worker now in post, we will endeavour to have a summary, together with the planning meeting date, for the next Partnership meeting in December.

The new Outcomes Fund Youth Workers are now in post and the first Youth Workers Network meeting will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November to discuss joint work, the main consultation work recently undertaken and ways to develop local provision and facilities.

## **AREA OF WORK: Health and Well Being**

The Community Cohesion bid's success and the development of the I Love Sketty Park group will make a significant impact on opportunities for involvement from residents in activities that increase a sense of well being.

An Older Persons Forum is planned for November, with activities and consultation due to take place relating to the needs of older people within Sketty Park. This meeting will include light refreshments, entertainment and the chance to organise some local get-togethers. Health and wellbeing activities, such as light exercises, will be considered at this forum.

## **AREA OF WORK: The Environment**

The local Sketty Park Photography Group have worked hard to develop an audit of the local environment and are currently creating a display board, to map out local points of interest, and the good and bad within the area. This work will initially be displayed at the community centre with a planned display at a specifically organised environment event in the near future.

There are plans to develop an area around Clyne Court, into a local community garden, with additional ideas given to support Parkland School in some of their Eco projects.

The Environment Group launch has been delayed because of staff shortages but will hopefully take place before Christmas, with a visit to another community environmental project.



Jason Williams  
Communities First Coordinator for Sketty Park

