



Communities First Summary Report Sketty Park – February 2012

Happy new year to you all. This February we will have the first Partnership meeting of 2012 and one of the last of our meetings under the initial three years of the Communities First programme in Sketty Park. We have achieved a lot as a partnership and look forward to playing a major role in the new cluster.

While final decisions have not been confirmed regarding the future of Communities First in Sketty Park and how we fit into a new cluster, we hope to have a fuller update by our next Partnership meeting.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and attendance of our valuable meetings. Below, you will find an update on some of our work.

Thank you,

Heather Elphick

Sketty Park Communities First Chairperson

Jobs, Business and Income Generation

LASA Credit Union launched a weekly information point at the Sketty Park Community Centre in November with 5 members signing up to on the day. Two local volunteers received training on running Credit Union information points and have been instrumental in seeing this work take off locally. Since its launch, two additional sessions took place but no further members joined the Credit Union by opening accounts. In attempts to make this service more accessible we will be running a campaign to promote the service locally. This campaign will include local leafleting and holding a promotional event outside Parklands Primary School. This campaign will take place at the end of February with the Community Engagement Vehicle set up outside the school on the 5th of March (date to be finalised). This work will coincide with a month of television advertising on ITV, run by LASA.

Education and Training

Sketty Park Online

The Sketty Park Online project continues to be successful, with 153 people so far registered and undertaking learning or access to IT resources since the programme started. There are six months remaining on the project which has ongoing four-week courses in 'Basic IT', 'Beginners Internet', 'Learning to Email', 'Using Skype', and 'Buying and Selling on Ebay'.

Drop in sessions continue across the community with between 4 and 5 people attending each. The Youth Service continues to work with Kevin, our Digital Inclusion Development Tutor, to support the young people in their weekly youth club activities.

The new courses to be run in February will include Mobile Phone Guidance, Photo Editing and Job Searching Online. Work with existing groups include the local Photography Group, Parkway Nursing Home, Slimming World and Rosemary Connelly Clubs in Parklands Church and the Community Centre. Kevin organised training for volunteers – Circuit Rider Train the Trainer – with 7 attending.

Courses and training done this year:

	Registered	Youth Service	Volunteers	Total
<i>Before Sept</i>	67	0	0	67
<i>September</i>	27	0	2	29
<i>October</i>	14	0	3	17
<i>November</i>	16	4	0	20
<i>December</i>	6	4	1	11
<i>January</i>	8	0	1	9
<i>February</i>				0
<i>March</i>				0
<i>April</i>				0
<i>May</i>				0
<i>June</i>				0
				0
	138	8	7	153

A summary of all training delivered in Sketty Park since April of 2011 is as follows:

Change for Life (15 beneficiaries)

Positive Steps (16 beneficiaries)

Sustainable Fund Raising (2 beneficiaries)

IT (Sketty Park Online) (153 beneficiaries)

Photography Courses through out the last year by SBREC (13 beneficiaries)

LASA Credit Union (Training for Volunteers) (2 beneficiaries)

Train the Trainer (IT) (5 beneficiaries).

A total of 191 people have received organised training during this period.

Health and Well Being

The Change4Life programme took place in November with 15 beneficiaries taking cookery and healthy eating classes. The training was well attended and enjoyed by those involved. Following the sessions, personal packs were distributed, including folders of the work each person did and cookery kits. Certificates were awarded to each attendee. Subsequent work will include planning a Health & Wellbeing day in Sketty Park for all interested parties.

Following on from the Change4Life project, the Positive Steps initiative has started. There is good attendance at these sessions with 16 turning up at the last one. Sessions include Keep Fit and Circuit Training.

Working with the City and County of Swansea's 5x60 officer a Community Bike Club will be developed to encourage cycling within the community. Work will take place with the Olchfa School Bike Club, which will lead to the set up of an after school community bike club. Volunteers are needed for this project and there is potential to develop a similar initiative with Parkland Primary School and our local Police Community Support Officers.

Communities First Trust Fund (CFTF)

The £10,000 budget for Sketty Park was completely used up this year. Total applications amounted to £17,813.95 with Clyne Court Residents Association, I Love Sketty Park, Sketty Park Photography Group and Poverty to Purpose Christian Venture all still awaiting a response on their applications. Swansea Storm Basketball Club applied to the fund for a total of £3,965 with £1,486.87 (included above) coming out of Sketty Park budget.

Currently there is no commitment from the Welsh Government to the Communities First Trust Fund becoming available for this next financial year.

Community Safety – Safer Sketty Park

The Safer Sketty Park survey took place in October through to December with 305 people completing surveys. A summary report has been produced and will be available at the Partnership meeting. Feedback was positive with a number of priorities identified, including speeding traffic, lack of road crossings and poor parking. A meeting took place with service providers at the end of January to discuss actions that can now be taken in response to the survey and details will be available in February. The survey was successful in that it raised Sketty Park's profile within the local authority and particularly in its role of making Sketty Park a priority for future road safety work.

Community Cohesion

The 'I love Sketty Park' group continues to work hard at drawing the community together. This year the group's main event will take place in June and they have organised a Valentine's Night of Music for the 14th of February between 7pm and 9pm. The work of this group continues to prove successful in demonstrating how local people are the best advocates for showing off a community's diversity and pride. For details of this night or any of the other events the group is organising, contact Orla on 284740.

Older Persons

The Christmas Older Person Forum event had 50 attendees. The theme for the forum was community safety. We used the event as an opportunity to hand out free safety kits and to

ask local residents aged 50+ for their thoughts and concerns regarding community safety matters in the area of Sketty Park. All feedback collated on the date has been included in the Safer Sketty Park consultation and its summary report.

Financial

The following details a summary of our main operational budgets for the year. For further details, or to discuss this with us, call in to our office at 134 Clyne Court where we will very happy to go through full details

Training - spend to date £ 6,820.55

Premises - spend to date £ 12,854.73

Community Events - spend to date £ 2,284.26

Consultation & Communications - spend to date £ 3,954.60

