



Constituency Committee - Birkenhead

Date:	Thursday, 21 January 2016
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Birkenhead Town Hall

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AGENDA

1. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in connection with any item(s) on the agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 10)

The Committee be requested to approve the accuracy of minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2015.

4. CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S UPDATE REPORT (Pages 11 - 36)

Items to be discussed:

The best use of the anti-social behaviour budget

- Feedback from ASB task group
- Feedback from CCTV visit
- How can the remaining funds be used most effectively to prevent and tackle anti-social behaviour?

Keeping Birkenhead Clean

- Update from the Involve project
- Birkenhead in Bloom 2016
- Clean-up programme for 2016

Feeding Birkenhead

- Your Wirral update
- Feeding Birkenhead update
- Opening of Fareshare depot and application to Your Wirral
- Community Fridges initiative
- Feedback regarding the visit to His Church and The Community Shop
- Food Hub update

2015-16

- Rock Ferry –Vikings Centre/NEO update
- Bidston – Beechwood/St James proposals

Road Safety update

- Birkenhead Road Safety initiatives 2015-16 allocated funding

5. SUGGESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS ON FUTURE WORK

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - BIRKENHEAD

Thursday, 8 October 2015

Present:

Councillor Rt Hon Field MP (Chair)

Councillors	A Brighthouse	P Doughty
	P Cleary	S Foulkes
	A Davies	B Kenny
	G Davies	M McLaughlin
	P Davies	C Meaden
	WJ Davies	D Roberts

11 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Phil Davies and Councillor Chris Meaden declared a personal interest by virtue of them being Non-Executive Directors of Lairdsie Communities Together.

Councillors Steve Foulkes, declared a personal interest by virtue of him being a Board Member of Magenta Living.

12 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and reported that he had, sadly, to report the recent tragic death of Police Constable David Phillips. The Chair asked that, as a mark of respect and remembrance, the audience stand for a minute in silence.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's deepest condolences be offered to his family, friends and colleagues.

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor J Crabtree
Councillor A McLachlan
Councillor J Stapleton
Councillor P Williams
Mr J Blott, Strategic Director, Transformation and Resources
Mr S Tour, Head of Legal and Member Services

14 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2015 be agreed as a correct record.

15 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR BUDGET**

The Chair reported that two bids had been received from Birkenhead Youth Club and Wirral Tennis Centre in relation to the delivery of anti-social behaviour (ASB) activities, it was suggested and agreed that the bids be referred to the ASB Task and Finish Group for further consideration.

The Chair indicated that the Committee had previously received an update on data and action plan in relation to anti-social behaviour (ASB) from Mr Tony Kinsella, Independent Consultant who had been commissioned to undertake analysis in relation to ASB allocation. The Chair asked Members how they wished the funding to be spent and reiterated that at the last meeting it was agreed that funding would be given only to those services that added value in tackling ASB in Birkenhead.

In response to the Chair, a Member indicated in relation to ASB in Shaw Street, a new CCTV system had been installed and fencing had been erected to stop the thorough-through to Borough Road, he felt that the problems on Shaw Street had now been resolved but suggested that this be monitored on a regular basis to ensure no reoccurrence.

A Member raised concern regarding the CCTV system installed at Rock Ferry as it did not seem to be appropriately monitored and there had been recent incidents that had not been captured. She further indicated that the CCTV system in Birkenhead Park was not working, this had been reported and officers would be investigating, she further reported that she would like to see additional CCTV installed in the park due to recent incidents.

In response, Members indicated that CCTV was monitored by both Merseyside Police in Borough Road and Liverpool. The Chair asked the Constituency Manager to ascertain where the CCTV images were monitored; were they monitored 24 hours a day; what proportion of cameras were working and report back to the ASB Task and Finish Group.

A Member raised concern regarding a recent burglary that had occurred at Prenton Primary School; the school had asked if its CCTV system could be included in the monitoring scheme. In response it was reported that if the school was a member of the Community Patrol it would be automatically

monitored as part of the scheme. The Chair asked the Constituency Manager to ascertain information as to which schools had CCTV cameras and had opted into the community patrol service and at what cost and also investigate whether Prenton Primary could be linked up to a monitoring network and report back to the ASB Task and Finish Group.

In relation to CCTV, the Constituency Manager indicated that she had invited Ian Lowrie, Mark Cambourne, Steve Preston and Keith Patterson to the next meeting of the ASB task and Finish Group for a progress update as to how the monitoring system was working.

The Chair asked the Members of the ASB Task and Finish Group to provide a report as to how they feel the ASB budget should be spent and for those recommendations to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee for further discussion.

The Chair further asked the Constituency Manager to report to the Task and Finish Group on the recent trends in ASB at McDonalds, ASDA and Birkenhead Park and liaise with McDonald's and Asda as to whether they would be willing to contribute to funding a Community Support Officer and ascertaining their views on how they feel the money should be spent on tackling ASB in those particular areas and feed back to ASB Task and Finish Group. He also asked that she liaise with Councillor George Davies on his suggestions on how the ASB budget could be spent in Birkenhead Park and feedback to the ASB Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED: That

(1) the Constituency Manager be requested to report back to the ASB Task and Finish Group at its next meeting on the following issues raised by the Committee;

- **Recent trends in ASB at McDonald's, Asda and Birkenhead Park**
- **Suggestions gathered from McDonald's and Asda as to how the ASB budget might be most effectively spent in the town centre, and whether they may contribute funding for a Community Support Officer**
- **Suggestions from Councillor G Davies in relation to ASB Budget spend in Birkenhead Park**
- **Birkenhead's CCTV images – monitoring and proportion of cameras working**
- **Schools which had opted into the Community Patrol service, and at what cost**

- (2) **the Constituency Manager be requested to invite representatives from Community Patrol be to a future meeting of the ASB Task and Finish Group; and**
- (3) **be requested to investigate as to whether Prenton Primary could be linked up to CCTV monitoring network and the query raised by constituent in relation a telephone pole;and**
- (4) **the ASB Task and Finish Group be requested to provide a report as to how they feel the ASB budget should be spent and for those recommendations to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee for further discussion.**

16 **KEEP BIRKENHEAD CLEAN BUDGET**

In response to the Chair, the Constituency Manager indicated that 20k had been allocated from the Committee's Budget for 'Improving the Environment' or 'Grotspot1' projects this was to develop a service to improve sites in Birkenhead that had been left open, poorly maintained and disused, therefore looking unsightly in the area, often attracting litter and fly tipping.

Lairdside Communities Together (LCT) won the contract for one year, which ends in December 2015, to clean up a number of 'grotspot' areas around the Birkenhead constituency. Locations for clean ups had been identified by Local Councillors and had been prioritised by LCT following a site visit. LCT was undertaking clearance and would be engaging with nearby residents to complete satisfaction surveys.

Representatives of LCT were present at the meeting and provided an update report (also attached as Appendix 3 to the Constituency Managers report). They highlighted the clearances that had been completed so far and indicated that they had worked with site owners to put in place preventative measures to avoid problems recurring in the future.

In relation to the clearing of privately owned properties, it was reported that locating and identifying the responsible landlords had proved problematic and explained that landlords reserved the right not to engage with their officers. In relation to the billing of sites cleared, officers were working to try and engage landowners to resolve this issue and collect payment.

In response to the Chair, the Legal Advisor to the Committee indicated that it was difficult for officers to identify unregistered landowners, however, for those that were identified the Council can serve notice on land that is considered to be detrimental to the amenity of the area. If notice is not complied with the Council can enter the land and undertake works in default

and a charge can then be entered on the local land charges register against that property. The Council also has the right to prosecute those who failed to comply with the notice. A Member, in response, asked what percentage of the Biffa contract was given to prosecute landowners for their failure to act.

In relation to Bonfire night, the Chair asked the Constituency Manager to contact Magenta regarding possible issues on the Noctorum estate linking with the Lairdside Community Trust contract.

Councillor D Roberts and the Constituency Manager agreed to liaise with the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority to clear skips prior to Bonfire Night and on any potential joint activities utilising the skip funding.

In relation to the 'In Bloom' project, the Environmental Task and Finish Group be requested to develop the project and evaluate the Lairdside Community Trust contract.

The Chair requested Ward Councillors to meet and identify their worst 'grot spots' and urged them to utilise the skip project.

Members in response, to a letter sent to the Chair from the Chief Executive requested that the Constituency Manager contact the Council's Environmental Team to ask them again to provide data breaking down spend for the constituency area regarding the Biffa contract. The Chair asked that this letter be shared with the Environmental Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made by the LCT 'grotspot' project as reported in the Constituency Managers report be noted;**
- (2) the Constituency Manager be requested to:**
 - along with Councillor D Roberts, liaise with Merseyside Fire Authority on clearing of skips before Bonfire Night and on any possible joint activities using skip funding**
 - contact the Council's Environmental Team requesting data breaking down spend for constituency area for the Biffa contract**
 - contact Magenta regarding possible issues on Noctorum estate for Bonfire Night and link with the Lairdside Community Trust contract**

- (3) the Environmental Task and Finish Group be requested at its next meeting develop the 'In Bloom' project and evaluate the Lairdside Community Trust contract.**

17 **FEEDING BIRKENHEAD**

The Birkenhead Constituency Engagement Officer and an officer from the office of The Rt Hon Frank Field MP gave a verbal update regarding the Feeding Birkenhead Project.

Mr Brannan indicated that seven projects were currently running and it was intended that these projects would carry on through the October half term.

The Chair indicated that he had written to four schools which had a high proportion of children receiving free school meals to ask if they would be willing to open up their schools during the half term, to date none of the schools had replied. The Chair reported that he, the Deputy Chair and Leader of the Council would continue to chase up the schools for support.

The Chair introduced Ms Emma Wilkes to the Committee who updated Members on their SEAD project.

SEAD project was a Neo Community Café's Empowerment and Social Action programme which offered communities the tools and knowledge to build self-sustainable long-term solutions to the issues of food poverty. It was hoped that the project would be replicated in Birkenhead and Rock Ferry.

In relation to activities Ms Wilkes indicated that week days there would be activities such as Community Café – 3 days per week, 0-5 early years provision supported by the Shaw Trust, baby and tots groups, baby massage, surplus food project in conjunction with local shops and free family law weekly advice sessions.

Ms Wilkes indicated that she had regular meeting with the community to discuss what activities they would like to see delivered.

The Chair updated the Committee on the Task and Finish Groups that had been established in each Ward consisting of Ward Councillors, himself and Andrew Forsey would work to secure a community venue for a daily 'food hub'. The first of these Task and Groups would be held in Rock Ferry and its first objective would be to secure the future of the Vikings Centre and discuss a bid received from the Neo Café who wished to operate there.

In response to Ms Wilkes request for the Committee to ask retailers and food outlets to support their projects, the Chair reported that the Committee would write to each of the supermarkets in Birkenhead asking them to pledge their

support to feeding Birkenhead by rescuing their surplus food and donating surplus chillers and freezers to each 'food hub'.

In response to a suggestion that chillers could be provided outside in the community giving people better access to food; this had been evidenced in a similar scheme in Spain. The Chair requested that the Constituency Manager and Mr Andrew Forsey explore this suggestion to see if this could be replicated in Birkenhead.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the update be noted;**
- (2) Task and Finish Groups that had been established in each Ward consisting of Ward Councillors, himself and Andrew Forsey would work to secure a community venue for a daily 'food hub'. The first of these Task and Groups would be held in Rock Ferry and its first objective would be to secure the future of the Vikings Centre and discuss a bid received from the Neo Café who wished to operate there.**

18 PRESENTATION - HOMESTART - 'BREAST FEEDING PROJECT'

The Committee received an update from Ms Bev Morgan, Home-Start Wirral regarding the Breastfeeding Peer Support, Antenatal Pilot Birkenhead District.

Ms Morgan gave a presentation indicating that the service was funded to pilot provision of additional support in the Birkenhead area during pregnancy to increase initiation rates, enable better health outcomes and reduce the impact of social inequality.

The presentation outlined the outputs and outcomes achieved; progress to date; ongoing support mechanisms; text buddy service; barriers to referrals and overcoming these barriers; creation of a breastfeeding community; progress from 1 February – September 2015; percentage of babies breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks 2014/15 by Wirral Wards; overcoming cultural barriers and feedback received.

RESOLVED:

That Ms Morgan be thanked for her update presentation.

19 **CROSSWAYS**

The Chair indicated that a residents meeting had been held and was progressing well.

20 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The Chair invited the following members of the public to ask their questions.

Question 1 Margaret Wycherley

Ms Wycherley was not present at the meeting but had raised concerns regarding ex-offenders selling door to door and asked if the Committee could help.

Ms Wycherley had received a written response from Merseyside Probation Services.

A member of the public asked if Birkenhead could apply to become a “no cold calling” zone, the Constituency Manager agreed to pursue this with Trading Standards Department.

Question 3 W Knapton

W Knapton was not present at the meeting but had asked about the telephone pole which had been lying in the alleyway behind CH42 6PH since February, despite being reported several times, also could the bags of rubbish that have had warning notices on them for four weeks be cleared away from the alley gates adjacent.

W Knapton had received a response from the Technical Services Department. In response, the Chair requested that the Environmental Task and Finish Group be asked to look at the issues raised on behalf of W Knapton.

Question 4 John Brace

Mr Brace asked two questions, one in relation to an update on the Youth Zone “the Hive” and a second regarding the payroll taxes paid by Members.

Mr Brace had received a response from the Children and Young People’s Department and the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service.

Question 5 Frances Greenwood

Ms Greenwood who was not present at the meeting but asked about the utilisation of those serving Community Service and queried if there was a joint initiative with the Council and Probation Service.

Ms Greenwood had received a response from the Probation Service.

The Chair indicated that having read the response received by the Probation Service he had been impressed by the contributions made by Community Service and requested that on behalf of the Committee the Constituency Manager be asked to write to the Probation Services thanking them for the work they had undertaken and liaise with Ms Greenwood to identify further areas Community Payback could do.

Question 7 Bob Giles

Mr Giles asked three questions regarding the Council's contribution to food banks; control measures with regard to charity collectors known as "chuggers" and plans to install a drinking water fountain at the Central Library.

Mr Giles had received responses from the appropriate officers/departments.

The Legal Advisor indicated that in relation to the issue of charity collectors he would liaise with the Council's Licensing Manager and provide Mr Giles with a detailed response.

Question 8 Susanne McLoughlin

Ms McLoughlin asked the Committee if they would consider supporting a request to Merseytravel proposing a train station from Prenton to Liverpool.

Ms McLaughlin had received a response from Merseytravel.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair asked Councillor A Davies to write to the Chair of Merseytravel to enquire about a new station in Prenton and request information on the distribution of expenditure from the investment budget i.e. how it was split between Wirral and other local authorities.

21 **ST PAULS COMMUNITY HUB**

The Constituency Manager updated that Committee on the planned action for St Pauls Community Hub which include development of the outdoor garden into a creative learning space and an increase in the speech and language provision.

The Action Plan was attached as an appendix to the Constituency Managers update report.

22 **TRANMERE COMMUNITY PROJECT**

The Committee received a verbal update from Ms Lynne Cullens from the Tranmere Community Project.

Ms Cullens reported that the first of the seven planned schemes had been held and had proved very successful; Ms Cullens was now looking to secure the future for the remaining projects.

The Chair congratulated Ms Cullens on an excellent project indicating that the scheme whilst was fun during the holidays for the children it also ensured that the children were fed.

WIRRAL COUNCIL

BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

21ST JANUARY 2016

SUBJECT:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGERS UPDATE
WARD/S AFFECTED:	WARDS WITHIN THE BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY. BIRKENHEAD AND TRANMERE BIDSTON AND ST JAMES CLAUGHTON OXTON PRENTON ROCK FERRY
REPORT OF:	HEAD OF NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ENGAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Section 2.0 of this report provides an update on progress in relation to agreed schemes of work from the budget devolved to the Constituency Committee to date. A finance summary sheet for Constituency Committee budget and expenditure can be found in Appendix 1.

2.0 UPDATE ON BUDGET FOR BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

2.1 Tackling ASB

This 2015-16 the Constituency Committee had in total £54,000 to allocate to ASB projects. Details of this 2015-16 allocations are set out in the finance summary sheet in Appendix 1.

- £3,779 YMCA to deliver their Summer activities
- £7,064 The LADS project which will be delivered by the Youth Services.
- £1700 Boxing project
- £7956 Sports development
- £2000 Youth sports
- £1500 Ridgeway bonfire night

• **Total spent: £23,999**

There is £30,034 remaining for the ASB task group to allocate.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- Note that the ASB task group will meet and allocate the remaining ASB funds

2.2 Keeping Birkenhead Clean

In 2015-16 the constituency committee had £20,000 environmental funds which has been fully allocated as follows:

- £14K Involve North West – Continued Grotspot project
- £6K skip fund

LCT is now called Involved North West. They have continued to deliver the Grotspot project and reactive fly tipping contract. They have completed a series of clean-ups which are highlighted in Appendix 2. They have picked up any fly tipping not under the Biffa contract and the joined up environmental service has become effective with no outstanding issues reported. Involve have also planted up planters in Claughton Village and worked with Bidston Avenue Primary to plant daffodils on Bidston Avenue.

The Royal Horticultural Society co-ordinate an 'North West In Bloom' competition for local neighbourhood groups to enter. Judging takes place in July against a set criteria of: impact of planting, community involvement, using sustainable methods, biodiversity etc. Involve has allocated £1K to each ward for Birkenhead in Bloom for planning schemes and planting from March to July 2016 out of the Grotspot contract.

Wirral Environmental Network has agreed to deliver a hanging basket engagement day in each area. The eco-schools co-ordinator has written to each school in the identified area to deliver engagement afternoons with local schools. The police would like to be involved in engagement days and clean-ups prior to 'In Bloom' judging. Big Local Beechwood has agreed to contribute £3K for Beechwood and Bidston village.

The following areas will be focal points for Birkenhead in Bloom:

In Bloom Area	Jan 2016	March 2016	April 2016	July 2016
Beechwood Central area by shops/Rec Centre	Develop planting scheme and hanging baskets	Have an engagement Day involving schools and community in March 2016 led by WEN and eco-schools	Fill planters and baskets Supported by Involve	Do a clean-up before judging. Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media
North end of Birkenhead	Agree focus area possibly the Avenues off Gautby	Engage with residents at Gautby Rd Community Centre and Holy Cross	Involve Magenta to see if they can contribute	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed

In Bloom Area	Jan 2016	March 2016	April 2016	July 2016
	Road	school. Request funds from Park Hampers.	brackets and put them up.	Big lunch celebration and press release
Bidston Village	Develop planting scheme	Have an engagement Day involving schools and community in March 2016 led by WEN and eco-schools	Fill planters and baskets	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media
Borough Road area	Develop planting scheme together with what YMCA are already doing	As above and including the Mosque, YMCA and retailers	Fill planters on railings and lamppost baskets	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media
Rock Ferry One stop shop area	Develop planting scheme with community retailers and One Stop Shop	As above including library and One stop shop and Lidl.	Fill planters on railings and lamppost baskets	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media
Cloughton Village	Develop planting scheme	As above including Cllr G Davies's retailers group.	Fill planters on railings and lamppost baskets	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media
Oxton Village	Develop planting scheme with Oxton gateway and retailers	As above and expanding on current in bloom activity with community and retailers	Fill planters and baskets	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media
Prenton By Sainsburys	Develop planting scheme with community and retailers	As above	Fill planters and baskets	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed Big lunch celebration and promote in local media

£6K was been allocated for skips in 2015-16. The following skips have been used for clean ups:

- Rodney Street – 4 skips
- Rock Park – 2 skips
- Beaconsfield Court – 2 skips
- Harrowby Street -2 skips

The following community clean-ups will take place this year:

- Clifton residents 17th February
- Rock Park- 4th March
- Rodney Street – date to be confirmed
- Seymour Street clean up scheduled late February
- Police facilitated clean up in the North end – date to be confirmed
- Programme of clean-ups preceding the 'in bloom' judging areas, circa 6 clean-ups in July 2016

The constituency team are in talks with the Probation Service around 'Community Pay Back' delivering a programme of alleyway weed clearing and involving 'Community Pay Back' in the Birkenhead 'In Bloom' for clean ups and watering.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note that the Birkenhead in Bloom areas identified in the table**
- **Note the progress of the Involve North West contract**
- **Note the programme of clean ups and the related spend on skips**

2.3 Feeding Birkenhead

2.3.1 Food hubs

£15,000 has been allocated to Neo Café who is working in partnership with The Viking Centre to deliver a discounted super market, food for children in holidays, hampers, luncheon club, meals for families and the elderly. The Vikes and Neo provide a range of complementary services like information and guidance, youth dinner clubs including hot dinners activities, baby massage, financial and legal advice.

Neo is working with TCP around intergenerational work and their luncheon club. They are also providing top up food bags to the elderly in the area.

Neo is working with Tranmere Rovers, working together to develop more community offers relating food and half term offers around sport and community food.

Neo has worked with Involve North West to deliver the Christmas crisis hampers and Involve now refers and signposts further people in need relating food. Also Neo have supported women's refuge and with clothes and food.

The food hub works in partnership with Fareshare and supermarkets to redistribute surplus foods to people who need it and avoid waste.

Food Hampers over the Christmas period helped approx 423 individuals through giving out 94 hampers as well as other hampers being distributed through the women's refuge which we did not request figures for and through Councillor Billy Davis to families with illness and other crisis.

The youth dinner club and fun with food activities had 547 attendances all accessing freshly cooked food and activities.

The TCP luncheon club has now served 240 hot 3 course reduced price meals to the elderly and given out a further 45 January survival food bags.

These figures do not include social supermarket, information and guidance service, pop up events and other community project support.

The remaining £28,750 of constituency committee funding is recommended to be allocated to a further two hubs in areas of most need in Birkenhead. St James and Beechwood have come forward with proposals around delivering a food hub. The St James proposal can be seen in Appendix 3.

We are working towards providing a food hub in each ward. Oxton, Claughton and Prenton will be priority areas to look to deliver food hub activity from, if funding becomes available to the Constituency Committee, from March 2016-17.

'Help yourself' community fridges

Frank Field MP's Feeding Birkenhead campaign is supporting each Food Hub and other community buildings to offer a fridge containing surplus food supplied by supermarkets for local residents to help themselves.

A range of supermarkets and recycle businesses have been approached to supply chillers. Three Supermarkets are looking to offer chillers to community groups. Environmental Health is supporting the project by providing guidelines and officer support.

Fare Share

The Wirral Fare Share was launched before Christmas and is located in Wallasey Wheatland Road Business units. Fare Share national is bidding to Your Wirral to cover the yearly costs for three community organisations subscriptions. Another application will be completed to cover three further subscriptions.

His Church

A fact finding visit to 'His Church' Sheffield and Community Shop will take place on 20th and 21st January 2016 facilitated by Neo Café.

'His Church' offers food in the same way as Fare Share and is looking to work in partnership with Birkenhead community groups and the Council.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Approve St James to develop the food hub for the North end of Birkenhead**
- **Approve that Beechwood Community Association develop the food hub for Beechwood**
- **Note the progress of the Rock Ferry food hub facilitated by Neo Cafe**

2.3.2 Your Wirral Birkenhead

For the final year, Birkenhead Constituency Committee has been allocated £75,000 of Your Wirral funding. The underspend from last year of circa £34,000 has been carried forward as agreed by Magenta Living. For 2015-16 the total allocation for Your Wirral was £109,000. After discussions at the previous meeting, it was agreed that the funding would continue to target child poverty and feeding hungry children in Birkenhead. The Your Wirral funding round took place in July 2015 and is now on-going, 13 projects were funded over the Summer, October and Christmas holidays. There is currently £91,609.00 of Your Wirral funds to allocate.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note the progress in relation to Your Wirral spend 2015-16 as set out in Appendix 4**
- **Note 2015-16 Your Wirral funds, there remains £91,609**

2.4 Road Safety

In 2015-16, £25,000 was allocated to road safety problems in Birkenhead. The Road Safety task group met on 11th December and considered 9 road safety proposals. Funds were allocated to the following:

Circular Road – One Way Traffic Regulation Order

Local Councillors reported that there were a number of issues in the area. The most pressing being that Circular Road would be safer as a one-way street. It is comparatively narrow with limited parking spaces for residents' cars. This leaves a narrow roadway for vehicles to pass. There are elderly residents and young children in the immediate area and residents have complained that there are times when ambulances have real difficulty

reaching people in need due to parking. Additionally there is no footway on sections of this road and pedestrians coming out of residences walk straight onto the road.

Officers have assessed the feasibility of providing a one-way restriction along Circular Road and consider there may be scope to impose such a restriction between property boundary no.1&11, Circular Road to property no. 12 Lowwood Road.

Decision

Concerns were raised about poor visibility, coupled with a lack of pavement for pedestrians and problems with vehicles reversing in the area. The project will address these issues and is estimated to cost £7000. It was agreed by the group that this project should be funded.

Hinderton Road - Two Vehicle Activated Signs

Local Councillors reported that Hinderton Road has a very dangerous junction with Holt Hill and there was serious collision there within the last year. Councillors felt that there is a strong case for additional measures at this junction to try and prevent further incidents of this nature.

Decision

After some discussion based on evidence of injury crashes, it was agreed by the Road Safety task group that a project to introduce two vehicle activated signs at £9K should be funded and that it also be encouraged that the community engage with the Council/Police Community Speedwatch initiative.

Bidston Village - Two Vehicle Activated Signs

There are traffic problems around cars speeding through Bidston Village.

Decision

After some discussion based on evidence of injury crashes, it was agreed by the group that a project to introduce two vehicle activated signs at £9K should be funded and that it also be encouraged that the community engage with the Council/Police Community Speedwatch initiative. The road is in a conservation area so further engagement with residents and the conservation group will be needed.

Details of the full nine proposals submitted to the Road Safety task group can be found in Appendix 5. The remaining proposals will be reviewed if the Constituency Committee receives further funding for Road Safety measures next financial year.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note that the decisions made by the Road Safety Task Group**

2.5 St Paul's Community Hub

St Paul's Roman Catholic Primary School in Beechwood was awarded £25,000 in early 2015 to provide a school readiness hub for two year olds. The hub started at Easter which focuses on the following areas:

- Speech and language therapy for two year olds
- Speech and language workshops for parents
- Improvements to outdoor play
- Parent and children workshops on numbers, speech, cookery and craft
- 4 week Christmas craft courses
- Family art project
- Family drop-ins to address issues
- Read and rhyme
- Holiday clubs
- Partnership work with Children's Catholic Society

Further details of the project can be found in appendix 6.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note the progress of St Paul's Community Hub**

3.0 Other Updates

3.1 Clean for the Queen

As part of the commitment to creating a cleaner, more attractive environment right across the borough, Wirral Council is supporting the national anti-litter campaign, 'Clean For The Queen' that takes place on March 4th – 6th 2016.

Clean For The Queen is being led by a number of litter charities from all over Britain and has the backing of several high-profile companies. The aim is to acknowledge the Queen's 90th birthday this year by encouraging groups all over the country to clean up their local area. It is appropriate timing as the first ever nationwide litter campaign took place in 1953, the year of the Queen's coronation, and led to the establishment of Keep Britain Tidy. This is one part of ongoing activities that take place under the banner, 'Love Wirral'.

Details can be found online at <http://www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk> and groups can register community clean up events.

Those groups who register will get access to free clean up packs and the Council wants to help and support and may be able to provide equipment, advice and the means to dispose of all the waste and litter you collect.

You can follow 'Love Wirral' on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/LoveWirral>

3.2 There has been other community engagement activities taking in place in Birkenhead and some of these activities are detailed in Appendix 7.

4.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

4.1 All resource implications detailed within this report are related to budgets aligned or devolved to the Birkenhead Constituency Committee for their recommended use.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The arrangements will help the Council to deliver on the Localism Act 2011 and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

6.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment will be completed for each of the proposals.

7.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

7.1 This report has no direct carbon reduction implications.

8.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 This report has no planning and community safety implications.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee are asked to:

9.1 Note and approve the content of the updates detailed in Section 2 related to schemes of work and approve for progress to continue.

10.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To continue to progress the targeted schemes of work identified within the constituency to develop the new approach to neighbourhood working.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - Constituency Committee Finance Summary

APPENDIX 2 - 'Improving the Environment' LCT project update

APPENDIX 3 – Beechwood/St James Food hub proposal

APPENDIX 4 - Birkenhead Your Wirral Project Summary for Summer holidays

APPENDIX 5 – Road Safety proposals and decisions

APPENDIX 6 - St Paul's Community Hub Action Plan

APPENDIX 7 - Community Engagement Activity

APPENDIX 8 – Public Questions and Answers

2015-2016- Birkenhead Constituency financial allocations

APPENDIX 1

Areas of funding	Budget 2015/16	Spend 2015/16	Funding available in 2016/17	Source	Funding available in 2016-2017 Committed against	Carried forward to 2016/2017	Committed value	Balance unallocated	% Allocated from original resource (£268,083)
Core budget 2015/16 Rodney Street Residents Neo café food hub Food hubs in Beechwood and St James	£50,000	£6,250 £15,000 £28,750	£0	Funding within Wirral Council reserves	Core budget carry forward	£0		£0	
Core Budget Sub-total	£50,000	£50,000	£0		Core Budget Sub-total	£0	£0	£0	100%
Environmental Funds: Birkenhead Clean-up 2015/16 Love Wirral - brought forward from 2014/15 Involve North West - Continued Grotspots projects Skip funds	£10,000 £10,000	£14,000 £6,000	£0	Funding within Wirral Council reserves	Environmental funds carry forward	£0		£0	
Love Wirral Sub-total	£20,000	£20,000	£0		Love Wirral Sub-total	£0	£0	£0	100%
Integrated transport block capital programme (15/16): Circular road Hinderton Road Bidston Village	£25,000	£7,000 £9,000 £9,000	£0	Capital funding still available to be utilised	Integrated transport block capital programme carry forward	£0		£0	
Improving Road Safety Sub-total	£25,000	£25,000	£0		Improving Road Safety Sub-total	£0	£0	£0	100%
Your Wirral: b/f from 14/15 2015/16 allocation Summer breakfast clubs	£44,050 £75,000	£27,441	£91,609	Funding remains available from Magenta Housing	Your Wirral carry forward	£91,609		£91,609	
Your Wirral Sub-total	£119,050	£27,441	£91,609		Your Wirral Sub-total	£91,609	£0	£91,609	23%
Birkenhead ASB 2015/16 Allocated from 2014/15 Core budget brought forward Allocated from 2014/15 PHOF Voluntary Sector Support brought forward YMCA for Summer projects LADS project Boxing night Sports development Youth sports Ridgeway bonfire	£15,000 £34,427 £4,606	£3,779 £7,064 £1,700 £7,956 £2,000 £1,500	£30,034	Funding within Wirral Council reserves	Core budget Carry forward	£30,034		£30,034	
Birkenhead ASB sub-total	£54,033	£23,999	£30,034			£30,034	£0	£30,034	44%

Total	£268,083	£146,440	£121,643
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Total	£121,643	£0	£121,643	45%
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Application for support with food based projects at the St James Centre.

The St James Centre is a non-discriminatory environment offering access to learning, family services, community activities and welfare support. Our café is at the heart of our building and our approach to service delivery. Our food based initiatives have developed significantly in the last 2 years, with support from a range of funders. We apply to the Constituency Committee for support to enable these to develop further and become sustainable.

Our programme would offer the following:

Cafe based projects:

Targeting the whole community with particular focus on lone adults/isolated and vulnerable

- Monthly meal share – targeting 10 families per event
- Bi-monthly community event (afternoon tea, bingo, themed meal)
- Seasonal family events – children’s discos, parties and events
- Big lunch & community food celebrations (feed the 5000, in partnership with other members of Feeding Birkenhead)
- Recipes for cafe users highlighting how we have used left overs including ideas for solidarity fridge (education)
- ‘Pay as you feel’ cafe – working with The Real Junk Food Project, Manchester (to be developed with partners and piloted)
- Breadmaking, cake making and seasonal recipe drop in sessions

Expansion of fare share based projects to include weekly soup kitchen.

- Extension of links with Wirral Community Trust Health Action Area (already work with WCT on cooking for diabetics, for instance)
- Delivery of cooking courses with accreditations in partnership with Faiths4Change (L2 Food hygiene and L1 Nutrition awards)
- Development of a colour cafe (using art of colouring to explore health and wellbeing – new initiative) in partnership with WCT
- Creation of outdoor growing areas (at front and side of building) – linking with Incredible edible & WEN
- Supporting Oxtown Gateway’s allotment projects
- Community growing projects at the St James Opp Shop

Family learning:

Family cooking club – 4 week programme of learning. Themed:

- Take-away club
- Using your leftovers
- Cooking on a budget (‘how cheap?!’)
- Inspiring food
- From field to plate (including trips to local farmers to collect fresh produce)
- Using produce available within the solidarity fridge

Children's programme

- Weekly afterschool club with cooking activity
- Youth club (children aged 9+) with a hot meal
- Additional activities every school holiday including:
 - Free breakfast (linking with His Church)
 - Craft club & lunch
 - Library stories and breakfast/brunch
 - Junior chef school
 - Family cooking taster sessions including breadmaking, food tasting
 - Children's growing competitions
 - Children's 'create a dish' recipe with the St James Centre cafe

The cafe is a central part of our community offer & this funding will enable us to expand on the already embedded projects we undertake.

Other food-based projects St James offers:

- Hospitality and catering for bookings
- Volunteering opportunities & training for students
- Nutritious food for children attending St James Nursery
- Foodbank in partnership with Trussell Trust & Wirral Foodbank
- Free food project

Pay as you feel cafe – giving whatever you can in exchange for food – time, money, resource?

Appendix 4

Birkenhead Your Wirral Fund: January 2016

The Birkenhead Constituency Committee received an allocation of £75,000.00 from Magenta Housing to gift to community and voluntary organisations within the constituency area.

The Committee focused the funding on the Feeding Birkenhead campaign and in particular projects that ensure the continuation of free schools meals in the holidays, breakfast and after schools clubs

Below are the projects that were funded by the Birkenhead Constituency Committee Your Wirral Panel since **May 2015**.

Organisation	Brief Description	Proposed Grant Amount
Involve Northwest	The fund helped to continue to provide benefit advice support as part of the Foodbank Plus pilot launched in March 2015. Involve Northwest have been providing a Benefits Adviser	£2370.00
Bebington road allotment society	During the school holidays the project held a kids lunch and craft club twice a week. It provided food and craft materials for children in the local area to enjoy whilst off school	£1634.00
Birkenhead Woodcraft Folk	The project ran 3 food projects with the aim of relieving and preventing child hunger in Birkenhead and made good use of wasted and surplus foods, and to encourage communities to eat together, share, break down barriers and reduce isolation.	£2,500.00
Kilgarth School	The funding helped to continue with the project of feeding the pupils with a termly hamper.	£400.00
Kilgarth School	The project was funded to provide a breakfast club for pupils who in a lot of cases would not have eaten any food before starting school in the morning.	£1500.00
Book Tales CIC	The aim of the project was to provide an informal educational fun activity, combining healthy food preparation and eating, with themed literacy and drama activities. Delivery was through workshops using storytelling/reading/drama and the children taking part in a cook and taste lunch	£2,460.00
Womens' Enterprising Breakthrough	Funding was used to provide food at the sessions run with young people by WEB.	£2,500.00
The Wirral Christian Centre	The application was for equipment to support two new projects that aimed to increase the quality of life for people within Birkenhead. Both projects were new projects that we are looking at starting up that include feeding children and increasing engagement with kids aged 4-11.	£1,360.63
Neo Cafe and Catering	The funding was used to support the delivery of play out sessions for 800 children over 16 sessions and supporting 150 adults,	£2400.00
Grow Sow Well	The volunteering scheme will be aimed at people in the local Rock Ferry community who are, or are at risk of becoming, socially isolated. Volunteers will not only have the opportunity to learn new skills, but will benefit from meeting other people, reducing social isolation and increasing confidence.	£2500.00
Viking Centre & Youth Club Limited	Neo Community Cafe worked with the Vikes to deliver this project to produce youth dinners over 11 weeks from 6.30pm-8.30pm and 3 days during the October half term holiday.	£2450.00

Appendix 4

Bebington Road Allotments	To continue to run the craft clubs previously funded the additional application was to carry this on throughout the year providing the local kids a meal and activities by building a shelter that would provide some protection against the elements.	£866.00
Birkenhead Youth Club	The funding was used to provide food for the holiday club at the Youth Club.	£2000.00
The Little T Room/HYPE	The fund helped support the Little T Room Healthier Bites project run in conjunction with the Little T Room and HYPE	£2500.00

Total Available	£119,049.74
Total Spent	£27,440.63
Remaining Balance	£91,609.11

Area	Ward/Nominator	Action	Cost
Circular Road	Birkenhead/Tranmere Cllr Stapleton/Davies	<p>Circular Road – One Way Traffic Regulation Order – nominated by Cllr Stapleton and Cllr P Davies</p> <p>There are a number of issues here, the most pressing being that Circular Road needs to be made a one-way street. It is comparatively narrow with limited parking spaces for residents’ cars. This leaves a narrow roadway for vehicles to pass. There are elderly residents and young children in the immediate area and residents have complained that there are times when ambulances have real difficulty reaching people in need due to parking. Additionally there is no footway on sections of this road and pedestrians coming out of residences walk straight onto the road.</p> <p>Officers have assessed the feasibility of providing a one-way restriction along Circular Road and consider there may be scope to impose such a restriction between property boundary no.1&11, Circular Road to property no. 12 Lowwood Road.</p> <p>Due to limited footway provision there would be difficulties in siting the appropriate ‘No Entry’ signs outside property no. 12 Lowwood Road, therefore some kerb / footway alterations would be required. Please note the signs at the start and end of the one-way restriction would require illumination which increases costs due to power supply connections, ducting etc.</p> <p><i>Decision</i> Concerns were raised about poor visibility, coupled with a lack of pavement for pedestrians and problems with vehicles reversing in the area. The project to address these issues was estimated to cost £7000. It was agreed by the group that this project should be funded.</p>	£7000
Cavendish Drive	Rock Ferry Cllr McLaughlin	<p>Cavendish Drive should be considered for an allocation of this funding towards the cost of a road improvement plan which is currently being drawn up by officers and residents to address several problems in the road such as speeding traffic, a poor road surface and trees which are damaging the footway.</p> <p>This is a rather more imaginative approach to dealing with problems than just looking at one aspect of a road when there may be several problems and also involving the community is developing solutions. Shaun Brady and Dave Rees are heavily involved in this and the hope is that design officers</p>	

Area	Ward/Nominator	Action	Cost
		<p>will begin to see what options may be viable commencing Nov 2015.</p> <p>Decision After consideration, the scheme involves extensive measures and will cost considerably more than funds currently available and therefore the group did not prioritise funding this project at this time. We will review this project if further funding becomes available.</p>	
Highfield South	Rock Ferry Cllr McLaughlin	<p>Highfield South has a problem with speeding traffic using it as a cut through to avoid the lights at the junction of Bebington Road / Old Chester Road and King`s Road and there is a primary school just by its junction with Rock Lane West. A petition from residents has been submitted by residents in support of speed reduction measures.</p> <p>Decision After discussion it was agreed that although this is an issue, with the funding available it would be not funded this year. If any further funding becomes available this will be reviewed next year.</p>	
Hinderton Road	Birkenhead Tranmere Cllr Cleary	<p>Hinderton Road has a “very dangerous” junction with Holt Hill and members may be aware that there was a very serious collision there recently.</p> <p>http://www.wirralglobe.co.uk/news/13781042.Driver_in_critical_condition_after_two_car_crash_in_Birkenhead/</p> <p>There is a strong case for additional measures at this junction to try and prevent further incidents of this nature.</p> <p>Decision After some discussion based on evidence of injury crashes, it was agreed by the group that a project to introduce two vehicle activated signs should be funded and that it also be encouraged that the community engage with the Council/Police Community Speedwatch initiative.</p>	Circa £8K
Bidston Village	Bidston/St James Cllr Crabtree, Cllr	<p>There are traffic problems through Bidston Village, which both the Frank Field MP and Cllr Crabtree have been involved with this summer and we would be looking to have some funding available for</p>	Circa £8K

Area	Ward/Nominator	Action	Cost
	Kenny	<p>this area.</p> <p>Decision After some discussion based on evidence of injury crashes, it was agreed by the group that a project to introduce two vehicle activated signs should be funded and that it also be encouraged that the community engage with the Council/Police Community Speedwatch initiative. The road is in a conservation area so further engagement with residents and the conservation group will be needed.</p>	
Mount Road	Prenton Cllr Tony Norbury	<p>On community door knocking and engagement in Prenton it has been reported to me that Mount Rd Tranmere between the wiend and Victoria Park needs traffic calming as speeding cars are a regular occurrence , also residents on Mount Rd Mount estate are finding it difficult to access their properties from the road side due to the steep banks that run from the pavements to the road. They are asking for steps to be introduced to prevent accidents and help residents who have disabilities access their houses, we also have an issue with the jigger at the back of Kirkland Avenue and Roxburgh being unkempt and in need of clearing.</p> <p>Should one or more of the prioritised schemes prove not to be practical. A VAS on mount rd should be prioritised.</p> <p>Decision After reviewing the recorded road safety information and discussion by the road safety group, it was agreed that although speed was an issue of concern by residents, a scheme would not be prioritised this year. If any further funding becomes available this will be reviewed next year.</p>	
Hillside Road area	Cllr Cleary	<p>Speeding scrambling bikes (potentially police issue) traffic calming</p> <p>Decision After reviewing the available information. The road safety group felt that this was an ASB issue and would be raised with police.</p>	
Leighton Road/Holt Hill	Cllr Cleary	<p>Speeding scrambling bikes (potentially police issue) traffic calming</p> <p>Decision</p>	

Area	Ward/Nominator	Action	Cost
		After reviewing the available information. The road safety group felt that this was an ASB issue and would be raised with police.	
Heatherbrow/Lingdale	Cllr George Davies	<p>Speeding issue on narrow road</p> <p>Decision After discussion it was agreed that although this is an issue, with the funding available it would be not funded this year. If any further funding becomes available this will be reviewed next year.</p>	

Event	Engagement with Community	Engagement with Parents	Outcomes
Speech and Language Therapist	Drop in sessions, workshops and courses for parents in the local community	Training for staff Timetable of speech therapy for pre-school children Support for pre-school parents through informal meetings	Children's communication skills improved on transition from home to Twos and from Twos to Foundation Staff knowledge and confidence increased in supporting children with communication difficulties
Chatter Matters – a speech and language workshop for parents	Leafleted local schools, library and Home Start workers	Invited parents from Manor and Bidston Village PS.	4 parents attended and were then invited to attend the 8 week course
Chatter Matters 8 week course	Following on from both workshops - leafleted local schools, library and Home Start workers. Community Connectors handed out leaflets	Invited parents from 3 local schools	5 parents attended, one of whom was from Bidston Village. Plans to run another course in the New Year. All parents found the course informative and interesting and use strategies provided during the course to develop their child's communication and language skills
Stay and Play – run by Home Start plus volunteers using resources from the local library	Initial start-up supported by Birkenhead Foundation Years Project Leaflet drops in houses, local schools and the wider community	Parents attend with children and can access support	Children and approx 12 adults have attended these sessions. Not all parents who attend have children at the school. The group is open to the whole community.
Foundation Fun	Course was run in Autumn Term	All parents of F2 children invited to attend	8 out of the 10 - F2 parents completed the course which was designed to help parents support their children as they start in F2. Each 2 hour course included a presentation to parents followed by a practical activity with their children. Topics included numicon, phonics, cookery and craft. Each week parents commented that they had tried the activities at home with their children
		Face to face invites to all	

APPENDIX 6

My Child	Homestart Course	F1 parents	Awaiting the start of this course
Christmas Craft Workshop		All parents of Twos, F1 and F2 invited to attend to work with their children and produce Christmas decorations	10 parents attended and worked with their own and other children. Workshop was very interactive. Parents were proactive and there were good examples of nurturing and supportive conversations with the children. Many of the parents who attended had completed the Foundation Fun course and used the skills learnt on that course when working with the children.
Christmas Craft Course – 4 week programme		Text messages and personal invitations to all parents	8 parents completed this course and successfully made a Christmas banner for their homes. All gained in confidence and were very creative. Very positive feedback and requests for more courses to be run.
Art Project		Targeted parents from Christmas Craft Course	2 parents attended and supported children in the making of three sculptures representing The 3 Kings. They felt a great sense of achievement and were so engrossed that instead of staying for an hour as planned they stayed for the whole day and completed the project.
Family Works Art Project	Invitation to Manor Primary to target 15 parents for a workshop at their school	Target 15 parents from St Paul's for a workshop at the school. (Parents from previous Art project to act as Community Connectors for both schools)	Parents will work with their children to produce a sculpture encouraging good communication, collaborative working and creativity. All will gain in confidence and will be able to transfer skills learnt to other projects. Project will be funded through the hub for both schools
Come and Read	Representative from the Birkenhead Foundation Years Project attends and engages with parents to promote other services in the area	Parents of Foundation children are invited to read with their children every Tuesday morning	This weekly activity promotes reading for pleasure. At least 12 parents attend each week and engage with their own and other children in reading activities. There are plenty of books available for parents to borrow and use at home.
Rhythm and Rhyme Time	Plans are in place to open this out to the community	Twos parents invited to attend weekly and join in songs and nursery rhyme sessions.	6 – 8 parents attend weekly. Use of rhymes and songs demonstrated to them. Resources given to take home so good practice is extended to home environment
	Storytime run by MEAS at the local library. Leaflets	Parents of F1 and Twos invited to bring their	

APPENDIX 6

Multicultural Storytime	given to Homestart and Manor Primary	children to the library. All F2 and KS1 attended	Children given experience of stories in two different languages and participated in mask making
Community Hub Drop in	Leaflets to local schools and library. Advertised through Big Local	Text messages and leaflets to all parents	CCS, Health Box, Taylor Shaw (catering), Homestart, Big Local, School Nurse invited to attend. 11 parents attended and agreed to act as Community Connectors for other events. Further Hub Drop in planned for January 2016
Story Sacks	Liaison with local library to establish current list of story sacks with a view to supplementing them and then signposting parents to this resource		Parents will be able to borrow story sacks from Beechwood Library. Local schools can use the library to run workshops for parents in the use of the story sacks. Impact will be to increase communication and literacy skills
Page 3 Big Local	Attendance at meetings to discuss projects to support the local community	Update parents on facilities and activities available to them. Video pods, children's wish lists, Family Fun Day	Increased liaison with local community. Recently accessed funding of £800 from Big Local to engage the Mighty Zulu Nation Theatre group for a half day visit each to St Paul's and Manor Primary – African music and dance workshops
	Working with families in the local community – e.g. parenting programmes	Family Support Worker x 1 day a week in school working with five vulnerable families.	Families are more engaged. Enhanced insight into the family backgrounds of children through the outreach work of the service
Catholic Children's Society			
Data	Registers of parents attending Come and Read, Stay and Play, Chatter Matters, Rhyme Time, Arts and Crafts workshops	Parents regularly informed of child's progress through the 2 year old progress check and school's tracking systems	Through regular tracking and assessment progress is clearly mapped and robust. Use of WellComm and baseline screening is consistent. A transition programme is in place so children are confident to move from home to Twos and from Twos to F1. Detailed data is available on request.

Future plans

- Maths workshops for parents and children
- Parent and child art courses for families identified by CCS
- Healthy eating cookery courses

- Additional Chatter Matters course
- Steering group development
- Access ABC training
- Sports school during Easter holidays

Birkenhead Constituency Team Neighbourhood Engagement Update
January 2016

Neighbourhood engagement is a vital element of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee work.

There are a number of projects being developed in partnership with the local community, statutory organisations and community and voluntary groups that will benefit Birkenhead in the future.

Here is an update on how a number of these projects are progressing and the benefit they will bring to the community.

Birkenhead Library Pocket Park application

Working in partnership with Birkenhead Central Library and Involve Northwest, the Birkenhead Constituency Team has submitted a funding application to the Pocket Park Fund to build a pocket park on the unused space at the back of the library.

If the funding application is successful the space would be transformed into a reading and health and wellbeing park which can be used by library users, local residents and schools. Adding onto the services offered by the library the park could even include a mini-amphitheatre which local schools can use for outside reading sessions.

A decision on the funding is due at the end of January 2016.

Upton Railway Station

The Birkenhead Constituency Team were approached by Merseytravel for suggestions on how the local community could be involved in potentially improving the look of Upton Railway Station.

To help facilitate the project the Birkenhead Constituency Team met with Ridgeway High with the view of the schools art class becoming involved with the project.

Currently discussions are taking place between Merseyrail and Merseytravel but if confirmed the project will see art students from Ridgeway High improving the station by painting murals of prominent Wirral landmarks which will then be situated at various points at the station for rail users to enjoy.

Alderley Avenue Alley

The Birkenhead Constituency Team continues to work with local residents and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team on a solution regarding the issues of anti-social behaviour and substance misuse in the alley way at Alderley Avenue, Claughton.

These issues have been occurring for a number of months with residents being asked to report any instances so a clear picture of when the issues are occurring can be formed. The Birkenhead Constituency Team and Anti-Social Behaviour Team will be meeting to discuss the next steps on resolving the issues the residents at Alderley Avenue face.

For information on any of these projects please contact.

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