



## Constituency Committee - Birkenhead

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 1 March 2018
<b>Time:</b>	6.20 pm
<b>Venue:</b>	The Wirral Deen Centre, 371-375 Borough Rd, Birkenhead CH42 0HA

**Contact Officer:** Mark Hardman  
**Tel:** 0151 691 8546  
**e-mail:** markhardman@wirral.gov.uk  
**Website:** www.wirral.gov.uk

---

From 6pm there will be an opportunity for informal networking and to sample multicultural food

### 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 - 14)**

The Committee is requested to approve the accuracy of minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2017.

**4. WIRRAL DEEN CENTRE - PRESENTATION**

Presentation from Mohammed Mustafizur about the Wirral Deen Centre and what it offers.

**5. LOCAL INITIATIVES - PRESENTATION**

Presentation from Katie Wilkinson (Merseyside Police) about local initiatives promoting Community Cohesion in The Woodlands.

**6. FUTURE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING - PRESENTATION**

Presentation from Cllr Matthew Patrick, Cabinet Member for Localism and Engagement, on the future of neighbourhood working.

**7. BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (Pages 15 - 50)**

To receive the report of the Constituency Manager.

**8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

To receive notice of pre-raised questions.

## CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - BIRKENHEAD

Thursday, 5 October 2017

Present:

Councillor G Davies (Chair)

Councillors	A Brighthouse	J Stapleton
	P Davies	P Cleary
	WJ Davies	B Kenny
	S Foulkes	P Doughty
	T Norbury	A Davies
	D Realey	S Kelly

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

Councillor Steve Foulkes declared a personal interest in all items contained within the agenda by virtue of any reference being made to Magenta Living of which he is a Board Member.

14 **CHAIRS WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed Members and the members of the public present to the meeting and thanked them all for their attendance.

Introducing the new venue, he highlighted the rationale behind the change in venue indicating that it was felt that it would be more beneficial to hold meetings within the different wards which in turn would improve attendances and be more accessible to residents and allow for ward based matters to be discussed.

In relation to the published agenda he proposed with the agreement of the Committee to a slight change in the running order and suggested that all presentations be dealt with first.

15 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Meaden, J McManus, A McLachlan, M McLaughlin and G Wood.

16 **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee held on 14 June, 2017, be agreed as a correct record.**

17 **PRESENTATION - OXTON IN BLOOM**

The Committee considered a verbal presentation from John Booth, Oxton in Bloom updating on the current activities in relation to the up and coming 'In Bloom' competition.

He highlighted some of the work that had been undertaken within Oxton which included the installation of an automatic water system.

Mr Booth indicated that last year's competition Oxton had received the 'Outstanding' Award and he was confident that this would be repeated this year.

There would be 26 entries in the competition.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair thanked all groups and volunteers involved in the 'in Bloom' competition for their continued effort, commitment and excellent work undertaken so far which had contributed to making areas within the Borough more attractive.

**RESOLVED: That**

- (1) Mr Booth be thanked for his presentation; and**
- (2) the Committee's thanks be extended to all groups and volunteers involved in the 'in Bloom' competition for their continued effort, commitment and excellent work undertaken so far which had contributed to making areas within the Borough more attractive.**

18 **PRESENTATION - THE SILVERBACK PROJECT**

The Committee considered a presentation from Mr D Prescott, Wirral Ways to Recovery on the Silverback Project.

The project was established in response to a crisis in masculinity and poor life expectancy for men in Birkenhead and other parts of the Wirral.

Working in partnership with the Wirral Ways to Recovery, the majority of men who attended the project were in recovery from a form of addiction.

Inspired by the Men's Shed Movement and the Soulwork Movement in America the project worked on a two pronged approach which included practical training, skills sharing and development and the "Male Journey"

Mr Prescott highlighted the future plans for the project which included a formalised constitution; workshop and soulspace based at the Livingstone;

grants and bids for funding; provision of training opportunities; social enterprise schemes and development of the Soulwork Programme.

Attending alongside Mr Prescott, representatives from the centre gave an account of their experiences of both working with people at the centre and how attending the centre had helped them along their recovery journey and built up their self-esteem.

In response to Members, Mr Prescott indicated that the project was in need of tools and materials which could be used for various projects.

Members congratulated Mr Prescott on the amazing work undertaken by the Silverback Project helping turning lives around.

It was suggested that the work and activities be advertised in the Wirral View.

**RESOLVED:**

**That Mr Prescott and representatives from the Silverback Project be thanked for their informative presentation and the Committee's thanks and best wishes be conveyed to all involved.**

19 **PRESENTATION - N/COMPASS**

The Committee considered a verbal presentation from Mr John Cotcher, updating on the work, current activities and future plan undertaken by N/Compass.

Mr Cotcher indicated that N/Compass was based at the St James Centre providing advocacy services across Wirral.

The Hub provided general Advocacy, independent Mental Health Advocacy (including DoLs and RPR) independent Mental Capacity Advocacy; Care Act Advocacy and a Single Point of Contact.

Available during office hours, advocates aimed to support professionals in upholding their duty to refer into statutory advocacy and provide easy access for clients.

Advocates provide assistance to people by helping to give them a voice and they are an independent body with no agenda of their own and assist people to advise organisations as to what support they require. They offer support and guidance to people when accessing services and attend organisational meetings. They also take notes of proceedings to ensure all that is discussed is understood. The service was free and covered primarily health and social care.

In response to Members questions, Mr Cotcher indicated that the residents should be signposted to the service via the free national number detailed on the website. Advocates were employed paid members of staff. He welcomed those volunteers who could help in shaping the service going forward.

In relation to Universal Credit, Mr Cotcher indicated that advocates were not currently able to provide support to those people applying for Universal Credit and highlighted the difficulty people may face when going through the process in particular in relation to those people who may struggle to obtain a bank account without support which would massively disadvantage people.

**RESOLVED:**

**That Mr Cotcher be thanked for his informative update.**

20 **PRESENTATION - SELECTIVE LICENSING**

The Committee considered a presentation from Mr Steven Bowers, Senior Housing Standards Officer updating Members on selective licensing.

In introducing the selective licensing scheme, Mr Bowers explained that the scheme had been introduced due to poor property conditions; a growing private rented sector; high levels of health deprivation and empty properties; low rental values/ lower house prices; high tenancy turnover and property based crime.

He highlighted the method used to prioritise area suitability which had been subsequently agreed by Cabinet along with scoring criteria which was based on low demand, which was the main driver of Wirral's scheme.

The Scheme commenced in July 2015 in the following areas; Birkenhead South, Egerton North, Seacombe Library and Egremont Promenade South. Approximately 3,108 properties were identified, 41% of which were privately rented; 1326 licenses were granted in the licenced areas; 623 were granted in Birkenhead Constituency and 450 properties accredited in Selective Licensing areas.

Highlighting the consequence of failing to obtain a licence Mr Bowers indicated that this would incur unlimited fines with a possible criminal conviction; to date there had been 25 individual prosecutions for failure to obtain a licence and associated Housing Act offences and further prosecutions were pending.

In relation to compliance checks, it was reported that in total 340 such checks had been completed; of these only 23% met the minimum standard; informal notices had been issued for 63% of properties with enforcement notices served on 14% of properties and 2 Prohibition Orders served.

Mr Bowers reported that funding for the Healthy Homes Team was secured until March 2020 and highlighted some of the assistance work undertaken by the team which included; free home safety checks; referrals to support services; tenancy support; cosy homes heating grants; solid wall installation and empty property grants.

Concluding his presentation, Mr Bowers highlighted future developments which included pursuance of unlicensed properties; continual compliance checks; possible introduction of civil penalties; continual monitoring and evaluation of existing schemes and a feasibility study.

Members congratulated Mr Bowers and his team on their hard work on such an excellent scheme which improved the standard of properties in the Borough.

In response to Members questions, Mr Bowers indicated that landlords whose properties fall outside of the designated area and were subject to compliance would be dealt with by officers within the Environmental Health team and could face prosecution.

The Chair indicated that in relation to HMO's (Houses of Multiple Occupancy) discussions were ongoing in relation to policies to consider such planning applications of these types of properties.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**The Committee thanked Mr Bowers for his attendance and his informative report and the Committee's thanks be conveyed to all officers involved in the introduction of such an excellent scheme.**

#### **21 BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE**

The Birkenhead Constituency Committee Manager presented her report that provided an update on progress in relation to agreed schemes of work from the budget devolved to the Constituency Committee to date. The report also provided details of other Birkenhead Constituency Committee neighbourhood projects.

The Constituency Manager introduced Emma Wilkies from Beaconsfield Centre who gave an update on the work undertaken in relation to the "in Bloom" competition.

Emma indicated that work on "Beaconsfield in Bloom" had continued from the hard work undertaken on last year's entry. Work has been undertaken on the outdoor space and the area had been cleaned and areas cleared and planted with the assistance of the Environment and Street Cleansing teams and with the help of the local community.

She reported that an area in Rock Ferry had been adopted to make improvements to its appearance and made a request to Members for a notice board and benches for the area.

Neighbourhood Engagement Officer updated Members on the gardening project undertaken at the HIVE. Mr Brannan indicated that work had been undertaken to transform land between the fire station and the HIVE. Help had been received from officers from the Fire Authority, Council, Birkenhead Constituency and Ward Councillors. The project was almost complete and ready for the young people to use.

The Constituency Manager provided a verbal summary and update on progress for each item of report that included:

- Birkenhead In Bloom – Proposed projects to be undertaken for the 2017 Competition. All groups had been invited to the North West in Bloom Awards in Southport on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017.
- Community Partnership Days – Proved very successful, working in partnership with the Police, Fire and other partners. Areas have now seen a significant improvement. No flytipping had been reported in Beaconsfield and the skip tonnage had seen a reduction.
- The ‘Community Pay Back’ Team - A programme of alleyway week clearing and cleansing for Birkenhead had been delivered by the Community Pay Back team in particular in the Rock Ferry area. Wirral Ways to Recovery had assisted in the clear up work in Water Street. A clean-up day was planned for Larch Grove.
- Birkenhead in Bloom 2017 - 16 awards had been won at the RHS North West in Bloom competition last year with Oxtan winning the cup. There were a number of proposed projects planned and the aim was to submit more applications and build on current projects.
- Rock Ferry Food Hub – Neo at The Beaconsfield Centre – An update was provided in respect of, Neo at The Beaconsfield Centre. A number of projects had been successfully delivered during school holidays, before or after school. There was growing demand in need and the centre was getting more volunteers and requests from people wanting to help. Representatives had attended two National Conferences highlighting work undertaken. The Asset Transfer Plan would be completed by November 2017.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the progress and updates set out in the Constituency Manager’s report be noted.**



22 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The Chair referred to a number of pre-raised questions that had been received by the Committee and the responses provided as appended to the minutes.

Councillor Doughty asked if Balls Road East could be included on the Community Clean Up days.

**Birkenhead Constituency Committee**

**Pre-raised questions for 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017.**

**1 Name: John Conlan**

**Date Received: 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

**Query:** The EU has imposed a noise restriction, requiring new vacuum cleaners not to exceed 80 decibels ! I do wish the same legislation could be imposed on the high performance cars, motor-bikes, and scooters, belting up and down the roads of Birkenhead at all hours. When I was young the police would soon pull you over, and advise you to put the baffles back into the exhaust pipe, or else! How times have changed.

**Response from Merseyside Police:**

*Currently there are no restrictions specifically on noise from vehicles. The police have powers to stop any vehicles that they consider to be driven in an anti-social manner and regularly carry out campaigns such as Operation Brookdale response to the anti-social use of scrambler and motor bike usage. The police have powers under the Road Traffic Act and Police Reform Act to seize any vehicle being driven / used in an anti-social manner. The location of any vehicles being driven in such a manner is high on the police's agenda and constantly asking for information and evidence relating to their location.*

*A section of the Road Traffic Act covers defective vehicles. If a vehicle was especially noisy and the police suspected it was defect in some way they have the powers to stop the vehicle and challenge the owner on the road worthiness of the vehicle.*

---

**2 Name: Steven Everard.**

**Date Received: 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

**Query:** Why are the roads in Birkenhead / Bebington so bad. B5149 New Chester Rd from Kings Lane to St Plessington School is an absolute joke.

Kids are back to school next week some on their bikes and for 4 years they have to dodge pot holes and poor road surface. I sent this email so that when someone is hurt or killed because of the poor road surface you can't say you were not told. I have complained about this part of road for years.

**Response from Technical Services:**

*Due to planned work by a utilities company it makes it impossible to carry out any repair work on the roads mentioned in the question. Once the utility company has completed its repair work, the council will commence with maintenance work to improve this section of the road network.*

---

**3) Name: Hector Birdwisa**  
**Date Received: 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

**Query:** Why do you have double yellow lines painted in parking bays? is it to confuse people in order to fine them?

**Response from Technical Services:**

*In order to manager the available parking particularly in town centre location it is sometimes advantageous to have a mixture of restrictions in one area. For example: We may want to prohibit parking up to a certain time of day and this would be done with a single yellow line. However, we may also want to allow limited waiting in the same space and this would be marked out with a parking bay. The days/times of operation of the restrictions would be shown on an adjacent time plate. See example sign below that has 'No Waiting', 'No Loading' and 'Limited Waiting' at different times all in the one parking bay:*



---

**4 Name: Elizabeth Nesbitt**  
**Date Received: 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

**Query:** WHY HAS THE COUNCIL NOT PUT PARKING METERS ALONG THE FRONT AT NEW BRIGHTON?

ESPECIALLY NOW, WITH ALL THE CUTS THE COUNCIL HAVE TO MAKE BECAUSE OF REDUCED FUNDS FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, THIS WOULD BRING IN A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF REVENUE.

I KNOW I HAVE HEARD PEOPLE SAY VISITORS WOULD NOT COME IF THERE WAS PARKING CHARGES, BUT THESE CHARGES DO NOT HAVE TO BE HUGE. VISITORS DRIVE SOME DISTANCES TO COME THEY HAVE TO BUY FUEL FOR THEIR CARS DONT THEY?

ALSO, THE LARGE AMOUNT OF CAMPERS PARKING AGAIN FREE OF CHARGE.

**Response from Wirral Council:**

*Options are currently being reviewed with regards to these matters.*

---

**5 Name: Stephen Fletcher**  
**Date Received: 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

**Query:** This is a beautiful road (Vyner Road North) which is now being use a litter dump for McDonalds and KFC customers, particular around the access point at Bidston Hill. Could we not install a litter bin and see if the amount of litter dropped reduces? Another possibility is to install some digital cameras to catch and penalise the culprits. The situation is getting worse and worse

**Response from Wirral Council:**

*Vyner Road North is on a 12 weekly street cleansing schedule for litter and detritus, the last cleanse on the 15<sup>th</sup> September was completed to standard. A number of elements must be taken into consideration when committing to the removal, replacement or the installation of new litter bins. The Department works to a specific criteria which must be met to justify the cost of a litter bin installation. Currently the road is not one of the council's hot spot areas for litter and because of this it does not hit the required criteria for a litter bin to be installed. You can report to the council online a hot spot area for litter please follow the link <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/environmental-problems/street-care-and-cleaning/littering>*

---

**6 Name; Leonard Griffiths**

**Date Received: 13th September**

**Query:** What can be done by the council to ban/remove people who are sitting in the Grange Road /Pyramids area's covered with blankets/sleeping bags, and begging for money; they appear from 9.00 am and pick up their bed clothing at 5.30pm and disappear; are these YOUNG PEOPLE really homeless? It is giving the town a down trodden image; these are young fit people who dont want to work and would rather get handouts from the people of Wirral; I do not visit the town centre anymore because of this ; 10 years ago these people were not to be found ,so why have they suddenly sprouted up? Surely the council can appoint an officer to move them on and provide a patrol of the shopping area from 9.00- 5.30; there are enough traffic wardens so why not dispense with one and appoint an officer?

**Response from Merseyside Police:**

*Currently there is no legislation to combat homeless people form sitting in the street with the Police only having powers to address people begging, i.e. actively asking people for money / spare change. The Police and its partners have noticed an increase in the number of people in the town centre and in partnership with other services as part of a Town Centre group, have launched a scheme to educate shoppers and people about contributing to the issue by simply giving these individuals their spare change because they feel sorry for them.*

*A number of leaflets have been printed and distributed to assist with this. The economic climate has definitely had an impact but it is not uncommon for individuals to make around £100 a day without 'begging' per se. The police will use enforcement where possible and the offence of begging has been committed by using plain clothed operations to target these individuals. Recently there have been 3 criminal behaviour orders issued to individuals by the Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team for begging in Birkenhead and we actively look to enforce the conditions of these.*

*The police and its partners on the Town Centre Group will continue to take action to address the problem using the legislation available to them.*

---

**7 Name; Alan Dollery**

**Date Received: 22nd September**

**Query:** As Chairman of the Prenton Tenants and Residents Association (PTRA), I would like to ask the meeting to re-consider their actions they took when I first brought this issue to their attention.

The issue is about the weeds that have been growing regularly in the gutters, and on the pavements, around our shopping area in Prenton Hall Road. (also in other surrounding areas I might add.)

However, our shopping area situated in Prenton Hall Road is a major thoroughfare, through the heart of the Prenton Dell Estate, therefore a very busy area with all types of traffic passing through.

We have people from the community doing their daily shopping, people traveling on buses, and drivers passing through the area, and what do they see? Weeds in abundance they are growing wild and freely in and around this area.

This is not what the PTRA want people to see, the PTRA don't want people to think that their area is being neglected or not being looked after, or worse that the PTRA is failing in their commitment to the community by making sure that the area we live in is respectable and gets the attention if and when required, as most residents do pay Council taxes.

The PTRA are also aware of the cut backs the council have to make, but in this situation it is dangerous for volunteers to attempt any clearance of these weeds by standing in the busy road, no, unfortunately I feel that is a professionals job and with barriers, and weed treatment is not the answer either.

**Response from Wirral Council:**

*Increase in weeds in residential areas is a problem faced by many local authorities. One of the main reasons for this is due to the changes made in legislation which states which herbicides can and cannot be used in residential areas.*

*In approximately 2007/2008 legislation was changed to state that residual weed killers, which stayed within the soil system killing weeds as they germinated, could no longer be used resulting in only a Glyphosate based Herbicide being available, this type of Herbicide is classed as a Systemic herbicide. Not only did residual weed killer kill active weeds it also suppressed the growth of new weeds. Systemic Herbicides weed killer can only kill the weeds it comes into contact with (Green part of the plant). Because of this systemic weed killer does not suppress new growth meaning that a road or highway could be sprayed with Systemic Herbicide weed killer one day yet new weeds could grow the next day and continue to grow until the next*

*scheduled spray approx. 12 weeks later weather dependant but each inclement weather day extends the scheduled date further back a week.*

*Trials are taking place to identify the most effective systemic weed killer available. It is recognised that weeds in residential area has increased, however the council is trialling methods of tackling the issue with the current perimeters set by legislation and budget options.*

---

This page is intentionally left blank





## **Constituency Committee - Birkenhead Thursday, 1 March 2018**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Birkenhead Constituency Committee</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Managing Director for Delivery</b>

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

Section 3 and 4 of this report provide an update on progress in relation to agreed schemes of work from the budget devolved to the Constituency Committee to date. It also details other Birkenhead Constituency Committee neighbourhood projects in progress.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

- **Note the partnership work undertaken and future clean-up days funded by the skip fund**
- **Note the contribution of probation to Birkenhead clean-ups**
- **Note the 2018 Birkenhead in Bloom proposed projects**
- **Note the updates from the food hubs and holiday food projects**
- **Note the updates regarding the Improving Life Chances community pilots**
- **Note the updates from BID team, Connectors and Assets update**

## **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

Please see section 3.0 background information for details

## **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Please see section 3.0 background information for details

## **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **3.1 Keeping Birkenhead Clean**

#### **The launch of the Love where you Live Litterpick kits**

Birkenhead Constituency now has 5 Love Where You Live hubs. This means any members of the public can book at the numbers below and use the litter pick kits for clean-ups:

- Beaconsfield Centre: 07447 913888
- Gautby Road Centre: 652 5645
- St James Centre: 670 9974
- Beechwood Trust: 677 8008
- Livingstone Street Centre: 653 5223

Britain Tidy is organising a national Great British Spring Clean to take place over the weekend of 3/4<sup>th</sup> March. Information can be found here:

[http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean?utm\\_source=KBT\\_General&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=GBSC18\\_260118\\_KBT\\_General](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean?utm_source=KBT_General&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=GBSC18_260118_KBT_General)

2018 'In Bloom' proposed projects include:

1. Birkenhead YMCA – planters and hanging baskets in Borough Road and YMCA garden
2. Beechwood in Bloom – partnership work transformed Beechwood
3. Ballantyne in Bloom - hanging baskets improve Ballantyne
4. The Beechwood Little Centre in bloom
5. Bidston Village in Bloom – hanging baskets improve Bidston Village
6. Gautby in Bloom – youth club, play scheme and staff flower up Gautby Road
7. Livingstone Street in Bloom – centre users grown vegetables and flowers
8. Bidston Rise in Bloom – residents and Magenta worked to have hanging baskets and planters.
9. Bluewood in Bloom – Magenta and residents planted up wild flower Areas
- 10 Oxtan in Bloom – secret gardens, Williamson and hanging baskets
11. Rock Ferry in Bloom – Neo Community Café and volunteers have worked to improve one stop shop area
12. Beaconsfield in Bloom – developing community garden next to the centre
13. Prenton in Bloom x 2– continued improvements on Woodchurch Road and

Prenton Dell Road

14. Claughton in Bloom – working with retailers and the 6th Form College to have an Oxtan style hanging baskets.

15. The Lauries Centre – tenants improve the town centre landscaping

16. The Hive – development of a community garden

17. Alleyways behind Claughton Road – residents transform into an oasis of Flowers

18. Alleyways behind Water Street – residents and Wirral Methodist Housing Association transform into an oasis of flowers

19. Birkenhead Park in Bloom (HYPE)

20. The Woodlands in Bloom

The projects will be great examples of agencies putting in time and funds, working with schools and residents to improve their areas. Big Local, probation, Magenta and Tesco are making valuable contributions to projects with their time and funds, along with residents, agencies, schools, the Environmental Team, probation and constituency team.

In Bloom projects have a number of positive outcomes:

- Makes retail areas more inviting so encourages local economic growth
- Provides volunteering opportunities
- Probation and residents will also give time and resources to the project
- Draws in external funds to Birkenhead and in kind contributions from other sectors
- Improves the environment through better landscaping
- Probation and Biffa cleanse, remove flytipping and paint areas
- Involves schools in teaching about recycling and growing
- Supports numerous Wirral pledges
- Provides an excellent platform for partnership working and a support network for volunteer groups in different areas to exchange ideas
- Provides a target to work towards – judging day - and an event to celebrate the good work done at the awards ceremony in Southport.

### **Skip Fund, Community Partnership days and Clean-ups**

In total the Birkenhead Constituency Committee has provided and planned (see next section) 104 skips and given officer support at more than 40 Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of circa **£13,000** 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 119 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.

### **Historical Clean-up dates within last 12 months**

We have the following community partnership days planned in March/April 2017:

- Rock Park clean up - 4th March 2017

- St Anne's Street clean up - BID team, constituency team and Magenta - 15th March 2017
- YMCA, BID and McDonalds co-ordinate - clean up 5th April 2017
- Bentinck Street area - 8th April 2017
- Union Street Beaconsfield Centre clean up - 19th May 2017
- Magenta Bidston Rise clean up – 18th May 2017
- Rock Ferry police action days – 9th June 2017
- Jamesbrook Close and Patten Street - 20th July 2017
- Beaconsfield clean up 1st and 3rd August 2017
- Noctorum clean up 22nd August 2017
- North end clean up 26th August 2017
- Northend 19th September 2017
- Rock Ferry 21st September 2017
- Westborne Ave – 7th January 2018
- Rodney Street Residents – 6th February 2018

### **The 'Community Pay Back' Team**

The 'Community Pay Back' team have delivered a programme of alleyway weed clearing and cleansing for Birkenhead. They have supported 'In Bloom' projects by doing clean ups and a range of other cleansing in each area. They have completed over 60 jobs for the Birkenhead Constituency Committee.

They have completed the following jobs also last year:

- Larch Road - March 2017
- Strip of land by B and M - March 2017
- Bhead library pocket park - March 2017
- Castle Street/Water Street - March 2017
- Holly Grove - March 2017
- Holborn Road - March 2017
- Central Hotel - April 2017
- Elm Road and Woodchurch Rd – April 2017
- Allcot Avenue April 2017
- Arno Rd April 2017
- Patton St Clean-up day April 2017
- Flaybrick Cemetery - June 2017
- 266 Claughton Rd - May 2017
- Oxtton Village Old bank site April 2017
- Sisters Way May 2017
- Larch Grove May 2017
- Chistleton Close May 2017
- Byrne Ave and Bedford road - June 2017
- Pocket Park behind Birkenhead library 20th June 2017
- Little Centre Beechwood 19th June 2017
- Liberty Centre 30th June 2017

Please see **appendix 1** for further details of the Birkenhead Constituency's environmental clean up day in Rodney Street.

## **Recommendations:**

### **The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

- **Note the partnership work for clean-up days for the skip fund**
- **Note the contribution of probation to Birkenhead clean ups**
- **Note the 2018 Birkenhead in Bloom proposed projects**

## **3.2 Feeding Birkenhead**

The food hub projects that have been funded by Constituency funds have provided the update information below.

### **Update from the Food Hubs**

#### **a) St James Centre – North Birkenhead Development Trust**

The St James Centre continues to provide support for families weekly. October half term we provided food and fun for 77 children.

In December we had a full programme of festive activities including flower arranging, bingo, a family winter celebration, breakfast with Santa and story time with Santa, visits by 2 local schools, a nursery and pyrography session. We delivered 27 hampers with the support of Sainsbury's, Renegade Inc and Riverside Housing. The centre also delivered 40 children's gift bags donated by Thingwall Primary School and distributed a huge number of toys donated by Wirral Lions.

The Centre continues to provide a hot food hub (HFH) in partnership with Wirral Ways to Recovery on the first Friday of the month, welcoming between 20 and 50 adults of no fixed abode. Our 2 sessions in December (an extra hub 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017) were supported by local businesses including JM Education, Miriam Day Nursery, CSM Barkery Bromborough, FareShare and Tesco Bidston Moss. The Centre gave out 60 hampers through the hot food hub. The Centre has delivered 2 sessions so far this year, providing over 50 individuals with meals. They are planning to provide 2 HFH for Easter. And from April onwards, to increase this to a fortnightly provision. They are also distributing flasks through the HFH and encouraging use of the Café.

Christmas break activities were delivered in the first week of January due to school holiday and Centre closure. St James provided a family cooking which was attended by 18 children and parents and cake decorating supported by a local small business. Open play and lunch sessions will start in the New Year focused on hopes and dreams for 2018, this will be shared around the table over a pasta lunch.

For February half term we have a full programme of activities including a storytelling picnic facilitated by The Reader Organisation and a Winter Warmer event sponsored by Viridis.

We continue to provide crisis support including free hot and cold meals from the Café as well as store cupboard standby bags.

Our weekly timetable provides activities for the whole family; including parent and tots groups, adult learning, welfare drop in, foodbank, leisure learning, classes providing a qualification, job club, exercise classes, afterschool clubs for children and young people.

Over the holidays we offer a full community programme aimed at local families see **appendix 2**. This includes work around food, ensuring families have access to nutritious meals during the holidays. Please see **appendix 3** for details of February 2018 activity provision.

## b) Beechwood Update

### Enabling residents to access to FREE Wi-Fi

Big Local funding for not for profit organisations in the Big Local has now been completed. Quality and reliable hi-speed internet is now available for members of the public to use. With the movement of many services online, it is hoped that this will be of great assistance to local residents and improve the usage of community venues.



### Dog fouling – No excuses

Big Local and Liverpool Housing Trust have agreed to match fund 4 x dog fouling stations in the Big Local area following consultation with residents on what changes they would like to see in the area. These stations will offer free, anti-vandal, bio-degradable dog bags which residents can access 24/7. In addition, Big Local has been working on a social media campaign to engage with residents for the hot-spot areas which have proved very popular.



### Raised beds anyone?

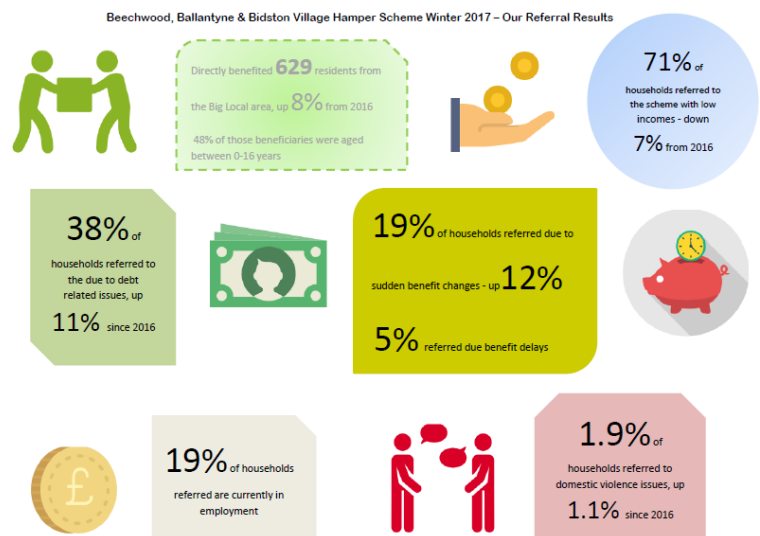
Following an application from Liverpool Housing Trust, work is nearly completed on 18 raised beds which are being built, then given away, to residents in the Ballantyne area! These beds will provide manageable areas for residents to grow flowers/vegetables of their choice and local schools will use the area also. Raised beds have been snapped up fast!

In addition, Liverpool Housing Trust's Jigsaw team have secured Big Local funded to build two large raised beds at the rear of 'The Little Centre' to enable young people attending the Beechwood Play Scheme to join in on the local environmental revolution that is taken place.



### Big Local release figures following local support

Big Local has released data following their annual multi-agency Christmas hamper scheme for local residents. Demand for the scheme was higher than ever but the data highlights the difficulties the area continually faces.



The refurbishment of the community centre, has taking longer than expected is now up and running and the centre was renamed again, THE LITTLE CENTRE, Beechwood. The new logo, was created, and the new signs all ordered for the front of building.

The recruitment of staff for the centre has taken place, a cook so far. Investment grants from the Big Local funding for state-of-the-art facilities are currently underway. Alongside the previous investment for a brand new soft play centre, new



hall and P.A systems as well as Café equipment, and multi-use comfort areas have been granted, to enable the Centre to play a key role in the development of services for local people in the years ahead.

### **Neighbourhood Planning for Beechwood**

The government is giving local communities the chance to shape development in their area through Neighbourhood Plans. The Neighbourhood plan for this area, will be called Shaping Beechwood. It will give the community a say in how the area develops. A partnership has been formed, and training provided, with support also from AECOM. The community have been invited to 'have their say', and leaflets inviting the community to various meetings have been distributed across the whole estate. Beechwood Community Trust will facilitate the Neighbourhood Plan.

#### **c) Rock Ferry Food Hub – Neo Community Café at The Beaconsfield Centre**

Hamper project went well with Neo delivering hampers to over 3000 vulnerable families at Christmas 2017.

Neo developed the garden at the Beaconsfield Centre and is improving the area by Rock Ferry One Stop Shop. Neo have been working closely with the Labour party, Tranmere Rovers FC, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, and the Wirral Council ILM programme to employ one of their former Volunteers to a full time position, enabling him to attend meetings which have been held between partners from Public Health and Fender Health Centre.

The meeting was extremely positive and a request has been made to Involve North West to investigate the feasibility of the Health and Wellbeing Connector at Fender Health Centre which the GP's can refer to. Overall the proactive partnership working approach is very positive for the future. Meetings had also been held with Joanne Chwalko from Wirral Community NHS Trust following a request from Dr Sim, as she is doing research with male parents on their support needs.

It has been agreed that the new Community centre, will be utilised for as many well being projects as possible to achieve, managing 9 traineeships and running our new surplus food storage and distribution unit. All is going well their Intermediate Labour Market placement who is now nearly half way through his contract. The business plan is being developed to explore moving towards asset transfer which hopefully will take place within the next few months.

The new look purpose built social supermarket is going strong in Beaconsfield and will also be offering on-site training programmes including retail qualifications and customer services. Neo are continuing to deliver a community dinner every Monday and numbers are growing each week. Adult learning courses begun at the end of March in partnership with Crosby Training and the DWP, including a Job centre adviser working from the centre and having a drop in and appointment service on site each week.

Neo are doing well with attracting more external catering work and functions all adding to both the fundraising for building costs, opening up employment

opportunities and redirecting more and more food away from landfill, we are averaging about 3-5 tonne of food a week now.

We are also very pleased that with the support of Peer Head Housing we have opened a community boutique and wellbeing centre in Hamilton Square. For further details please contact: Ema Wilkes: [neo.cafe@aol.com](mailto:neo.cafe@aol.com)

#### **d) Gautby Road Community Centre**

Gautby Road Community Centre has been offering a discounted supermarket weekly to local residents since January 2016. The Centre subscribes to Fareshare, His Church and get surplus food from Tesco's through the icloud app. Gautby is ordering pallets from His Church and has negotiated a good price from Fareshare for surplus food and received pallets.

The Centre has refurbished the kitchen in order to offer holiday food to local children and a food offer as part of the ASB youth project. They are working with local children to grow and cook their own vegetables as part of Gautby in Bloom 2018, building on the 'Thriving' award they received last year.

Gautby Road is working with St James, the police, YIP and the sports development team to provide food and activities across the North end for young people including a Thursday night and Saturday night session. As part of the project Gautby has taken on two ILM work placements and updated its CCTV. Gautby has extended the ILM placements until June 2018.

Luke O'Dowd: [luke@gautbyroad.co.uk](mailto:luke@gautbyroad.co.uk)

#### **e) Livingstone Street Centre – BEE Wirral Council**

BeeWirral continues to deliver a full timetable of activities, from Monday to Saturday, for all ages. On Mondays, Tea and Memories, our oral history group, now runs in the morning at The Livvy, and in the afternoons at Tomorrow's Women Wirral.

Baby dance is a 5 week course which encourages bonding with your baby with easy to do dance moves. This is a popular course so booking is essential!  
BeeKids is our after school club for 6+, but younger children are welcome if carers stay. It's free during term time.

Our social food co-op operates all week and is a great way to make your money go further. Bring a carrier bag along and fill it for a small donation (Max £3)

We have just become an Open Awards accredited centre, so in the near future many of our activities will allow those taking part to gain an accredited qualification. Future developments include working in partnership with Magenta Living and the community connectors to transform four derelict planters on Beckwith Street into wildlife havens as part of our It's Your Neighbourhood scheme.

Alongside these activities we have a continuing programme of building improvements to ensure that The Livvy has a long life as a community hub. Kath Shaughnessy: [kathshaughnessy@gmail.com](mailto:kathshaughnessy@gmail.com)

### **3.3 Improving Life Chances**

#### **Update for Improving Life Chances Community Pilots**

The Improving Life Chances Steering Group is working towards the following aims across Wirral:

- a. Improving life chances for children
- b. Supporting families to be financial resilient
- c. Tackling the immediate impacts of poverty
- d. Supporting parent into sustainable employment

Task groups in two wards have been set up to target specific areas experiencing high child poverty: Bidston and St James ward, and Seacombe ward. The areas have had their first and second meetings and have developed their respective action plans for the next year.

There has been a lot of enthusiasm for the ILC community pilots so far which is encouraging. People coming to the meetings include residents, GP, community group representatives, Councillors and agencies.

The aims of the partnership are:

- Improve partnership working
- Improve sustainability of the food projects
- Improve joint working eg. energy week, loan shark awareness week
- Establish joint data to establish evidence base and increased evaluation
- Raise profile of food hubs and community centre
- Strengthen referrals to food hubs and community centre
- Promote other wider services as part of food project
- Increase volunteering and befriending in to services

Already some good outputs have been completed thus:

- Christmas holiday food hamper project across Birkenhead and in each community pilot, working together in partnership. Delivered over 2500 hampers across the Birkenhead area. The food hampers are an opportunity to promote services through an info pack inside each hamper. The project has galvanised partnership working. Information in food hampers includes reporting ASB/Crimestoppers, energy advice, Magenta, Fairforyou, credit unions, school uniform swaps etc.
- supplementary sheets has been developed which is tailored to each area and particular themes which can be distributed at the food hubs, in hampers, Halloween, Christmas events etc.
- Beechwood and the North End have jointly bussed young people to the River of Light festival on bonfire night as part of Operation Banger
- St James has successfully secured funding for a joint Warm Home awareness event
- Annual Christmas grotto in Gautby Road in December and in Beechwood
- Annual Christmas table decorations taken place in each pilot area delivered by Life Long Learning.

- Beechwood has developed St Paul's School community hub and will offer a breakfast food club, possibly in partnership with Fareshare
- North end ASB project set up and delivered across North end
- Addressing Fuel Poverty event in Beechwood

#### **ILC Actions for 2017-18:**

- Beechwood has identified a need for a handyman service for the elderly – this is being explored through 'unltd' funding
- A volunteering/befriending project is being explored in Beechwood which has the potential to be replicated across other areas (hopefully with a portfolio for the volunteer that will lead to training or jobs)
- Invite agencies like Job Centre Plus/Reemploy/Reach Out/Health Connectors to discounted supermarkets to promote services in each area
- Joint training and e-learning will be offered eg. child poverty e-learning,
- Energy Projects Plus training, Food Hygiene training
- Sharing of initiatives and learning across the areas
- In bloom projects to be delivered in each area
- Look at joint funding applications to fund increased activity
- Implementing data collation and evaluation tool
- Applications to the community funds

The impact of the ILCs are being evaluated by public health and an update will be reported to the next committee

#### **Recommendations:**

##### **The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

- **Note the updates on Improving Life Chances pilot projects**

#### **3.4 Community Connectors Project**

The commission for community connectors is a joint commission between the Public Health and Investment teams from Wirral Council and was awarded to Involve North West for a period of two years, commencing the 1st February 2017. There are 13 community connectors employed across the east and north of the borough with 7 of the 13 connectors based within the Birkenhead Parliamentary Constituency. They are all in post and have been working hard to get to know their areas during the last quarter.

The following wards are covered by the contract based on insight research, worklessness and health inequality data; New Brighton, Moreton West and Saughall Massie, Leasowe and Moreton East, Wallasey, Liscard, Seacombe, Bromborough, Eastham, Bidston and St James, Claughton, Oxton, Prenton, Birkenhead and Tranmere and Rock Ferry.

The connectors role is to provide support for individuals to access local community activity to improve their wellbeing and as appropriate their readiness for employment. Interventions will include providing them with up to date information

regarding local opportunities available in relation to community activity as well as signposting/referring participants to mainstream services as appropriate. They are tasked with building on the asset mapping exercise that has already been undertaken ensuring that it is kept up to date and provide a platform to identify gaps in community provision. They are enablers for people providing individuals with “hand holding” to community activities/groups or mainstream services and supporting participants to build/extend their individual personal networks and friendship groups and neighbourhood. Examples of this could include organising days out, environmental and/or community participation projects. The project has a target to engage with 1,885 across the specified wards, it is expected that 1,015 of the participants:

- Are at least 18 years old and of working age;
- In receipt of employment support allowance with priority given to those in the employment support allowance work related activity group (owing to the continued expansion of DWP’s Universal Credit payment system this eligibility may be subject to future expansion with prior agreement and at the absolute discretion of the commissioner),
- A minimum of 75% reside in the parliamentary constituency of Birkenhead (this figure can be subject to flexibility in consultation with and at the absolute discretion of the Commissioner).

Please see **appendix 4** for Connectors update presentations slides.

### **3.5 Birkenhead First Activity Update: 2017**

The Business Improvement District Team are continuing their diverse town centre activity to support the retail area in Birkenhead and has delivered the following programme of events last quarter:

- 30th September - 14th October 2017 -Wirral Arts Festival
- November 2017 River of lights -Hamilton Square Waterfront
- 17th, 18th, 19th November 2017 - Fabulous Frost Fair Birkenhead Town Hall
- 18th November 2017 - Pirate Day - Tram museum and Pacific Road
- December 2017 Santa Special Tram ride and Christmas wonderland -Tram museum and Pacific Road
- December 2017 Birkenhead Loves Christmas - Hamilton Square
- December 2017 Santa's Post Office - Town Centre

### **3.6 Birkenhead Assets update**

#### **The Beechwood Centre**

The Beechwood Centre signed the lease to take on the former Beechwood Community Centre, as an asset transfer, on 9th December 2016. The Directors of the Beechwood Centre formerly, members of the Joint Management Committee, have worked relentlessly for the past few years to develop a business plan, secure funds and run the building as a community interest company.

The building has been refurbished and will soon provide an expanded food hub, community café, soft play area, sports hall, community room, play scheme and much more for the local community. The group appointed a Centre Manager and cook

and assistant in September 2017. The centre hosted the successful Improving Life Chances annual event in October 2017. A full update of their activities can be found in 3.2 b).

#### **Beaconsfield Centre, Rock Ferry**

The Beaconsfield Centre is being operated by Neo Community Café. They are providing office space for the Early Years Trust. They have a food hub, youth club, residents association, Bingo, advice and guidance, community garden and much more. They have developed their business plan and are accessing funding whilst working towards asset transfer in the very near future.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

There are no staffing implications.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

There are no relevant risks.

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Please see appendix 1 for details.

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no equality implications.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** *Jo Burrell Constituency Manager*

0151 666 3897

email: [joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1 Birkenhead Constituency Team Neighbourhood Environment and Engagement Update

March 2017

### The Good Neighbour Scheme

The Good Neighbour Champions Scheme is an initiative aimed at harnessing the principals of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) by attempting to identify and work with people who would like to volunteer to be a Good Neighbour in their street, road, cul-de-sac or neighbourhood.

This could be as a friendly face to say hello to or someone who could signpost fellow residents to services available in the area

How it works:

The scheme has been designed to be relatively informal and simple to operate while striving to use Asset Based Community Development methods throughout.



If a resident volunteers to put themselves forward as a good neighbour then they are asked to display an 'I am a good neighbour' sticker in their window.

The scheme itself is simple, however with more and more stickers being displayed it is creating a wave of residents celebrating what it means to be a good neighbour.

#### Progress so far:

From the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017 to 24<sup>th</sup> January, a total of **792 residents** have volunteered to be a good neighbour and displayed a good neighbour sticker in their window.

This figure is increasing everyday with an average of **66 residents** displaying a sticker per week.

The table below give a geographical breakdown of where we stickers have been displayed by residents. However for this scheme it is important to focus on the stories behind the numbers. This scheme is about the conversations residents are having on their doorsteps or including someone in the community who otherwise maybe isolated.

The statistically information are just one indicator for this scheme. There are a number of case studies below telling the stories beyond the numbers.

Ward	Number of leaflets	% of all leaflets	Households	Rate per 1,000 households
Bebington	2	0.3%	6,645	0.30
Bidston and St James	140	17.7%	6,889	20.32
Birkenhead and Tranmere	111	14.0%	7,747	14.33
Bromborough	14	1.8%	6,690	2.09
Clatterbridge	1	0.1%	5,924	0.17
Claughton	68	8.6%	6,285	10.82
Eastham	3	0.4%	5,955	0.50
Leasowe and Moreton East	93	11.7%	6,390	14.55
Liscard	40	5.1%	6,891	5.80
Moreton West and Saughall Massie	39	4.9%	6,176	6.31
New Brighton	6	0.8%	6,784	0.88
Oxton	18	2.3%	6,592	2.73
Pensby and Thingwall	2	0.3%	5,803	0.34
Prenton	44	5.6%	6,051	7.27
Rock Ferry	46	5.8%	6,465	7.12
Seacombe	4	0.5%	6,871	0.58
Upton	149	18.8%	7,127	20.91
Wallasey	12	1.5%	6,313	1.90
<b>Wirral</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>117,598</b>	<b>6.73</b>
<b>Source:</b>				
Household data taken from Census 2011, via Office for National Statistics				
Good Neighbour Scheme data provided by Involve North West				

## Community Clear Ups

### Rodney Street

-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1.5 tonnes

#### **-Partner Involvement:**

The environmental day was organised by the Rodney Street Resident Association with the support of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Involve Northwest Community Connectors and Wirral Councils Waste and Recycling Team.



---

## **Westbourne Avenue**

---

-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1.5 tonnes

**-Partner Involvement:**

The 'Good Neighbour Day' was developed between the Wessy Ave Resident Association and Involve Northwest's Community Connectors Project. Support on the day was also given by Liverpool Housing Trust, the Birkenhead Constituency Team and Waste and Recycling.

The day was developed to bring all the residents together, tackle local issues and clean up the immediate environment.

**For information on any of these projects please contact.**

**Andy Brannan, Birkenhead Neighbourhood Engagement Officer.**

**Email: [andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk) Phone: 0515 691 8391**

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Appendix 2 St James Holiday Food Provision –**

### **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

#### Free Breakfast Club

9am – 11am

Café at the St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL

Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

#### Jolly Tots – play, story time and snacks for under-3s and parents/carers (50p)

9.15am – 10.30am

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL

Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

#### Play scheme with lunch

10am – 2pm

Prenton Community Shop, 29 Dickens Avenue, Prenton, CH43 0TQ

Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

#### Play scheme with lunch

10am-2pm

Bebington Youth Club, Cornwall Close, New Ferry, CH62 1BG

Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

#### Community Cook Up

11am – 2pm

Beaconsfield Community House, Beaconsfield Close, Rock Ferry, CH42 3YN

Ema Wilkes, [ema@neocommunity.org.uk](mailto:ema@neocommunity.org.uk), 07447 913 888

#### Open Play with games, crafts and lunch

Midday – 1.30pm

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL

Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

#### Youth Club and dinner for children aged 11+ (50p)

5.45pm – 7.15pm

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL

Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

### **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

#### Free Breakfast Club

9am – 11am

Café at the St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL

Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

#### Storytime Picnic in the Library (booking required, £1 per family)

Time tbc

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL

Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

Play scheme with lunch

10am – 2pm

Prenton Community Shop, 29 Dickens Avenue, Prenton, CH43 0TQ  
Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

Play scheme with lunch

10am-2pm

Bebington Youth Club, Cornwall Close, New Ferry, CH62 1BG  
Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

Arts N' Sports

11am – 2pm

Beaconsfield Community House, Beaconsfield Close, Rock Ferry, CH42 3YN  
Ema Wilkes, [ema@neocommunity.org.uk](mailto:ema@neocommunity.org.uk), 07447 913 888

Kids Club

4pm – 6pm

Beaconsfield Community House, Beaconsfield Close, Rock Ferry, CH42 3YN  
Ema Wilkes, [ema@neocommunity.org.uk](mailto:ema@neocommunity.org.uk), 07447 913 888

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

Free Breakfast Club

9am – 11am

Café at the St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL  
Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

Play scheme with lunch

10am – 2pm

Prenton Community Shop, 29 Dickens Avenue, Prenton, CH43 0TQ  
Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

Play scheme with lunch

10am-2pm

Bebington Youth Club, Cornwall Close, New Ferry, CH62 1BG  
Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

Family Social Supermarket and Kids Take Over Café

11am – 2pm

Beaconsfield Community House, Beaconsfield Close, Rock Ferry, CH42 3YN  
Ema Wilkes, [ema@neocommunity.org.uk](mailto:ema@neocommunity.org.uk), 07447 913 888

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

Free Breakfast Club

9am – 11am

Café at the St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL  
Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

Play scheme with lunch

10am – 2pm

Prenton Community Shop, 29 Dickens Avenue, Prenton, CH43 0TQ  
Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

Play scheme with lunch

10am-2pm

Bebington Youth Club, Cornwall Close, New Ferry, CH62 1BG  
Bev Peters, Wirral Play Council, 0151 650 0030

Kids Club (Plus Trip Day earlier in the day)

4pm – 6pm

Beaconsfield Community House, Beaconsfield Close, Rock Ferry, CH42 3YN  
Ema Wilkes, [ema@neocommunity.org.uk](mailto:ema@neocommunity.org.uk), 07447 913 888

Family Cooking (booking required, £2 per family)

1pm – 3pm

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL  
Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

Free Breakfast Club

9am – 11am

Café at the St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL  
Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

Family Winter Warmer – free tea, coffee, soup and cake for all, with crafts and fun for children

11am – 2pm

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL  
Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

Make a Mosaic – children’s art session with lunch

11am – 2pm

St James Centre, 344 Laird Street, Birkenhead, CH41 7AL  
Eve Barrett, [eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk](mailto:eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk), 0151 670 9974

Arts N’ Garden

11am – 2pm

Beaconsfield Community House, Beaconsfield Close, Rock Ferry, CH42 3YN  
Ema Wilkes, [ema@neocommunity.org.uk](mailto:ema@neocommunity.org.uk), 07447 913 888

This page is intentionally left blank



# FEBRUARY HALF TERM

## AT ST JAMES CENTRE

### MONDAY 19TH

9.15—10.30am — Jolly Tots; playtime, crafts, story time and a snack for under 3s and their parents/carers. (50p)

12—1.30pm— Open Play; open access playtime with lunch (Free)

5.45—7.15pm— Youth Club; Over 11s, crafts, cooking, art, and games. (50p)

### TUESDAY 20TH

11.30—Storytime Picnic in the Library; booking required (£1 per family)

5.45—7.15pm— Youth Club; Over 11s, crafts, cooking, art and games (50p)

### WEDNESDAY 21ST

1.30—2.30pm — Peoples Pantry; Affordable fresh, tinned and dried food products for sale. (Open Access)

### THURSDAY 22ND

1—3pm— Family Cooking; make a meal and enjoy it together. Booking required (£2 per family)

### FRIDAY 23RD

11—2pm Family Winter Warmer; Free tea, coffee, cake and soup, and take away the ingredients to make your own soup. Plus the chance to find out about heating your home efficiently. Mosaics and crafts for children. (Free)

344 LAIRD STREET 0151 670 9974

This page is intentionally left blank



'Connect Us' will Connect You!

# Appendix 4

## 'Connect Us'



'Connect Us' will Connect You!

# Why are Connect Us Here?

'Connect Us' looks to reach out to people who may feel they are in a 'grey area'; may be feeling trapped, isolated or invisible. 'Connect Us' focus work to support and improve the wellbeing of people in receipt of ESA/IB. Community connectors..

- Encourage, motivate and support individuals to access local community activities.
- Provide up-to-date information and signposting/referring people to relevant local services in a personalised way that people can understand and trust .
- Support people to build/extend their personal networks and positive relationships in their local communities.
- Support neighbourhood groups to continue what they do and expand and grow if this is the aspiration.

## 'Connect Us' will Connect You!

Since the start of the Project In February 2017, Connect Us have knocked on **25, 857** doors in the Wirral community leading to the following results for Wirral residents:

- Number assisted by Connect Us: **13,359**
- Number registered on the programme: **1215**
- Number registered on ESA/ UC/ Incapacity Benefit: **662**
- **Number registered on ESA/UC/IB in Parliamentary constituency of Birkenhead: 354**
- Number of existing community groups supported: **777**
- Number of new groups established in the community: **33**
- Number of new groups funded through Sparks Fund: **14**
- Number of people signed up moved into volunteering: **150**
- Number of people signed up moving in to further education or training: **121**
- Number of people gone on into employment: **49**

'Connect Us' will Connect You!

# BIRKENHEAD

The number of individuals signing up with Connect us from the Parliamentary constituency of Birkenhead has sharply risen in January 2018.

**80** new community members from Birkenhead signed up to work with Connect Us in January.

**64** of these individuals are in receipt of health related benefits.

'Connect Us' will Connect You!

## TREVOR

\*name has been changed

Birkenhead area, ESA, 30+, anxiety, depression, referral from DWP

- Struggling to leave house- feeling socially isolated
- No social networks/family breakdown
- Disclosed alcohol misuse
- Previous trauma
- Issues with finances- fears around benefits
- Feels let down by services/system

# What Trevor has achieved!

- Support to go out for a walk- now doing this regularly and independently
- Accompanied to GP appointment- medication reviewed
- Linked in to groups and services to relating to relationship with Alcohol- reported reduction
- Accessed advice and support with debt and money management
- Attended a number of new groups and community support
- Set goals and gained new interests and hobbies- made new friends!
- Reported marked improvement in wellbeing and quality of life- measured through SWEMWBS

'Connect Us' will Connect You!

## Wider work connecting Community 'Wezzy Garden'



- Links to key professionals and organisations for support and advice
- Community Organising Training
- Support to set up a constitution
- Good Neighbour Scheme- Good neighbour day
- Community tidy up
- Sourcing materials
- Successful Spark fund application

'Connect Us' will Connect You!

## 'Spark' Funds

A discretionary 'spark' fund is available as a 'kickstart' enabler. This is for small scale but sustainable activities that promote a sense of community development and improves communication and growing networks.

People signed up with Connect Us who have skills, time, energy and ideas they want to share with their community can apply..

The 'Spark' Fund is designed to support and develop thriving, active and sociable communities where neighbours are friends.

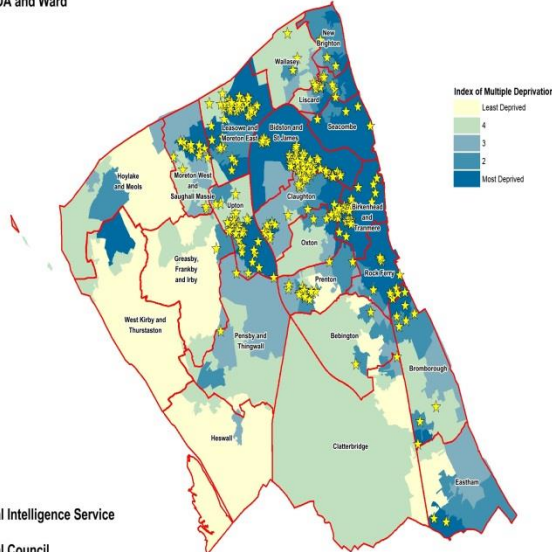
Eligible proposals are initiatives which encourage participation and neighbourliness, wellbeing, healthier past times, community pride, heritage and eco-friendliness. Applications can also be submitted for arts and cultural based ideas.



'Connect Us' will Connect You!

# Good Neighbour Scheme

Good Neighbour Scheme post code data, January 2018, with IMD 2015 quintiles, by LSOA and Ward



1000 stickers up so far! **466 of these are in Birkenhead!** The Good Neighbour Scheme is aiming to support a way of re-discovering what it is like to live in a road where people know each other, a place where everyone **feels** valued, even if it's with a simple '**hello**'.

- Feeling connected increases people's health and wellbeing.
- Reduces isolation
- Increases community spirit and togetherness
- Gets people talking and saying 'hello'

'Connect Us' will Connect You!



'Connect Us' will Connect You!

# Speak to Us- It's good to talk!

You can send referrals to:

Email: [Connectus@involvenorthwest.org.uk](mailto:Connectus@involvenorthwest.org.uk)

Or alternatively simply give us a call on:

Tel: 0151 644 4516

We endeavour to respond to referrals within 3 working days

Web:

<http://www.involvenorthwest.org.uk/index.php/services/community-connectors-service>

**Connect Us**  
Your Ideas - Your Future - Your Community

**i**nvolve<sup>northwest</sup>  
involving communities & inspiring change

This page is intentionally left blank