



Constituency Committee - Birkenhead Special Meeting

Date:	Thursday, 28 July 2016
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Birkenhead Town Hall

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AGENDA

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2016-17**

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

4. **MINUTES (Pages 1 - 12)**

The Committee be requested to approve the accuracy of minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2016.

5. **PRESENTATION - WIRRAL AREA COMMANDER**

To receive a presentation from Chief Superintendent, Ian Hassall.

6. **PRESENTATION - BIRKENHEAD BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

To receive a presentation from the Chief Executive Officer, Paula Basnett.

7. PRESENTATION - HEALTH AND WORKLESSNESS PROJECT

To receive a presentation from Beverley Staniford, Economic Policy Team.

8. BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S REPORT (Pages 13 - 40)

To receive an update in relation to:

Keeping Birkenhead Clean

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

Feeding Birkenhead

- Feeding Birkenhead update
 - Rock Ferry Hub
 - Beechwood Hub
 - St James Hub
- Your Wirral Update

Road Safety update

- Birkenhead Road Safety initiatives update and allocation of 2016-17 funds

9. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - BIRKENHEAD

Thursday, 21 January 2016

Present:

Councillor Rt Hon Frank Field (Chair)

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

Apologies

Councillors	J Crabtree	D Realey
	T Norbury	P Williams

23 **MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

24 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor J Crabtree
Councillor P Williams

25 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2015 be agreed as a correct record.

26 **CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chair indicated that he had agreed for a presentation to be given to the Committee updating Members on the Budget Consultation "Residents Insight" Wirral Residents' Priorities, Attitudes and Values from the Council's Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications.

27 **PRESENTATION - BUDGET CONSULTATION - A RESIDENTS INSIGHT**

The Committee considered a presentation from the Council's Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications updating Members on the Council's Budget Consultation "Residents Insight" Wirral Residents' Priorities, Attitudes and Values.

He indicated that to drive a better strategy, policy and decision-making there was a need to have the best possible insight and intelligence into what residents actually wanted or needed.

Insight allowed the Council to make informed decisions in developing its five-year Delivery Plan and its five-year Budget Strategy.

Ipsos MORI had done the first stage of the insight work to provide a base snapshot of how residents felt about living in Wirral, what they saw as their priorities and what their top issues were for the area.

Residents were asked what was important to them. Feedback information would be used to inform all of the Council's strategies, policies and the budget-setting/planning process.

The Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications highlighted the methodology and benchmarking used behind the consultation; the views of those residents living within Birkenhead and issues which residents felt needed improvement ranked in the order of importance which included; low levels of crime and ASB; accessible health services and provision of good care; high educational standards and good schools; cleaner streets and environment and good standard and affordable homes.

The presentation highlighted those areas where Birkenhead residents had indicated most needed improvement road and pavement repairs being completed quickly and efficiently being ranked top.

The highest priority for Birkenhead residents was reported at being a reduction in ASB and crime, with the lowest being sport and recreation facilities.

In relation to ASB, dog fouling amounted to 65% reported in Birkenhead and there had been a reduction of 819 of reported incidents since 2014 to 2015.

In relation to Health and Wellbeing most residents (72%) felt that their health was at least fairly good, with one-third (33%) indicating that they had a long term condition/disability which had limited their day to day activities.

In terms of economy, there were inconsistencies in employment levels across the borough, Birkenhead (18%) having significantly higher levels of workless residents than the Borough as a whole.

The Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications concluded by highlighting the next steps and indicated that the Council was committed to repeating the research on a regular basis to track progress and changes in perception and to assist the Council in monitoring its progress along with that of the Wirral Partnership.

A Member indicated that this piece of work had many advantages and gave the Council a baseline on which to plan for the future, he indicated that MORI had done similar consultations in other Local Authorities therefore the information could be used to help the Council share best practice going forward.

RESOLVED:

That the Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications be thanked for his informative presentation.

28 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR BUDGET**

As highlighted within the previous item (Minute 27 refers) A Member reported that as evidence by the MORI survey, residents rated Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) as the serious issue I need of action in Birkenhead and the Council and its officers were working tirelessly to reduce the reported ASB incidents.

Officers had been working with Merseyside Police and the Fire Authority to create a structure whereby there would be only one command and budget for ASB which would sit under the Police structure.

In relation to the current provision within the Council to tackle ASB, he indicated that there was a designated ASB team who collated referrals from Members, Police and Residents and with prosecutions, there was also a designated Community Patrol Service which was a huge resource that looked after the Authority's schools, provided an out-of-hours service and responded to ASB incidents in the Borough's parks. It was hoped that by April 2016 there would be an integrated team under the Police structure which would include all of the relevant officers and agencies.

An update was given on the development of the Wirral Youth Zone for which work had started in December 2015; work was expected to be completed by January 2017. Members had visited a similar Youth Zone which had been established in Wigan and this example of good practice would be replicated within the centre at Wirral.

In response concerns raised by Mrs L Brace in relation to the cost of young people wanting to attend the Youth Zone and the barriers to transport, A Member indicated that there would be a small cost to attend but this would kept to a minimum and would be used to assist with the running costs. In relation to the barriers to transport it was reported that Officers were in discussions with Merseytravel regarding this.

The Chair suggested that the remainder of £30,000 of the Committee's ASB Budget be placed under the control of the Police, on the proviso that it was used immediately to respond to those ASB hotspots that were identified by Members to take effect by April 2016, when the Police assumed full control of an integrated force.

The Chair also requested that the ASB Unit be asked to report back on whether those hotspots previously identified by Members had been acted on.

Members updated the Committee on a recent visit they had undertaken to the CCTV Control Room in Liverpool which they felt was a fantastic venue with representatives from all emergency services in attendance, monitoring two of Wirral's CCTV cameras. The unit also monitored systems for other neighbouring Authorities, but it was noted that systems were not monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Mr Cambourne, Anti-Social Behaviour Manager indicated that in addition to those systems that were being monitored in Liverpool, Wirral had 112 public space CCTV cameras, which were recorded by a control room based at Cheshire Lines and were monitored on an intelligence led basis.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the remainder of £30,000 of the Committee's ASB Budget be placed under the control of the Police, on the proviso that it is used immediately to respond to those ASB hotspots that were identified by Members to take effect by April 2016, when the Police assumed full control of an integrated force; and**
- (2) Officers from the ASB Unit be requested to report back on whether those hotspots previously identified by Members had been acted on.**

29 **FEEDING BIRKENHEAD**

The Committee considered a verbal update from Andrew Forsey regarding 'Feeding Birkenhead', further details were also outlined within the Constituency Managers Report attached to the agenda.

Mr Forsey indicated that following analysis of feedback received 360 children had been feed through the Feeding Birkenhead half term projects in the month of October at a cost of £6.00 per child and Neo along with Involve North West had distributed 100 food hampers to families over the Christmas period.

Fare Share

The Wirral Fare Share was launched before Christmas and was located in Wallasey. Fare Share national was bidding to Your Wirral to cover the yearly costs for three community organisations subscriptions. Another application would be completed to cover three further subscriptions. Further work was to be done to source resources to support staff to provide further projects up to 2020.

The Chair highlighted the fantastic work undertaken by the representatives from voluntary sector as part of 'Feeding Birkenhead' agenda and on behalf of the Members of the Constituency Committee, suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to all the wonderful projects who had worked tirelessly on assisting with the "Feeding Birkenhead" project, and in particular their fantastic work in helping the Committee counter hunger amongst children.

Community Fridges

The Constituency Manager, Birkenhead updated the Committee on the progress in relation to community fridges. She indicated that she had spoken to the Council's Environmental Health Team who had provided guidance and officer advice.

The Chair reported that local supermarkets had agreed to help with this project and took the responsibility to clear and replenish the food in the fridges to ensure that the food made available to those who needed it was fresh.

It was noted that by the date of the next Constituency meeting, a series of community fridges would be established to offer fresh surplus food at locations in Beechwood, BEE, St. James, Gautby Road and Neo Café.

A Member indicated that alongside the work being undertaken on Feeding Birkenhead, particular attention needed to be paid to fuel poverty which was also a cause of concern. In response, the Chair indicated that whilst distributing food hampers it was noticed that there was big demand for candles which families were using to help with the heating of food; subsequently all hampers were changed to ensure that all food supplied could be consumed without the need for heating, but raised a huge concern regarding fuel poverty which also needing addressing as part of the Feeding Birkenhead agenda.

Food Hubs

The Constituency Manager indicated that Neo Café who was working in partnership with the Viking Centre to deliver a range of services including; discounted supermarket, feeding children in school holidays; hampers; luncheon clubs; breakfast clubs and activities.

The Constituency Manager indicated that she along with the Chair would be meeting with representatives of the Viking Centre and the Neo Café to discuss Neo's long term future it was hoped that Neo Café would be able to continue to provide services within the Viking Centre

Following a discussion from Members, it was recommended that the remaining £28,750 of the Committee's funding be allocated to a further two hubs in areas of most need in Birkenhead. St James and Beechwood had both come forward with proposals around delivering a food hub. The proposal from St James was attached as an appendix to the Constituency Managers report.

It was suggested and agreed that a Feeding Birkenhead Task and Finish Group be established consisting of Councillors A. Brighthouse, A. Davies, S Foulkes, A McLachlan, C Meaden and J Stapleton to consider bids from the St James Centre and Beechwood Community Trust for grants of £15,000 to establish two food hubs.

Once established, the Task and Finish Group was also requested to consider a request from the Chair for £80,000 of Your Wirral funding to be used as a block grant towards a new Community Shop in the Pyramids Shopping Centre and should this request be agreed to, a formal request from the Committee be made to Magenta Living.

At this point Councillor S Foulkes declared a Personal Interest by virtue of his being a Board Member of Magenta Living.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) on behalf of the Members of the Constituency Committee, a letter of thanks be sent to all the wonderful projects who had worked tirelessly on assisting with the "Feeding Birkenhead" project, and in particular their fantastic work in helping the Committee counter hunger amongst children;**
- (2) it be noted that by the time of the next Constituency meeting, a series of community fridges would have been established to offer fresh surplus food at locations in Beechwood, BEE, St. James, Gautby Road and Neo Café;**

- (3) a Feeding Birkenhead Task and Finish Group be established consisting of Councillors A. Brighthouse, A. Davies, S Foulkes, A McLachlan, C Meaden and J Stapleton to consider bids from the St James Centre and Beechwood Community Trust for grants of £15,000 to establish two food hubs; and
- (4) the Feeding Birkenhead Task and Finish Group be requested to consider a request from the Chair for £80,000 of Your Wirral funding to be used as a block grant towards a new Community Shop in the Pyramids Shopping Centre and should this request be agreed to, a formal request from the Committee be made to Magenta Living.

30 KEEPING BIRKENHEAD CLEAN

The Constituency Manager updated Members on Keeping Birkenhead Clean. In 2015-16 the Constituency Committee had been allocated £20,000 for environmental funds which had been fully allocated as follows:

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

LCT was now called Involved North West. They had continued to deliver the Grotspot project and reactive fly tipping contract. They had also completed a series of clean-ups which were highlighted in Appendix 2 within the Constituency Managers report (Agenda Item 4). They have picked up any fly tipping not under the Biffa contract and the joined up environmental service had become effective with no outstanding issues reported. Involve had also planted up planters in Claughton Village and worked with Bidston Avenue Primary to plant daffodils on Bidston Avenue.

The Royal Horticultural Society co-ordinated an 'North West In Bloom' competition for local neighbourhood groups to enter. Judging was to take place in July against set criteria of: impact of planting, community involvement, using sustainable methods, biodiversity etc. Involve had 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 had agreed to deliver a hanging basket engagement day in each area. The eco-schools co-ordinator had written to each school in the identified area to deliver engagement afternoons with local schools. The police had suggested that they would like to be involved in engagement days and clean-ups prior to 'In Bloom' judging and Big Local Beechwood had agreed to contribute £3K for Beachwood and Bidston Village.

The Constituency Manager indicated that a Big Lunch would be held on conjunction with Food Share to celebrate the competition and also as a thank you to all participants for their hard work.

A Member indicated that at a previous meeting, the Committee had asked that Biffa be requested to provide a breakdown of contract spend in the Birkenhead area which had still to be received.

In response to the Constituency Manager comments, the Chair suggested and it was agreed by Members that in relation the Council's contract with Biffa, a plan be drawn up which reflected the needs of each local area.

In relation to the preparation for the 'In Bloom' competition, the Constituency Manager indicated that following a meeting she had, had, Probation had agreed to do some work on weed spraying in readiness for the competition submission. In response, the Chair asked if Probation could undertake the weed spraying prior to the flowers being planted.

A Member asked that particular attention be given to Balls Road, Oxton which was need of urgent cleansing.

A Member also raised an issue regarding the increased litter on the strategic routes into the area, such as Whetstone Lane and New Chester Road and suggested that Community Payback could be asked to clear these areas.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) in relation to the Council's contract with Biffa, the Constituency Manager be requested to draw up a plan which reflected the needs of each local area in relation to cleansing;**
- (2) the Constituency Manager be requested to liaise with Probation who would be doing some work on weed spraying to ask if the weed spraying could be done prior to the flowers being planted in readiness for the 'In Bloom' competition;and**
- (3) the Constituency Manager be requested to liaise with the Environment team regarding issues raised by Members in relation to Balls Road, Oxton which was in need of urgent cleansing and also the issue of increased litter on the strategic routes in the area; to include Whetstone Lane and New Chester Road and ask if Community Payback could be asked to clear these areas.**

31 ROAD SAFETY

The Constituency Manager indicated that 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 was in a Conservation area so further engagement with residents and the conservation group would 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.

A Member suggested that further details be given to the Committee explaining how the criteria worked in relation to the Highways Maintenance contract with a breakdown for Birkenhead.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the recommendations of the Road Safety Task Group, detailed with the Constituency Managers report in relation to Circular Road, Hinderton Road and Bidston Village be approved; and**
- (2) the Constituency Manager be requested to liaise with the Head of Environment and Regulation to ask for further details explaining how the criteria worked in relation to the Highways Maintenance contract and also provide a breakdown for Birkenhead, to be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.**

32 MERSEY FERRIES LONG TERM STRATEGY

A Member updated the Committee regarding the recent report that had been considered by Members of the Merseytravel Committee; the purpose of the report was to share the outcomes from a recently commissioned Mersey Ferries long term strategy review and sought the endorsement of the 20 year strategy moving forward for Mersey Ferries operations.

In relation to Woodside Ferry Terminal, the report indicated that the terminal was underutilised; at that meeting Members asked whether the tourism factors around Woodside Ferry Terminal had been fully explored and that Wirral Council had invested a substantial amount of money in the area and the history of Birkenhead was significant. Officers had advised that no decision on the closure of terminals had been taken; however the ambition of the Strategy was to reduce costs. The patronage levels were lower from Woodside, with 10% of the total passengers, and the transport links in Birkenhead were thought to be a contributing factor. If the decision was taken to close Woodside terminal it could be reviewed should demand increase.

The Merseytravel Committee went on to approve the 20 year Mersey Ferries Long Term Strategy, subject to periodic review at not later than three year intervals and Officers were requested to explore the interventions as identified within the strategy to bring back to the Committee, within a six month period, proposals on which early decisions needed to be made and accompanied by associated detail; and Officers were requested to look at options around all three Terminals; Pier Head, Woodside and Seacombe, to include a future three terminal service.

A Member indicated that it was a question for the Council to look at why Woodside was so under utilised and there was a need to be proactive to ensure that regeneration was key in Woodside and Birkenhead.

A Member indicated that he was member of the Action Group he along with others would be meeting with officers from Merseytravel to discuss the future of Woodside.

33 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

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

Question 3 Patrick Dowling

Mr Dowling requested an update on the Council's plans for Hamilton Square and also the management plans for the Williamson Art Gallery

Mr Dowling had received a written response from the Department of Regeneration and Environment and also was provided with a verbal response from the Leader of the Council, Councillor Phil Davies at the meeting.

The Cabinet Member for Transformation and Improvement indicated that part of her portfolio was to look at schemes to deliver services in different ways; the Council had Edssential and Wirral Evolutions and she would be driving this agenda to look at further schemes such as these.

A Member indicated that the funding had been made available from the Merseyside Pension Fund for local investment.

Question 2 Mrs M Robinson

Mrs Robinson raised concerns regarding the cleanliness of Birkenhead in particular, Waterford Road which was plagued by dog fouling.

Mrs Robinson had received a written response from the Technical Services Department.

A Member reported that dog fouling was a major issue in Wirral and the Council was doing all it could to alleviate the issues raised and ensure that both enforcement and prosecutions were brought to fruition.

Question 4 Crossways Estate Residents

Residents from the Crossways Estate indicated that they had attended the last meeting of the Committee and had been promised that Ward Councillors and the Chair would arrange to meet with residents to discuss the issues surrounding the future of the estate, it was now a year later and the issues were still unresolved.

The Chair suggested that a meeting with himself, Councillor S Foulkes, G Davies and the relevant Ward Councillors be held along with residents to try and progress the issues raised by Members.

34 **SUGGESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS ON FUTURE WORK**

It was suggested that the Constituency Manager be asked to co-ordinate a list of emerging issues in relation to Birkenhead which could be discussed prior to these issues being formed as a paper.



Constituency Committee - Birkenhead
Thursday, 28 July 2016

REPORT TITLE:	Birkenhead Constituency Manager's Report
REPORT OF:	Strategic Director: Transformation and Resources

REPORT SUMMARY

Section 4.0 of this report provides an update on progress of projects funded by budgets devolved to Birkenhead Constituency Committee. A finance summary sheet for the Birkenhead Constituency Committee budget and expenditure can be found in Appendix 1.

1.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Note the successful completion of:**
 - **Birkenhead in Bloom areas**
 - **Involve North West contract**
 - **Community clean ups and work by probation and the related spend on skips**
- **Agree that an invitation to tender be put out on the Chest for a further grotspots project, allocation amount to be agreed, to be overseen by the Environmental Task Group**
- **Allocate £5K to 2016-17 – skip fund**

FEEDING BIRKENHEAD

- **Note the progress of the Birkenhead food hubs**
- **Allocate an agreed amount of the 2016-17 Constituency Committee funds to the Feeding Birkenhead Task Group for expanding food related projects: eg. Can Cook, holiday food projects**

YOUR WIRRAL

- **Note the progress in relation to Your Wirral spend 2015-16**

- **Note 2015-16 Your Wirral funds, there remains £69,049 to match fund the community shop project**

ROAD SAFETY

- **Note the update from the Road Safety projects 2015-16**
- **Delegate the allocation of the £32,500 for 2016-17 road safety projects to the Road Safety Task Group to meet over the Summer**

ASB

- **Note that the integrated team have allocated the funds to:**
 - **Child Sexual Exploitation Project £1000**
 - **Sports Development Project at the tennis centre until 'The Hive' opens in February 2017 - £2136**

2.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

Reasons for recommendations are outlined in section 4.

3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4.1 Keeping Birkenhead Clean

In 2015-16 the Constituency Committee allocated £20,000 of environmental funds to projects, which has now been fully spent as follows:

- £14K Involve North West –Grotspot project
- £6K skip fund – Community Clean-ups

Involve North West successfully delivered the Grotspot project and reactive fly tipping contract. They have completed a series of clean-ups which are highlighted in Appendix 2 which will be tabled at the Committee. They have picked up fly tipping not under the Biffa contract and helped to join up the Council's environmental service. The Council's environmental offer has become more effective with no outstanding issues reported.

The Grotspot project has successfully tackled areas with historical fly tipping and uncleansed private land and has worked so well, it has now been mainstreamed across Wirral. Birkenhead has £10,000 to allocate to grotspots this year. Councillors have already submitted identified areas for the contractor to commence work on.

North West In Bloom

The Royal Horticultural Society co-ordinate an 'North West In Bloom' competition for local neighbourhood groups to enter. Judging takes place on 19th July, against a set criteria of: impact of planting, community involvement, using sustainable methods, biodiversity etc. Involve has allocated £1K from the Grotspot project to each ward for Birkenhead in Bloom for planning schemes and planting up areas.

Wirral Environmental Network and other agencies have delivered community engagement and hanging basket days in each area. The eco-schools co-ordinator has delivered engagement afternoons with local schools. The police and probation teams have been 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 in Bloom. YMCA and Wirral Methodist Housing have secured £10K from Tescos for their 'All Things bright and Beautiful' in bloom along Borough Road.

The following areas are 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 Road	Engage with residents at Gautby Rd Community Centre and Holy Cross school. Request funds from Park Hampers.	Involve Magenta to see if they can contribute brackets and put them up.	Do a clean-up before judging Date to be agreed 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 and promote in local

In Bloom Area	Jan 2016	March 2016	April 2016	July 2016
				media
Claughton 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
Livingstone Street Centre	Planting scheme, flower competition, horticultural activity with the community carried out by Livingstone St staff.	On-going engagement activity with the community. carried out by Livingstone St staff	Centre garden, horticultural activity in the area. carried out by Livingstone St staff	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

Skip Funds

£6K has been allocated for skips in 2015-16. 44 skips have been used for the following clean ups:

- Rodney Street 15th October – 4 skips
- Rock Park – 2 skips
- Beaconsfield Court 15th November – 2 skips
- Harrowby Street 16th January -2 skips
- Police action day North End 16th February – 6 skips
- Clifton residents 17th February – 2 skips
- Rock Park- 20th March – 1 skip
- Seymour Street clean up 16th February - 2 skip
- Elmswood 16th February – 2 skip
- Beechwood 2nd March - 5 skips
- Beechwood 27th April - 3 skips
- Ribble Street 13th May - 2 skips
- Raffles Road 26th May – 2 skips
- Patterson Street 14th June – 3 skips
- Woodlands 16th June - 3 skips
- Beechwood 22nd June – 3 skips

Almost £5000 has been used to hire 44 skips in Birkenhead so far and at least 33,000 tonnes of rubbish has been removed as a result of the clean-up days. Please see Appendix 3 for details.

The 'Community Pay Back' team have delivered a programme of alleyway weed clearing for Birkenhead 'In Bloom', clean ups, a range of other cleaning, clearing and painting, at the sites outlined below:

- 63 Woodlands clean up
- Weeds in entries in Claughton
- Oxtan Road painting the railings
- Gautby Road painting the front of the community centre and the railings
- Beechwood hub – painting the shutters on the shops
- 268 Claughton Road lady trapped in the house because alley way was tipped so cleared alleyway
- Hoylake Road entry removed flytipping
- Woodchurch Road entry removed flytipping
- Inglemore/Fieldway Rock Ferry cleared alleyways
- Bedford Place fly tipping removal
- Bedford Road/Byrne Ave flytipping removal
- Rock Ferry underpass flytipping removal
- Conway Street fence lanes flytipping removal
- Borough Road hoardings flytipping removal and cleanse
- Rendle Street off Cleveland Street flytipping removal and cleanse
- Devaney Medical Centre Oxtan Road painting the railings
- Rear Chestnut Grove flytipping removal and cleanse
- Underbridge Chamberlain Street flytipping removal and cleanse

Recommendations:

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Note the successful completion of:**
 - **Birkenhead in Bloom areas**
 - **Involve North West contract**
 - **Community clean ups and work by probation and the related spend on skips**
- **Agree that the an invitation to tender be put out on the chest for a further grotspots project, allocation amount to be agreed, to be overseen by the Environmental Task Group**
- **Allocate £5K to 2016-17 – skip fund**

4.3 Feeding Birkenhead

4.3.1 Food hubs

Rock Ferry Food Hub

£15,000 was allocated to Neo Café in 2015-16 to develop a Rock Ferry food hub.

Rock Ferry food hub now has its own building at the Beaconsfield Community House which, with the support of Neo community café, has set its self-up as a Charity and the community are being supported to asset transfer the building from the Council.

The Feeding Birkenhead School provision has been running all School holidays since February of this year from Beaconsfield Community House and has now delivered a total of 1637 meals and snacks throughout the year of running the programme. Along with craft clubs, gardening, cookery, community clean up days, environmental days and loads of fun for children.

Rock Ferry Food hub also runs surplus food education courses and cookery clubs in Well Lane Primary school and is going to also run these projects in Mersey Park primary and Rock Ferry Primary School in September.

Rock Ferry food hub runs a weekly large social supermarket from the building using both intercepted foods and the subscription to Fare share, this is running on a Pay as you feel model which allows people to pay what they can in money, skills or time. Which allows the service to be open to everyone no matter their financial circumstance.

The other really positive group of people the social supermarket is being able to support is the 16-24 year olds living on very low incomes in the Beacon Project many of which have left care and now living independently, the social supermarket offers a low cost option for weekly shopping for the young people with the dignity of choosing what food they want and always being welcome in the centre and also offering projects that they can engage with and volunteer through. They now have two young men who help set up and stock the shelves. People are travelling from outside the area to use the services. Along with the weekly supermarket they have free bread, fruit and vegetable available daily.

Beechwood Food Hub

The Beechwood food hub was allocated £15,000 to set up and deliver a discounted supermarket, holiday food clubs, cookery workshops and develop their food bank. Beechwood Food Hub has provided 48 food hampers, weekly discounted food hubs to open to anyone from Beechwood. They have donated cereal to local schools (St Paul's, Manor, Bidston Village). They are working with the food bank and The Chapel to supply food to residents, many of whom are experiencing financial hardship. They are working with Rock Ferry food hub to share food. They have organised a pop up shop for Beechwood in Bloom engagement day.

They are working with Beechwood Community Centre which is currently being asset transferred, refurbished and a new kitchen installed. The playscheme and other partners, as part of the food hub, will deliver holiday food in the future.

Bidston and St James Food Hub

School holiday activities

St James Centre was allocated £15,000 of constituency funds 2015-16 to expand their food hub offer. They provide food and fun activities, which were delivered over school holidays from February – April 2016, providing meals to 134 children at the St James Centre.

His Church

The St James Centre has ordered and received 4 beauty and household supplies from HIS Church. They have distributed these through their library coffee morning, using the St James Opp Shop, at the Community Celebrations (bingo & Queen's birthday lunch) and Community Market days.

Food poverty and welfare

The St James Centre continues to be a part of the Wirral Foodbank (Trussel Trust) as a distribution point on a Monday evening. They welcome the support of Involve NorthWest benefit advisors at these sessions and together they have been able to address individual and family challenges around welfare blockages and budgeting. They have supported 4 families to access foodbank with whitegoods through the Birkenhead Relief in Sickness Grant.

Future plans

St James Centre Summer programme starts on Monday 25th July. Their offer includes family experiences out of area, jolly tots (under 3s session) & reading group (new), library craft, family and junior cooking, youth trips and park play (outdoor facilitated play with light snack). Funding from the constituency has enabled the St James Centre to provide additional staffing resources to these activities as well as cover material and ingredients costs. They have also drawn in funding from Prince of Wales Charitable Trust, Soroptimists, Inner Wheel, the Lions club, Lifelong Learning and internal fundraising.

Working with Lifelong Learning, from September they are hoping to utilise the teaching kitchen for adult cookery classes with an optional qualification in Food Hygiene (L2), Nutrition and Allergy Awareness (at L1). They also hope to work with Can Cook to deliver a range of Master Classes for children and young people aged 10-21 years in addition to our ongoing Family and Junior Chef School programmes.

Gautby Road Play and Community Centre

Gautby Road Play and Community Centre have offered their discounted supermarket every week since January 2016. They have provided weekly intercepted food and cleansing products to local residents from Fareshare and also pallets of food from 'His Church'.

They have refurbished their kitchen with Your Wirral funds and are providing Holiday food alongside the playscheme holiday activity. They are looking to expand what their community shop offers and are visiting 'His Church' to look at providing a wider range of stock for local people.

Fare Share

The Wirral Fare Share was launched before Christmas and is located in Wallasey Wheatland Road Business units. They intercept food from suppliers and outlets and distribute to charities at lower costs for redistribution to people as part of luncheon clubs, social food hubs and food banks.

Fareshare now has the following Birkenhead members:

- St James centre
- Bee Wirral
- Gautby Community Centre
- Christ the King
- Neo community (moving to Rock Ferry shortly)
- YMCA Birkenhead
- Wirral Elders
- Wirral Age
- Phoenix House
- Alpha Homes
- Caribbean luncheon Club
- St Catherine's Community Centre

Fareshare is also working with the Liberty Centre in Whetstone Lane and looking at delivering intercepted food to their newly established food hub there.

His Church

Gautby Road Play and Community Centre is co-ordinating the delivery of food and cleaning material pallets to Birkenhead food hubs.

So far Feeding Birkenhead food hubs have received 31 pallets of food and cleansing products since January. It is estimated that the pallets are worth around £2,000 each

retail value, which means around £64,000 retail value of food has been distributed in Birkenhead so far this year. The food hubs are working together and have decided to increase their order and delivery from His Church from August 2016.

For more detailed information about the food hub activity please see Appendix 4.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note the progress of the Birkenhead food hubs**
- **Allocate an agreed amount of the 2016-17 committee funding to the Feeding Birkenhead Task Group for expanding food related projects: eg. Can Cook, holiday food projects**

4.3.2 Your Wirral Birkenhead

Since the last committee meeting 21st January 2016, a final round of Birkenhead Your Wirral Funding took place in February 2016. A total of £22,560 was awarded to 10 organisations to carry out projects to address food poverty and provide provision to children and young people in the school holidays. The projects funded were:

- Fare Share for the feeding vulnerable people in Wirral scheme
- Cook and taste for teens through Courtney Park Resident Association
- The Rotary Club of Mid Wirral to provide food storage at Charles Thompson Mission
- The Harvest Project with Birkenhead Lions
- Birkenhead Youth Club to provide holiday lunches
- A chicken coop at Woodchurch Road Primary School
- Friends of Birkenhead Library to install raised beds at the pocket park at Birkenhead Library
- The holiday fun and food project through Tranmere Community Project
- Gautby Road JMC to upgrade their kitchen facilities
- St Werburghs School to build raised beds and garden area

After all these projects were awarded, there remains a underspend of £69,049

It has been agreed that the remaining Your Wirral funds can be used as matchfunding for a community shop project located in the Pyramids, subject to securing lottery funds for the project.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note the progress in relation to Your Wirral spend 2015-16**

- **Note 2015-16 Your Wirral funds, there remains £69,049 to match fund the community shop project**

4.4 Road Safety

For 2015-16 an allocation of £25,000 was given to the Committee and delegated to the Road Safety Task Group to fund projects to address road safety issues in Birkenhead. The Road Safety Task Group met on 11th December 2015 and considered 9 road safety proposals. Funds were allocated to the following:

- **Circular Road – One Way Traffic Regulation Order**
- **Hindertons Road - Two Vehicle Activated Signs**
- **Bidston Village - Two Vehicle Activated Signs**

The projects are currently being delivered by the Council's Highways and Road Safety Section.

A further £32,500 has been allocated to the Constituency Committees for 2016-17. The remaining unallocated proposals from last year's task group assessment will be reviewed along with any additional proposals which will be invited by the Road Safety Task Group.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note the update from the Road Safety projects 2015-16**
- **Delegate the allocation of the £32,500 for 2016-17 road safety projects to the Road Safety Task Group to meet over the Summer**

4.5 Tackling ASB

This 2015-16 the Constituency Committee had in total £54,000 to allocate to ASB projects.

- £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**

£30,034 remaining was agreed by the ASB task group and committee to go to the Integrated Approach where it would be allocated through the Police and the ASB team.

Recommendations:

The Constituency Committee is requested to:

- **Note that the integrated team have allocated the funds to:**
 - **Child Sexual Exploitation Project £1000**
 - **Sports Development Project at the tennis centre until 'The Hive' opens in February 2017 - £2136**

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The report reports on project expenditure incurred in 2015/16 and funded from the Constituency Committee's allocated budget. The report also recommends future project work to be funded from the 2016/17 Constituency Committee budget. There are no other financial implications.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

None.

8.0 RELEVANT RISKS

None.

9.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Engagement is being carried out throughout the delivery of the projects. Please see Appendix 5 for community engagement activity. Public questions and answers are in Appendix 6 and will be tabled at the committee.

10.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

[Starting on a separate page]

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Finance Table

Appendix 2 – Involve ‘Grotspot’ Update (to be tabled at meeting)

Appendix 3- Clean-ups update

Appendix 4 – Food hub update: St James and Rock Ferry

Appendix 5 – Engagement Activities

Appendix 6 – Public Questions and Answers (to be tabled at meeting)

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Birkenhead Constituency Committee	21.1.2016

APPENDIX 1 2016-2017- Birkenhead Constituency financial allocations

Areas of funding	Budget 2016/17	Spend 2016/17	Funding available in 2017/18	Source	Funding available in 2017-2018 Committed against	Carried forward to 2017/2018	Committed value	Balance unallocated	% Allocated from original resource (£268,083)
Core budget 2016/17 Previously allocated in 2014-15, but not used: TK Limited Data analysis Community researchers Merseyside fire-football project Rodney Street Parking Parking Scheme maintenance	£50,000		£60,000	Funding within Wirral Council reserves	Core budget carry forward	£60,000		£60,000	
Core Budget Sub-total	£64,000	£4,000	£60,000		Core Budget Sub-total	£60,000	£0	£60,000	6%
Integrated transport block capital programme (16/17):	£32,500		£32,500	Capital funding still available to be utilised	Integrated transport block capital programme carry forward	£32,500		£32,500	
Improving Road Safety Sub-total	£32,500	£0	£32,500		Improving Road Safety Sub-total	£32,500	£0	£32,500	0%
Your Wirral: b/f from 15/16 Social Supermarket Scheme* <i>*nb: proposed by Frank Field, agreed by Magenta on the condition the additional funding required can be raised.</i>	£0		£0		Your Wirral carry forward	£0		£0	
Your Wirral Sub-total	£69,450	£69,450	£0		Your Wirral Sub-total	£0	£0	£0	100%
Birkenhead ASB 2016/17 b/f from 15/16 Transfer to ASB integrated approach team	£0		£0		Core budget Carry forward	£0		£0	
Birkenhead ASB sub-total	£30,034	£30,034	£0			£0	£0	£0	100%

Total	£195,984	£103,484	£92,500
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Total	£92,500	£0	£92,500	47%
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Community Clear Ups

Rodney Street

- Date 15th October
- Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

The environmental day was organised by the Rodney Street Resident Association with the support of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Involve Northwest and Wirral Council Apprentices.

The resident association also involved the children who lived in the road by organising a litter picking competition.



Beaconsfield Court

- Date 15th November
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Cllr Chris Meaden ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents herself.

Harrowby Road

- Date January 16
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

Police Action Day (North End)

- Date February 16

-Household waste removed: 6 skips = 3 tonnes
9 x 7.5 Biffa Lorries = 9 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

On the 1st February 2016 the police organised a day of action around the North End and Harrowby Road, Tranmere.

The purpose of the community action day was to allow vulnerable residents to dispose of household waste while giving the police the opportunity to engage with the residents at the same time.

The police requested support from the Birkenhead Constituency Committee, both in terms of providing the skips and by organising additional support from Biffa and Involve Northwest.

Skips were placed at:

- Harrowby Road, Tranmere
- Hurrell Road, North End
- Norman Street, North End
- Connaught Close, North End



Hurrell Road required extra support from Involve Northwest and Biffa due to the amount of household waste placed at the site of the skips. Biffa assisted and 9 extra lorry loads were needed to remove the waste.

It is always difficult to estimate how much waste will be deposited at the location of the skips and in the case of Hurrell Road the amount of waste was far too much for the capacity of the skips.

Without the additional support of Biffa and Involve Northwest it would have been extremely difficult to remove the waste that couldn't fit into the skips.

Seymour Street

-Date February 16

-Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

Elmswood Road

-Date February 16
-Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

Clifton Park

-Date: February 2016
-Household waste removed: 2 skips – 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Even though Clifton Park only had 2 skips on the Community Clear Up Day itself a lot of work was undertaken previously to identify issues the area was facing.

A walk about of the area was conducted by officers from the councils ASB Team, Waste and Recycling, ward councillors, Merseyside Police and representatives from Registered Social Landlords.

Below are the actions that were identified and actioned following the walk about.

1. Hollybank, gate 663 – serious fly tipping – Lisa to action - put on CRM and let the enforcement team know alley gate fly tipping dumped bath/sofa cushions/black bags.
2. Street light permanently on 46 Hollybank Road column 10
3. 37A The Woodlands bins - x3 green contaminated bins on footpath possible abandoned multiple bin bags have been left out - send enforcement letter out Front 37a
4. 45 The woodlands – Ian Gordon/Alan Lipscombe will investigate to see if it is an empty property and report back.
5. 47 The Woodlands - front driveway contaminated with over 30 black bin bags/x3 wheelie bins contaminated/x1 burnt out bin.
6. Street light out in Brookland Road
7. Borough Road opposite Pyramids – 3 bin bags to be shifted –Lisa to action with the neighbourhood.
8. Borough Road opposite TJ Hughes – alleyway to be cleansed and also grotspot outside of alleyway
9. 14 Circular Road- alley gate 677, wall is falling down
10. 12 Circular Road – A number of household items in the front garden
11. Side 22 Circular Road Birkenhead entry between the houses full of weeds
12. Rear 3 Lowwood Road Birkenhead Barn's estate agents Grange Road West landlord burning rubbish at rear

13. Dog fouling in the play area reported to Dog Fouling and Wirral Anti-social Behaviour Team.
14. 3 x Wheelie bin fires on The Woodlands to MFRS and Wirral Anti-social Behaviour Team
15. 5 The Woodlands reported to MFRS to assess any fire risk.
16. Cllr Jean Stapleton requested Mike from Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team contacted Environmental Health regarding fly tipping on Oxton Estate, Halcyon Road.

Police Action Day (Beechwood)

- Date 2nd March
- Household waste removed: 5 skips = 2.5 tonnes
- Partner Involvement:

Led by Merseyside Police, a day of action was organised on the Beechwood Estate on the 2nd March. The day consisted of a few elements including

- 5 skips situated around the estate to allow residents to dispose of household waste.
- Unused garages were searched for signs of illegal activity.
- Removal of graffiti
- Removal of a pole outside the shops on Fender Way for safety reasons.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Jigsaw (Liverpool Housing Trusts internal waste removal team) and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

Police Action Day (Beechwood)

- Date: 27th April
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 3 tonnes
- Partner Involvement:

Designed as a follow up engagement day from the event on the 2nd March the Police requested 3 skips be placed at various locations on the estate for residents to dispose of household items.

The day also included litter picking with the local primary school, engagement with local residents around anti-social behaviour and promoting the police presence on the estate.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Jigsaw (Liverpool Housing Trusts internal waste removal team) and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

Ribble Street

- Date: 13th May
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne
- Partner Involvement:

The Birkenhead Constituency Team liaised directly with local residents and Cllr Brian Kenny to organise for 2 skips to be placed on Ribble Street which allowed elderly residents in the road to dispose of household items.

Clear up of Rock Ferry Shore and Esplanade.



- Date: 20th May
- Household waste removed: 1 skip = 1/2 tonne
- Partner Involvement:

The Birkenhead Constituency Team has extensively worked with the Rock Park Proprietors on the maintenance of Rock Ferry Shore and Esplanade.

This has included assisting the group with skips, litter picks and liaising with Biffa on the groups behalf to arrange a regular time the group can leave waste for Biffa to collect. The local residents and Councillors have done a great job of frequent beach clean-ups, with support from the Refreshment Rooms too. A regular collection by Biffa of waste has also been established.

Raffles Road

- Date: 26th May
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne
- Partner Involvement:

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

Patterson Street

-Date: 14th June
-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 ½ tonne

-Partner Involvement:

The Birkenhead Constituency Team worked in partnership with the Councils Waste and Recycling Department on the Patterson Street Action Day. This allowed residents in the street to discard household items and unwanted goods.

The Woodlands

-Date: 16th June
-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 ½ tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Following on from the successful community clear up day in February 3 skips were placed around the Woodlands and Clifton Park estate for residents to dispose of any unwanted household items. It is hoped that this will lead to a reduction in fly tipping and litter on the estate as well as allowing residents who may not have access to a vehicle to take items to waste recycling centre to dispose of any goods they want to dispose.

Police Action Day (Beechwood)

-Date: 22nd June
-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 1/2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

Police requested 3 skips be placed at various locations on the estate for residents to dispose of household items.

The day also included litter picking with the local primary school, engagement with local residents around anti-social behaviour and promoting the police's presence on the estate.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Jigsaw (Liverpool Housing Trusts internal waste removal team) and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

Rock Park Proprietors

The Birkenhead Constituency Team have been working closely with the Councils Waste and Recycling Team to support the Rock Park Proprietors with their on-going efforts to clean the Rock Ferry Esplanade area.

A special arrangement was made with Biffa one Monday every month to pick up litter collected by the group the Sunday before. This arrangement is working well with Biffa supplying the refuse bags needed for the clear up.

Taking this approach the volunteers from the proprietors have found it easier to maintain the esplanade and the area itself stays cleaner by doing a little bit every month.

The Constituency Team will continue to work with the proprietors group to support the fantastic work they do.

Total Waste Removed

In total the Birkenhead Constituency Committee has provided 39 skips and given officer support at various Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of **£4680.00** from the skip fund budget.

While it is difficult to calculate exactly how much waste the constituency team has removed, a rough estimate based on information from the skip hire company and Biffa, **We estimate that it equates to at least 32 tonnes removed.**

The skip days bring local residents, Councillors, partner agencies like the police together. They improve the environment and provide a platform for closer working.

Probation Service Partnership

The Birkenhead Constituency Team have also utilised the opportunities that arise from working with the Merseyside Probation Service.

This partnership allows the Constituency Team to nominate locations that will receive attention from the Community Payback Team. Since this partnership began the following areas and locations have received attention:

- 63 Woodlands
- Weeds in entries Claughton
- Oxtan Road – painting the railings
- Gautby Road – Painting the front of the centre and the railings

- Beechwood hub – painting the shutters
- 268 Claughton Road - lady trapped in the house because alley way was tipped upon
- Hoylake Road
- Woodchurch Road
- Inglemore/Fieldway Rock Ferry alleyways
- Bedford Place fly tipping
- Bedford Road/Byrne Ave
- Rock Ferry underpass
- Conway Street fence lanes
- Borough Road hoardings
- Rendle Street of Cleveland Street
- Devaney Medical Centre Oxton Road
- 89 Russell Road Victoria Campbell notified us to remove developers rubble from Council green space
- 40 Plumer Road, assessed for access trying to establish ownership
- Beaufort Road litter pick on behalf of peel holdings
- Observatory allotments clear-up for the Harvest Project
- Rear Chestnut Grove
- Underbridge Chamberlain Street
- Waterloo Place
- Rendel Street

Appendix 4: Birkenhead Food Hub updates

The Rock Ferry Food hub a year on....

Rock Ferry food hub now has its own constant delivery building at the Beaconsfield Community House which with the support of Neo community café has set its self-up as a Charity in its own right and the community are being supported to asset transfer the building from the council, to offer full community ownership and community lead activity from the building.

The Feeding Birkenhead School provision has been running all School holidays since February of this year from Beaconsfield Community House and has now delivered a total of 1637 meals and snacks through the year of running the programme. Along with craft clubs, gardening, cookery, community clean up days, environmental days and loads of fun for children.

Rock Ferry Food hub also runs surplus food education courses and cookery clubs in Well Lane Primary school and is going to also run these projects in Mersey Park primary and Rock Ferry Primary School in September.

Rock Ferry food hub runs a weekly large social supermarket from the building using both intercepted foods and our subscription to Fare share, this is running on a Pay as you feel model which allows people to pay what they can in money, skills or time. Which allows the service to be open to everyone no matter their financial circumstance. We have received massive support from the local community and other organisations working with families and individuals in the area. The other really positive group of people the social supermarket is being able to support is the 16-24 year olds living on very low incomes in the Beacon Project many of which have left care and now living independently, the social supermarket offers a low cost option for weekly shopping for the young people with the dignity of choosing what food they want and always being welcome in the centre and also offering projects that they can engage with and volunteer through. We now have 2 young lads who help set up and stock the shelves. We are also seeing people traveling from outside the area to use the services. Along with the weekly supermarket we have free bread, fruit and vegetable available daily.

Neo community Café who run and manage Rock Ferry Food hub are also part of the National organic network of Community Café's that are part of The Real Junk Food project who collect and redistribute surplus food from national supermarket chains as well as smaller more local retailers, through this Neo has also intercepted and redistributed 1104168grams of food this quarter to 3998 people across the Birkenhead and Wallasey area, along with supporting young peoples sheltered accommodation, other community projects, school breakfast clubs and emergency provisions with as much food as our volunteers can collect and give out across the borough. Neo is very lucky that we have an amazing and dedicated team of volunteers who without couldn't deliver even a 10th of what we are able to do. Ema Wilkes (Founder and Director) is also the North West co-ordinator for the Real Junk Food Project and would welcome and support anyone else who was wanting to look at joining the network and go through the work involved. On the 13.07.2015 Neo redistributed 630 boxes of cereal across some of the most vulnerable young people and families across Birkenhead as well as supporting a total of 247 individuals through the social supermarket with 240kg of food both fresh and ambient.

To increase the amount of food that Neo can intercept and the amount of people we can support we identified the need for a large van and through community funding we raised £2500 in a matter of days through an online giving page and bucket collections along with this we have managed to raise a further £2400 through corporate funding to enable us to buy a large transit van as well as the tax and insure for 6 months.

Neo Community Café has also received recognition for our project model from Coventry City Council and the Voluntary sector and Leeds Voluntary Sector and Primary School cluster and have supported this with going to speak and share best practise on a number of events to help and support the setting up of Feeding Coventry and other initiatives in Leeds.

Rock Ferry food hub working with John Moors University is now also carrying out a Social Impact Longevity report on the impact within Communities of tackling food poverty and social isolation through food and grass route community action. We are also working with Liverpool University environmental team also to look at the impact on the environment.

Ema Wilkes with the support of Jen Doherty and the amazing Neo team were also remarkably proud to receive recognition through the Merseyside Woman of the Year Awards where she won Woman of the year for Community Impact 2016.

We are now looking forward to the 2nd year of #feeding Birkenhead summer provision where we plan to have 18 free day sessions including breakfast, lunch and snacks every day whilst also supporting a further 15 sessions in other settings to offer free food for children.

Neo and the Rock Ferry food hub have learnt so much over the last year, through supporting 5 volunteers into employment we have been left with a smaller team at times which we are growing again, although it has left a major gap in administration time and office planning time as our project co-ordinators are also cooking, cleaning and picking up food. We have also started looking at working partnerships more closely and insuring full community benefit and not allowing Neo to become over stretched with commitment.

Feeding Birkenhead up-date report: North Birkenhead Development Trust

1. School holiday activities

Food and fun activities were delivered over the following school holidays:

February – total of 39 children attended @ cost of £4.44 per child.

April – total of 64 individual children attended (111 meals provided) @ cost of 84p per child

May – total of 31 individual children attended @ cost of £2.03 per child

Food was sourced from Aldi, Tesco and Fareshare for all half terms.

Sessions delivered included free breakfast club (generally low take up), art and craft in the library, story telling picnic, rocket making, drop in playscheme and lunch, family cookery, create a town, youth club, meal share, football and the café has offered buy and adult meal kids eat free.

Activities where food has been provided have been very successful. Families have appreciated the offer of toast during the morning sessions and the opportunity for children to make their own lunch and sit to eat it as a community.

The family cooking has been an ongoing success. We run these sessions throughout the year and have welcomed 27 families since October 2015.

2. His Church

We have now ordered and received 4 beauty and household supplies from HIS Church. We have distributed these through our library coffee morning, using the St James Opp Shop, at our Community Celebrations (bingo & Queen's birthday lunch) and Community Market days.

The delivery of His Church pallets has been coordinated by George from Beechwood Development trust and Luke from Gautby Road. This co-ordination of deliveries has worked very well. Pallets have cost on average £180 each (last delivery slightly higher @ £200) and we have generated a small surplus from each one.

3. Food poverty and welfare

We continue to be a part of the Wirral Foodbank (Trussel Trust) as a distribution point on a Monday evening. We welcome the support of Involve NorthWest benefit advisors at these sessions and together we have been able to address individual and family challenges around welfare blockages and budgeting. We have supported 4 families accessing foodbank with whitegoods through the Birkenhead Relief in Sickness Grant.

We work closely with Wirral Ways to Recovery and the Secondary to provide a hot meal once a month to those in need. These include rough sleepers, sofa surfers and hostel sleepers. To date we have provided 5 hot food hubs, providing an average of 40 2 course, hot, nutritious meals per session (200 meals). The ingredients for this have been provided by Fareshare and donated by Tesco Bidston Moss with some additional purchases from Aldi.

4. Future plans

We have a bumper summer programme starting Monday 25th July. Our offer includes family experiences out of area, jolly tots (under 3s session) & reading group (new), library craft, family and junior cooking, youth trips and park play (outdoor facilitated play with light snack). Funding from the constituency will enable us to provide additional staffing resources to these activities as well as cover material and ingredients costs. We have also drawn in funding from Prince of Wales Charitable Trust, Soroptimists, Inner Wheel, the Lions club, Lifelong Learning and internal fundraising.

Our theme this year is Roald Dahl. Where possible we always try to fit in with the Summer Reading Challenge theme and what a great one it is this year! We will be making big ears, fox masks, wonderful concoctions and lots more!

Working with Lifelong Learning, from September we are hoping to utilise the teaching kitchen for adult cookery classes with an optional qualification in Food Hygiene (L2), Nutrition and Allergy Awareness (at L1). We also hope to work with Can Cook to deliver a range of Master Classes for children and young people aged 10-21 years in addition to our ongoing Family and Junior Chef School programmes.

Anna Barnish

Trust Manager

North Birkenhead Development Trust

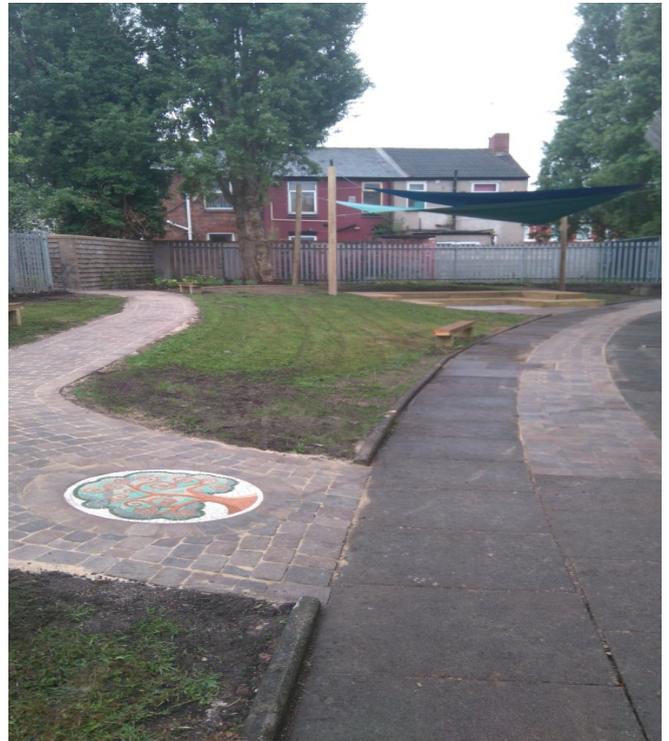
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The Birkenhead Library Health, Wellbeing and Reading Park is now open to the community.

The Birkenhead Constituency Team has been working in partnership with Involve Northwest and Friends of Birkenhead Library to build a health and well-being pocket park before Birkenhead Library.

This followed a successful application from Involve Northwest to a national funding stream administered by the DLCC for £15,000. The Pocket Park fund asked for applications to apply for and build a pocket park in an area of high deprivation more than 5 minutes' walk from existing green and park space.

The park at the library will focus on reading, health and well-being and will be accessible to the whole community, schools and residents via the library.



The design for Central Pocket reflects a number of objectives including:

- To enhance the 'offer' of the library to host children and young peoples' reading and related play in a safe, secure and natural space;
- To enable quiet outdoor reading and reflection for people of all ages;
- To provide local people with the opportunity to grow produce on a small-scale and learn about urban food production;
- To enhance the biodiversity of the Birkenhead & Tranmere urban conurbation.

The park will contain the following primary design features to achieve the above objectives:

- Informal seated amphitheatre for children's small-group shared reading and dramatic interpretation/play. The amphitheatre space will be characterised by bespoke sail cloth 'roofing' to enable inclement weather usage;
- Native spp. hedgerow planting;
- Focal tree planting of grouped specimen trees
- Raised planting beds for small-scale but meaningful vegetable, flower and herb production on a seasonal basis;
- Re-laying of existing paving slabs for health & safety reasons; extending new hard pathways to enable pedestrian access to new, informal seating areas;
- Wall-mounted, photography-printed dibond metal artworks each measuring 8'x4';(working with local schools to design the artwork)
- Use of natural wood materials in seating arrangements and low fencing to accentuate spatial zones.



The artwork for the project was designed in partnership with St Werburghs Primary School who researched different places around Birkenhead with the children taking the pictures that can be seen in the art attached to the back of the library building. As an extension of the services offered by Birkenhead Library the park will be accessible whenever the library itself is open.

The park was officially opened by Frank Field on the 10th June 2016

For any questions regarding the pocket park at Birkenhead Library please contact Andy Brannan on 691 8391 or email andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk.