



Constituency Committee - Birkenhead

Date:	Thursday, 5 October 2017
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Rock Ferry Library, Urban Village, Old Chester Rd, Birkenhead CH42 3TD

Contact Officer: Lyndzay Roberts
Tel: 0151 691 8262
e-mail: lyndzayroberts@wirral.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.wirral.gov.uk>

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 - 8)

The Committee be requested to approve the accuracy of minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017.

4. PRESENTATION - SELECTIVE LICENSING

To receive a presentation from Mr Steven Bowers, Senior Housing Standards Officer.

5. PRESENTATION - THE SILVERBACK PROJECT

To receive a presentation from Mr Damian Prescott, Wirral Ways to Recovery

6. BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (Pages 9 - 50)

To receive the Constituency Managers update report and receive presentations from associated groups in relation to the 'In Bloom' Competition 2017.

7. PRESENTATION - N/COMPASS

To receive a presentation from Mr John Cotcher, on the advocacy work undertaken by N/Compass.

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - BIRKENHEAD

Wednesday, 14 June 2017

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	G Davies (Chair)	
	Councillors	A Brighthouse WJ Davies S Foulkes C Meaden T Norbury J Stapleton P Cleary	B Kenny P Doughty A Davies S Kelly Wood J McManus
<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	M McLaughlin P Davies	D Realey AR McLachlan

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The Legal Advisor to the Committee invited nominations for the appointment of the Chair.

On a motion by Councillor C Meaden, seconded by Councillor P Doughty, it was –

Resolved – That Councillor George Davies be appointed Chair of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

The Legal Advisor to the Committee then requested nominations for appointment of Vice-Chair.

On a motion by Councillor S Foulkes and seconded by Councillor P Doughty, it was –

Resolved – That Councillor Moira McLaughlin be appointed Vice-Chair of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

2 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests or any other relevant interest in connection with any items on the agenda and if so to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

No such declarations were made.

3 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Davies, A McLachlan, M McLaughlin and D Realey.

4 **MINUTES**

Resolved – That the minutes of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee held on 30 March, 2017, be approved.

5 **WIRRAL YOUTH ZONE, THE HIVE**

Stuart Barnes, Chief Executive of the Wirral Youth Zone, The Hive, gave a presentation to Members of the Committee.

He reported that the Hive had opened in April and that it was the eighth similar project in the country. It had been developed by a charity called On Sick Youth Zones who had formed a local charity – Wirral Youth Zone which was an independent charity with a strong private sector involvement.

Mr Barnes advised that a target had been set for twenty similar projects to be open by 2020 and it was believed that the Hive was the best facility for young people in the country. Twenty activities were provided at every session which included sports, boxing, a fitness suite, a climbing wall, arts, a multi media room, a music room, a salon, cooking, a skate park and a football pitch. It was hoped that the Hive would help young people achieve their potential and development in a safe supportive environment and employability and enterprise programmes were available. Members were informed that there was a joining fee of £5 per year with a charge of 50p per visit and that the facility was open on weekends, evenings, school holidays and Bank holidays.

Members heard that the Hive was already having an impact by way of positive experiences and that youths had been provided with confidence and self-esteem and that staff at the premises were polite and engaged with the young people.

Mr Barnes stated that there had been a projected target to gain 3,000 members within the first twelve months, however, this had already been exceeded with a membership of 4,200 from every ward across Wirral. He advised that sixty jobs had been created which was likely to increase and that 150 volunteers were expected by September. Mr Barnes expressed his confidence that there would be a reduction in anti-social behaviour in the area as other zones had seen a reduction of 52-77%. A young leaders project was also being developed to support young people to be fit for work and fit for life. Members were informed that young people had always been at the heart of the project by having had ongoing consultation and input and had influenced the design of the building.

Finally it was reported that there were 22 founder patrons on board by way of local businesses, there was ongoing consultation, collaboration and partnership with young people, local companies and other organisations and there was a common goal which was to support the future of the Borough's young people.

In response to questions from Members, Mr Barnes advised that there had been a lack of support in respect of transport, however extra funding had since been secured and that a mini bus would be travelling to areas where fewer young people were coming from. He advised that there were close working links with Magenta and it was also hoped that connections with Merseytravel would be pursued.

Members expressed their appreciation in respect of the potential reduction in anti-social behaviour in the area. Mr Barnes advised that there had been a reduction in the last three months. He believed that a positive relationship had been maintained with other local youth clubs and advised that there was no intention to compete with other provisions.

The Chair thanked Mr Barnes for his presentation in respect of the fantastic facilities that had been provided and requested that he report back in a year's time.

Resolved – That Mr Barnes be thanked for his presentation.

6 **WIRRAL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT POSITIVE FUTURES**

Two representatives from Birkenhead North Youth Project, Mr D Kevlin and Mr L Copson, gave a presentation to Members of the Committee.

They advised that the aim of Gautby Road Youth Club was to target young people who were causing anti-social behaviour. They informed Members that they had been employed to do outreach work and had started the youth club three nights per week which was funded by Magenta Living, also that they are community support workers as part of the ILM project. They reported that there had been 50 young people in attendance on the first session of opening and that they paid a sub to enter the building and had the option of a hot meal which was free of charge. Dan and Luke advised that there were a range of activities on offer which included sports development – karate, boxing, martial arts, DJ and rapping sessions, a computer room, hair and beauty, table tennis, gaming including FIFA tournaments, a pool table and dance sessions.

Members were informed that the project's principles were to work together to improve the area and the lives of children and to direct them on the right path in life. It was reported that there had been a reduction in anti-social behaviour

in the area. A social supermarket was also provided where food was sourced from Fair Share and free fruit and vegetables was donated by Tesco.

Mr Kevlin and Mr Copson referred to the In Bloom project and advised that they had taken over some land situated next to the premises and had personally worked to clear the land from overgrowth and debris and had installed planters. Children from the nursery and play scheme had also been involved.

The Chair thanked the representatives of the Birkenhead North Youth Project for their presentation.

Members expressed their thanks for the work that had been undertaken and hoped that the funding for this project would continue.

R Portbury, Merseyside Police, addressed the Committee. He thanked Mr Kevlin and Mr Copson for their extremely hard work in tackling the problems of anti-social behaviour in the area. He stated that funding was required for smaller youth clubs such as this.

Councillor McManus reiterated the thanks given to Mr Kevlin and Mr Copson for the dramatic improvement in the reduction of anti-social behaviour in the area and expressed her concern at the lack of funding available.

Colin Hunt, Sports Development Officer addressed the Committee and advised that the concept of a doorstep club was being developed which provided activities on the doorstep of where young people live. He reported that the number of calls received in respect of anti-social behaviour had been reduced to four from twenty four per week and also hoped that there had been a reduction in the number of fires that had been started.

Members discussed the necessity for projects such as the Birkenhead North Youth Project and the Hive to work together and the fact that they would all be seeking funding. Mr Barnes, Chief Executive of the Wirral Youth Zone, The Hive advised that he would work together with the Birkenhead North Youth Project in respect of funding.

Resolved – That Mr Kevlin and Mr Copson be thanked for their presentation.

7 **WIRRAL STRATEGIC REGENERATION FRAMEWORK**

Members were advised that this matter had been withdrawn prior to the meeting.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL GROT SPOTS CONTRACT

The Birkenhead Constituency Manager advised that there would be a continuation of the fund from the previous year and requested that should any hotspots on private land be identified, the team be notified by email.

Members discussed the definition of what would be considered as grot spots on private land and the Constituency Manager advised that it must be to the detriment of the environment, pieces of land that have gone downhill such as fly tipping and dumping.

Resolved – That the verbal report be noted.

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

- Skip Fund, Community Partnership days and Clean-ups - 91 skips had been provided for 2016/17 and officer support had been given for over 36 Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of around £11,880 from the skip fund budget. It had been estimated that roughly 108 tonnes of waste had been removed. A number of community partnership days had been planned for March and April and some dates still to be confirmed.
- The 'Community Pay Back' Team - A programme of alleyway week clearing and cleansing for Birkenhead had been delivered by the Community Pay Back team. They had completed over 60 jobs for the Birkenhead Constituency Committee.
- 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.
- Food hubs and holiday food projects updates - Updates were provided in respect of St James Centre, Beechwood, Neighbourhood Planning, Volunteering Programme, Community Boxing Club, Rock Ferry Food Hub, Gautby Road Community Centre and Livingstone Street Centre.

A number of projects had been funded for 2017 which would be delivered during school holidays, before or after school.

- Improving Life Chances Community Pilots - The aims of the Improving Life Chances Steering Group were: Improving life chances for children; supporting families to be financially resilient; tackling the immediate impacts of poverty and supporting parents into sustainable employment. Task groups had been set up in Bidston and St James and Seacombe wards to target specific areas experiencing high child poverty. The aims and actions that had been established were set out within the report.
- BID team, Connectors and Assets update – The Business Improvement District Team were continuing their diverse town centre activity to support the retail area in Birkenhead and a programme of events had been set for 2017. The Community Connectors Project's target was to engage with 1,885 individuals across the specified wards and their role was to provide support for individuals to access local community activity to improve their wellbeing and as appropriate, their readiness for employment. The Birkenhead Assets Update referred to The Beechwood Centre which had taken over the Beechwood Community Centre and would be providing an expanded food hub, community café, soft play area, sports hall, community room, play scheme and much more for the local community. The Beaconsfield Centre was being operated by Neo café which had a food hub, youth club, residents association, bingo, advice and guidance, community garden and much more.

Resolved – That the progress and updates set out in the Constituency Manager's report be noted.

10 **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.

11 **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR - MERSEYTRAVEL**

The Birkenhead Constituency Manager referred to the public feedback which had been sought on proposals for a modern Wirral bus network. She urged people to complete the online survey by 22 June 2017.

The Constituency Manager reported that there would be three drop-in events where members of the public could speak to Merseytravel staff about the proposals which would take place on 16, 19 and 21 June 2017.

Councillor Foulkes advised that Merseytravel was now a Sub-Committee of Liverpool Combined Authority. He referred to the levy which would hopefully be reduced and urged people to consider the proposals and make suggestions.

Members discussed the impact the proposals may have and the opportunity to challenge this and whether factual information would have to be provided.

Resolved – That the deadline of 22 June for completion of the online survey be noted.

12 **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR - TRIBUTE TO LATE COUNCILLOR DENISE ROBERTS**

The Chair announced that a plaque would be unveiled and a tree planted at Tam O'Shanter Farm at 12.00pm on 17 June 2017 in memory of late Councillor Denise Roberts.

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Constituency Committee - Birkenhead Thursday, 5 October 2017

REPORT TITLE:	Birkenhead Constituency Committee
REPORT OF:	Managing Director for Delivery

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. A finance summary sheet for the Constituency Committee budget and expenditure can be found in Appendix 1.

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 2017 Birkenhead in Bloom applications that have been judged and are awaiting the outcome of the competition**
- **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**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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

Birkenhead In Bloom 2017

The judge from the Royal Horticultural Society visited Birkenhead on 11th and 12th July. He was very impressed with how the projects have developed and all groups have been invited to the North West in Bloom Awards in Southport on the 3rd November.

2017 '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 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 WMHA transform into an oasis of flowers
19. Birkenhead Park in Bloom (HYPE)
20. St Paul's Road Rock Ferry (HYPE)

The projects are 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) 98 skips and given officer support at more than 38 Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of circa **£12720** 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 112 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.

Additional Clean-up days since the last committee 2017

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

- Rock Park clean - up 4th March 2017
- St Anne's Street - BID team, constituency team and Magenta on - 15th March
- YMCA, BID and McDonalds co-ordinate - clean up 5th April 2017
- Bentinck Street area - will take place during the first week of April, as the Hive is set to open on the - 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
- Beaconsfield clean up 1st and 3rd August

Up and coming clean ups:

- Noctorum clean up 22nd August
- North end clean up 26th August
- Northend 19th September
- Rock Ferry 21st September
- Marquis Street/Frodsham, Tranmere - clean up by residents date TBC
- Rodney Street Residents - date to be confirmed
- Clifton Park Residents – date to be confirmed
- Operation banger clean-ups in the run up to Bonfire Night

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 quarter:

- Larch Road 21st March 2017 19/03/2017
- Strip of land by B and M 21st March 2017 23/03/2017
- Bhead library pocket park 21st March 2017 23/03/2017
- Castle Street/Water Street 21st March 2017 19/03/2017
- Holly Grove 21st March 2017 08/04/2017
- Holborn Road 21st March 2017 08/04/2017
- Central Hotel 10th April 2017 29/04/2017
- Elm Road and Woodchurch Road 10th April 2017 29/04/2017
- Allcot Avenue 18th April 2017 29/04/2017
- Arno Rd 2nd April 2017 04/05/2017
- Patton St Clean-up day 05/04/2017
- Flaybrick Cemetery 27th April 2017 05/06/2017
- 266 Claughton Rd 18th April 2017 06/05/2017
- Oxtan Village Old bank site 18th April 2017 TBC
- Byrne Ave and Bedford Rd 18th April 2017 TBC
- Sisters Way 19th April 2017 07/05/2017
- Larch Grove (Priority) 25th April 2017 17/05/2017
- Chistleton Close 7th May 2017 18/05/2017
- Byrne Ave and Bedford road 15th June 2017
- Pocket Park behind Birkenhead library 20th June
- Little Centre Beechwood 19th June
- Liberty Centre 30th June

Please see Appendix 2 for further details of the Birkenhead Constituency’s environmental works to date.

Environmental Task Group

In 2016-17 the constituency committee had £20,000 environmental funds which was devolved to the Environmental Task Group to allocate. The Environmental Task Group met on 5th August 2016 and allocated the funds as follows:

- £5K allocated to skip funds
- £7K allocated to 'In Bloom' 2016-17
- £8K allocated to a grotspot improvement/fly tipping project has been reallocated to Rodney Street residents' parking scheme by the group in February 2017.

The work on grotspots has been delivered by the community pay back team. The Council's Waste & Environment Team has also awarded a graffiti and flyposting removal contract to Continental Landscapes Ltd. The contract will also enable the Council to support the work of the Environmental Enforcement Team in managing and improving local grotspots and privately owned neglected land. We will have an update at the next committee.

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 2017 Birkenhead in Bloom projects which have been judged**
- **Note the decisions of the Environmental task group**

3.2 Feeding Birkenhead

The Food Task group met on 14th September and by email in January 2017 in order to allocate funds of £35K to food projects in the area.

The task group has allocated:

- £1K – Tranmere Community Project – holiday food provision
- £6K – allocated to four Birkenhead areas to deliver food hampers and promote services Beechwood, St James & Gautby, Rock Ferry and Birkenhead & Tranmere.
- £28K – Food holiday provision

The projects that have been funded have provided the update below.

Update from the Food Hubs

St James Centre – North Birkenhead Development Trust

Over the holidays we offer a full community program aimed at local families. This includes work around food, ensuring families have access to nutritious meals during the holidays.

Feb half term 20th Feb – 24th Feb; Monday Club, Geo Caching Trip, Youth Club, International Crafts in the library, Autism Friendly Library, Community Recipe and Meal Share, Street Art, Homework Club cooking special, Taste through Time community meal.

Easter Holidays 3rd April – 18th April; Monday Club, Youth Club, Autism Friendly Library, Open Play Days, Homework Club special, Llandudno + Blackpool Youth Club Trips, Community Bingo and Meal Shares, Radio City Search for the Sandman theatre trip.

May half term 29th May – 4th June; Open Play Days, Homework Club Special, Youth Club, Youth Club trip Ice Skating.

Summer Holidays 24th July – 2nd Sept; Monday Club, Tuesdays + Thursdays Open Play Day on Ilchester Park, Friday Open Play in the centre, Wednesday Community Bingo + Meal Shares, Youth Club, Blackpool + Lazer Quest Trip, Weekly family trips to Gulliver's World, Monkey Forrest, Wels Mountain Zoo and Brimstage Maze Maize.

Alongside this we run a community program for adults including exercise classes, adult only trips, genealogy group and special themed meals.

Throughout Summer we have also worked with Louisa Blake a local teacher to deliver a project called Looby Lous Lovely Lunches. This was a Wirral wide project to ensure all those who needed access to lunches over the holidays had it, and provided upto 150 packed lunches a day.

We have recognised the value of Open Play sessions during the last few holidays. Having a day where children and families can come in to lots of different activities however parents stay with the children, means families are having fun together, and strengthening their relationships within their family unit and our relationships with both children and parents. It also means parents that may be lacking in confidence or support have other adults around them to support them in playing and having fun with their children. For families with children whose behaviour may be a challenge this is invaluable.

We believe this is valuable and unique as we do not offer a play scheme but aim to work with families as a whole and engage people from cradle to grave. It gives us the opportunity to work with parents to address any issues they may have. We realise people often need free lunch provision because of financial strains and this gives us the opportunity to offer support and advice.

Eve Barrett: eve.barrett@corganisers.org.uk

Beechwood Update

The refurbishment of the community centre, is taking longer than expected, but will be up and running in October. The centre had been asset transferred from Wirral Council to a Community Company, in December 2016, and renamed, from

Beechwood, Play & Community Centre to The Beechwood Centre. However, when applying for charitable status, the Charities Commission would not accept this name, and the centre was renamed again, to THE LITTLE CENTRE, Beechwood.



The new logo, was created, and the new signs all ordered for the front of building. Exciting times ahead!

The next stage of the business plan, is the recruitment of staff for the centre, which will include a Centre Manager, Cook, Apprentice, and ILM administrator.

Coinciding with the refurbishment at 'The Little Centre Beechwood' – further 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.

Beechwood, Ballantyne & Bidston Village are excited with the formation of a new Fishing Club aimed at promoting intergenerational learning within local residents. Fran Kane and Beechwood Community Trust have been working with young people across the estate for many years and following successful grants from Big Local and The High Sheriff's Fund, the club now has everything needed for their every growing and recently had a successful maiden outing. The club has been a real catch for local residents!

Big Community Trust are also moving forward, in facilitating, with the Neighbourhood Planning Forum and an consultation across the whole of Beechwood had taken place. Following further discussions, it was agreed by the Partnership, in consultation with Aecon, that Ballantyne should also be included. New boundary outlines will be mapped out and a revised constitution will be submitted to Wirral Council.

Beechwood Training Academy is an accredited training centre with VTCT and NCFE. The centre has two fully equipped hair and beauty salons as well as two networked computer suites and a training room that can take up to 15 learners. The training centre delivers accredited training in Sport, hair and beauty. The nursery within BCT, is making some exciting changes, now has three childcare places for 2, 3 and 4 years olds. New 30hr element for 3yr, fixed session time Mon-Fri 9-3 for working parents, subject to meeting the criteria. Brand new healthy menu, and are introducing new PE classes for all rooms in and outdoor fun physical activities. They have gone maths crazy, new structured learning and lesson plans in each room, with exciting learning journey and imaginative adventure play for all children.

Thanks for funding from Big Local, Fender Skate Park has been home to professional skate coaching sessions in late August / early September. Sessions were fully booked in record time and have been really popular with all age groups. Feedback from the Skate Park has been phenomenal! Harry Smith, the ex-Councillor and Chair of the Joint Management Committee for more than 20 years,

began the talks for the skateboard park many years ago and with, present Chair & resident, Linda Finn, will officially open the skateboard park in September. Linda, who is also Co-Chair of Big Local, and Chair of the Community Association said 'working with our Councillors, and all the Community groups, and hundreds of meetings, is now resulting in great outcomes for our community.'

Thanks to a joint venture between Big Local & LHT – A new youth community Boxing Club has been working with great success from Beechwood Recreation Centre on a weekly basis since May 2017. Following strong demand, a female only boxercise class has now been funded and will take place weekly from 5th September 2017 until the end of the year.

Big Local are currently planning their first every Community Awards to celebrate the great work locally – from those in achievement at school to local organisations, all celebrated in one night...watch this space!

Big Local's Bright Ideas Fund has been approving applications to benefit the community, recently approved applications include support for an over 50's lunch club and a brand new 'Mums 2 Marathons' CIC aiming to improving the health of local people in a fun and exciting way.

The Big Local Partnership, and LHT have been working side-side to assist Resident, Jim Parsons and the current Management of Ballantyne, to form a new board of trustees to progress the potential reopening of the Ballantyne Centre. Following two successful meetings, potential trustees are currently engaging with local residents to gather their views on the future activities of the Centre with a view of forming legal group to tackle the barriers to re-opening. Everybody is focused and ready for the future challenges ahead!

Neighbourhood Planning

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 ACOM. 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.

Volunteering Programme

At the Improving Life Chances meetings, the representatives of the groups within Beechwood agreed that a volunteer project needs to be developed, for the area and the planning is vital to its success. With this in mind, Big Local have agreed that part of the funding to be spent for this year, will be on a volunteer project. Debbie Veevrs from the DWP will attend the next Big Local meeting in June, for a question and answers session. She will particularly explain how voluntary works, sits with persons receiving benefits.

The Big Local Funding working in partnership, would also look to support with funding, the following:

- Xmas hamper project for 2017
- Learning for pleasure project
- Awards ceremony
- Bright Ideas fund for community groups
- Beechwood/ Ballantyne in Bloom

Community Boxing Club

Following the successful pilot on mischief night, which was organised with Wirral Council and Police, Big Local and LHT joined forces with Venture Boxing Club to pilot a three month programme of activity for 6-18 year olds in/around the Big Local area. Woodchurch Boxing Club kindly loaned equipment for the pilot which again, proved to be a massive success for young people with regular attendance of more than 40. Discussions are taking place with Wirral Council, to see if the boxing club can be extended, because it supports the anti-social behaviour initiatives for the area.

Contact: George Thomas: georgethomas@beechwoodtrust.org, Karl Rooney: Karl.Rooney@communityactionwirral.org.uk, and Sheila Henry: sheilahenry@wirral.gov.uk

Rock Ferry Food Hub – Neo at The Beaconsfield Centre

Summer holiday provision went well, it was brilliant to provide holiday food to kids from the local area. Neo had a big clean-up on July 2017. Magenta, the environmental team, recycling team, PCSOs, Biffa and skips from the constituency committee enabled to get ready for the in bloom judging. Local residents got rid of fly tipping locally and improved the area.

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 of one of our former Volunteers Colin to a full time position, enabling him to attend meetings 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 with Colin who is now nearly half way through his placement. 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

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 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 project. They are working with local children to grow and cook their own vegetables as part of Gautby in Bloom 2017, 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 Saturday night disco. As part of the project Gautby has taken on two ILM work placements and updated its CCTV. Gautby has extended the ILM placements until January 2018.

A new mums and tots group has started and a course in functional skills will begin from April. A new community bingo sessions has been set up and a reptile room to show young people how to look after and respect animals. There has been a lot of support for these activities from the local community. English and Maths Lifelong learning has also started at the centre.

Gautby Road is providing 2 meals a day for local young people of all ages as part of its Fit and Fed project and Play scheme holiday food provision. Gautby Road has taken young people to the Hive, bowling and laser quest throughout the Summer. 3680 meals have been delivered to the local community.

The centre has also seen 2 chicks hatch: Shaun and Stewart to the delight of the young people in the centre.

Luke O'Dowd: luke@gautbyroad.co.uk

Livingstone Street Centre – BEE Wirral Council

The Livingstone Street Centre now has a mobile creche team which is available to book. Staffed by professional and experienced childcare workers and supervised by an early years professional. We've worked hard to keep charges low so that it is affordable.

Public access computers are in place. Anyone can come in and use them and we will provide support for those who are not particularly IT experienced.

Livingstone Street Centre is running Tea and Memories, a group for people over 65 who want to remember the good old days.

The food co-op is running well and is being used by Syrian refugee families who now live in Wirral.

We are running three days a week - Tuesdays 12 - 3, Wednesdays 10 - 1 and Thursdays 10 - 12. Both the Wednesday and Thursday sessions run into our afternoon baby groups and if children stay that's not a problem because the afternoon parents are bringing their own school age children with them.

Good attendance so far - we have 35 children registered to date. We have discovered the power of toasties which go down a storm, and parents can enjoy them as well.

Interestingly it's mostly different kids to the ones who come to the after school club.

The food coop is still working really well. Livingstone Street Centre has three new visitors yesterday who have just arrived in the country from China. We tried to find out how they knew about us but without much success!

Kath Shaughnessy: kathshaughnessy@gmail.com

Holiday Food Provision

Below are the projects that the Task Group have funded for 2017:

- Wirral Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted - £2500
- Neo Café - £4000
- North Birkenhead Development Trust - £3990
- St Pauls Primary School - £5000 for 2 applications for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
- The Green Community Shop - £1500
- Wirral Play Council - £4000
- Tranmere Methodist Church - £2500
- Wirral Christian Centre - £3836

These food projects are being delivered over the 2016-17 year during school holidays, before or after school.

Total amount awarded: £27,676

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 work 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:

- 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 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
- Christmas grotto in Gautby Road 17-18th December and in Beechwood on 20th December
- 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

Please see appendix 3 for details.

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, Cloughton, 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).

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 set out the following programme of events for 2017:

Date Time Title Location

- 1-6 June Sgt - Peppers 50th Anniversary Various
- 23rd- 25th June - Mersey River Festival/ The Voyage Waterfront
- 24th June - All day Armed Forces Day Camell Lairds and Hamilton Square
- 28th June 9:15 - 13:00 - The Birkenhead Welcome Host Workshop The Lauries
- 5th July 09:15 - 12:30 Social Media Training Workshop at The Lauries

Summer Sessions:

- 4th August - Natalie Collins
- 11th August- Caroline England
- 18th August - Mark Kenny
- 25th August - Ian Cowell (insanity beach duo)Hamilton Square
- 26th July - Be in Birkenhead Festival Hamilton Square
- 1st-15th October - All Day Wirral Arts Festival
- July 7th-9th - Wirral Beauty and Fashion week Various
- 30th Sept - 14th October Wirral Arts Festival
- November River of lights Hamilton Square Waterfront
- 17th, 18th, 19th November - Fabulous Frost Fair Birkenhead Town Hall
- 18th November - Pirate Day Tram museum and Pacific Road
- December Santa Special Tram ride and Christmas wonderland Tram museum and Pacific Road
- December Birkenhead Loves Christmas Hamilton Square
- December 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 will appoint a Centre Manager and cook and assistant in September. The centre will host Improving Life Chances annual event in October 2017. A full update of their activities can be found in 3.2

Beaconsfield Centre, Rock Ferry

The Beaconsfield Centre is being operated by Neo 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 are developing their business plan and accessing funding whilst working towards asset transfer in the near future.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications.

5.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

There are no staffing implications.

6.0 RELEVANT RISKS

There are no relevant risks.

7.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Please see Appendix 4 for details.

8.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no equality implications.

REPORT AUTHOR: Jo Burrell *Constituency Manager*

0151 666 3897

email: joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Finance Table

Appendix 2: Environmental Update

Appendix 3: ILC update

Appendix 4: Community Engagement update

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APPENDIX 1 2016-2017- Birkenhead Constituency financial allocations

Table 1-2016-2017 summary

Areas of funding	Total funding available 2016-2017	2016-2017 expenditure and allocated funds	Unallocated funds remaining
Core funding	£69,238	£67,000	£2,238
Birkenhead ASB	£33,569	£33,569	£0
Community Assets	£1,850	£1,800	£50
Birkenhead clean up	£7,159	£7,158	£0
Operational costs	£3,043	-£29	£3,072
Your Wirral	£69,449	£69,449	£0
Improving road safety	£20,523	£20,523	£0
Transport for growth	£53,613	£53,613	£0
Promoting Active travel and Health	£41,123	£41,123	£0
Total	£299,567	£294,206	£5,361

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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

Birkenhead Town Centre

- Date: 13th July
- Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

The Constituency Committee Team worked with colleagues from Birkenhead First and Merseyside Police on an environmental day for Eastbourne Road, Oxtan Road North, Tetbury Street and Quarrybank.

The day allowed for resident in these streets and surrounding areas to discard of any unwanted items which will hopefully reduce fly tipping in the future.

Victoria Road

- Date: 15th Sep
- Household waste removed: 1 skip = 1/2 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

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

Beaconsfield Community Centre

- Date: 3rd Oct
- Household waste removed: 1 skip = 1/2 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

The community clear up was arranged by Neo Café and took place around the Beaconsfield Community Centre, full estate clean up including litter picks, garden clearance of fly tipping and a clear up of the ally along with some other bits from the community house.

Harrowby Road Community Action Day

- Date: 18th November
- Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

The action was organised in partnership between the Birkenhead Constituency Team and the Council's Healthy Homes Team. Harrowby Road is a selective licensing area and the action day provided an ideal opportunity for the Healthy Homes Officers to engage with the local residents in the road.

The day was also supported by organisations such as Merseyside Police, Mersey Fire and Rescue Service, Wirral Change, Biffa, Energy Project Plus as well as council colleagues from the Waste and Recycling Team.

Noctorum Community Action Day

- Date: 5th December
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

The Noctorum Action Day saw a wide range of organisations work together to benefit the estate. The idea of the day was proposed by the newly formed Noctorum Community Association to combat environmental issues and fly tipping on the estate and saw a number of skips placed to allow residents whom may have difficulties accessing the waste and recycling centres to discard unwanted household items.

Partnership working also saw organisations such as Magenta Housing, Merseyside Police, Probation Service, Council's Waste and Recycling Team and Biffa all supporting the day and engaging with local residents.

School children from St Peters and Hillside Primary Schools also took part in litter picking and with the fantastic support from the community association litter picked the majority of the estate.

It is hoped that the action day was the first of a lasting partnership between the Birkenhead Constituency Team and Noctorum Community Association.

Townsend Street Community Action Day

- Date: 7th December
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

Following a number of issues of anti-social behaviour in Townsend Street a community action day was coordinated in partnership between the Birkenhead Constituency Team and Merseyside Police.

Merseyside Police attended with the mobile police station and conducted an exercise of 'door knocking' and engaging with residents.

Fly tipping and environmental issues were addressed in partnership with Biffa, Probation Service, the Council Waste and Recycling Team and Mersey Fire and Rescue Service.

Gautby Road Community Centre and North Birkenhead Development Trust also took the opportunity to engage with residents in the area.

St Anne Stree Community Action Day

-Date: 15th March

-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 1/2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

There were a number of organisations involved in the day including the Birkenhead Constituency Team, Merseyside Police, Probation Service, Birkenhead First Team and the Councils Waste and Recycling Team.

The day allowed residents to discard house hold items and saw the probation service clear wooded areas that was attracting fly tipping and litter.

Beechwood Action Day

-Date: 31st March 2017

-Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

This action day was a police initiative that they organised and ran. The constituency committee provided the skips for the event.

Hive and Exmouth Gardens Action Day

-Date: 5th April 2017

-Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

To coincide with the opening of the Hive Youth Zone on the 8th April the Birkenhead Constituency Team was tasked with doing an environmental action day around the Hive and Exmouth Gardens.

The day was a joint effort between numerous organisations including McDonalds, Birkenhead First, Biffa, Continental Landscapes, Birkenhead YMCA and staff and volunteers from the Hive.

Following the efforts of all partners Exmouth Gardens and Charing Cross saw a vast improvement in the amount of litter and fly tipping in the area ready for the Hive Opening.

Rock Ferry Action Day

- Date: 21st April 2017
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Similar to the Beechwood Action day on the 31st March This action day was a police initiative that they organised and ran. The constituency committee provided the skips for the event.

Neo Cafe Community Action Day

- Date: 19th May 2017
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 ½ tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

Neo Café and volunteers organised a action day around Beaconsfield Court Community Centre and Rock Ferry on the 19th May. Assisted by partners from Magenta and the councils waste and recycling team the day was designed to remove fly tipping from various parts of the area and litter picking to cleanse any debris

Police Action Day (Rock Ferry)

- Date:
- Household waste removed:4 skip = 2 tonnes

-Partner Involvement:

Police requested 4 skips be placed at various locations on the estate for residents to dispose of household items.

The day also included engaging with local residents around anti-social behaviour and promoting the police's presence in the area.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

Patten Street Community Action Day

- Date: 20th July
- Household waste removed: 2 skips – 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Organised in partnership between Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, Merseyside Police, the Birkenhead Constituency Team, the councils Waste and Recycling Team and Magenta Housing the action day tackled a number of issues around the Patten Street and Jamesbrook Close area.

Fly tipping, anti-social behaviour and litter have all been raised by residents in the past so all the partners involved brought their own expertise to tackle these issues together.

The action day was very successful with a number of residents getting involved to help improve their environment.

Beaconsfield Community Action Day

-Date: 3rd August

-Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

-Partner Involvement:

Neo Café and volunteers organised an action day around the Beaconsfield estate on the 3rd August. Assisted by partners from Magenta and the councils waste and recycling team the day was designed to remove fly tipping from various parts of the area and litter picking to cleanse any debris

Total Waste Removed

In total the Birkenhead Constituency Committee has provided and planned (see next section) 98 skips and given officer support at various Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of circa **£12720.00** 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 112 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.

Forthcoming action days

Noctorum Action Day

Organised by the Noctorum Resident Association, the action day on the **22nd September** will see partners come together on the estate to join forces to tackle fly tipping and litter on the estate.

The Birkenhead Constituency Team, Magenta Housing, Waste and Recycling, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service and Merseyside Police are all attending the action day.

North Birkenhead Action Day

The action day in North Birkenhead is being organised by the North Birkenhead Planning Forum. Primarily focusing a number of problem alley ways, the action day will alleviate some of the problems residents are facing regarding fly tipping and litter.

The date for the action day is due to be confirmed shortly by the planning forum.

Improving Life Chances (ILC) Community Pilots Update



Update for Improving Life Chances Community Pilots

The community pilots are overseen by the Improving Life Chances Steering Group. The pilots are working towards the following aims:

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

Partnership groups in two wards were set up in September 2016 to target specific areas experiencing high child poverty: Bidston and St James ward (Beechwood and North-end), and Seacombe ward. The areas have had four meetings so far, every quarter, and have developed their respective action plans which they deliver against and monitor throughout the year.

The enthusiasm for the ILC community pilots continues which is encouraging. People coming to the meetings include residents, community group representatives, Councillors, Connectors and agencies delivering services in the areas. Members take away actions and report back to the group. Sub-groups have been created and have delegated actions to complete.

Some generic aims have been established across the areas:

- Improve partnership working
- Improve sustainability and profile of the food hub projects which complement Wirral Foodbank
- Increase joint projects eg. energy week, loan shark awareness week
- Establish joint data collation to establish evidence base
- Evaluation of the impact of the project in each area and compare
- Raise profile of community centres and their activities
- Promote other wider services as part of the food projects
- Increase volunteering and befriending in to services and community groups
- Increased engagement: a bridge between residents and services through promotion of volunteering and befriending
- Increase profile of community centres and food hubs in order to strengthen referrals from health visitors etc.

Quarterly Partnership meetings

- 4 pilot meetings have taken place in each area since September 2016
- 3 action plans have been developed and monitoring and evaluation of activity is taking place by a dedicated officer

Some Additional external funds secured in each area so far:

- **North end** hampers: Magenta £500 and Birkenhead Constituency funding £1.5K
- **North end** ASB: Magenta £3K and Birkenhead ASB £6K
- **North end** holiday food £1K Gautby, £1K Livingstone street, £2K St James, £3K fit and fed Gautby
- **Beechwood hampers**: £3K Big Local in Beechwood and Birkenhead Constituency funding £1.5K
- **Beechwood** operation banger £1K tackling ASB
- **Beechwood** boxing club and skate board coaching sessions
- **Seacombe**: £10K funding from residual Seacombe Community Association funds and further rotary funding £1.5K for hampers. Activities delivered include: youth diversionary, fareshare minibus in bloom etc. £1K bright ideas fund for in bloom

Outputs

September – December 2016

Across the three pilots

- Christmas holiday food hamper project across Birkenhead and in each community pilot, working together in partnership. Over 2000 hampers delivered across the Birkenhead area. £9K was levered throughout the areas. Gautby Road Community Centre negotiated a good deal with Fareshare for surplus food. The food hampers were an opportunity to promote local services by means of an information pack inside each hamper. The project galvanised partnership working. Information in food hampers included how to report ASB/Crimestoppers, energy advice, Magenta news, Fairforyou, credit unions, school uniform swaps, financial resilience, local activities etc. HACT evaluation by Liverpool Housing Trust shows the hamper project created social value = £91K
- Beechwood and the North End jointly bussed young people to the River of Light festival on bonfire night as part of Operation Banger
- Glossy leaflet was developed to promote ILC services across Wirral and given out at local events
- Boxing group set up in Beechwood for diversionary activities
- Youth project established in North end to tackle high levels of ASB
- Partnership action Clean-up days took place in Challis Street, Townsend Street and Bidston Rise
- Christmas decorations making events were delivered as an introduction to Life-long learning in each pilot area

After the hamper projects were completed, the partnerships were working well together and continued with further joint activities. The In bloom projects had benefits on many levels including bringing residents and partners together and encouraging volunteering. Members of the three ILC pilots will attend the North West in Bloom awards ceremony together in Southport in November 2017.

North end

January – August 2017

- St James delivered a joint application to Warm Homes for an awareness raising event across the pilots January 2017
- Holiday food provision provided across all 3 pilots at Christmas, Easter, half term and over Summer
- ASB youth project delivered across the North end, reports of crime reduced, well used by the community and supported by the police. Now replicated in Seacombe and a boxing club has been set up in Beechwood also
- Gautby Road is delivering fit and fed sports activities with food using £3K external funds throughout the Summer
- St James delivering Looby Loos food provision throughout the Summer holidays
- Gautby Road staff employed 2 ILM workers for the youth project
- Gautby Road cleared the Monkeys area of land near to the community centre
- Livingstone street set up the Silverbacks group for over 50s men and delivered parenting classes for Syrian families
- Gautby Road and Livingstone Street entered the in bloom project

Beechwood

- Beechwood has developed St Paul's School community hub and is offering a breakfast food club, in partnership with Fareshare
- Holiday food provision provide across all 3 hubs at Christmas, Easter, half term and over Summer Beechwood working with Gautby Road to provide holiday food
- The Little Centre has almost completed refurbishment and will host ILC annual event in October
- The skate board park is almost completed and launch is imminent
- Big Local has ring-fenced £2K funds for ILC projects in Beechwood 2017-18
- Beechwood, Ballantyne and Bidston and the Little Centre Beechwood entered the in bloom project 2017

Seacombe

- Holiday food provision was provided at Christmas, Easter, half-term and over Summer, breakfast bags from Seacombe Children's Centre are being given out throughout Summer 2017, food is now supplied by community spirit for sports development activities in central park for young people.
- 5 Seacombe in Bloom projects were developed in 2017 which were judged by North West in Bloom judge in July
- Diversionary activities for young people is now being delivered for 40 weeks in Central Park and Guinea Gap from August
- Food hub delivered from Place in the Park, Seacombe Community Association and St Paul's church (Wirral Foodbank)

Future actions from September 2017

- CAB training for online staff in September 2017 at Liscard CAB frontline staff across three pilots have been invited
- Beechwood has identified a need for a handyman service for the elderly – this is being explored through 'unltd' funding
- Halloween and Christmas grotto in Beechwood and St James is being looked at as an opportunity for exploring promoting volunteering, promoting other services, befriending in 2017
- Tailored smoking cessation projects in each area
- Local blood pressure testing to be delivered in each area
- A volunteering/befriending event will be delivered in each area
- Community weightloss support group planned for September 2017 at Gautby Road
- 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
- Seacombe to deliver holiday food provision with sports development at Guinea Gap leisure Centre and Place in the Park for 40 weeks from August 2017-18
- North end will continue youth project and Beechwood has new skate park, Boxing club with coaches paid for through Big Local
- NCS volunteers for projects including food hubs, hampers, in Bloom for 2017-8
- Life Long learning offered in each pilot area bespoke to local needs
- Multiple in bloom applications across the pilots for 2018 being planned
- Promoting the newly transferred Community Centre in Beechwood and skate park
- Continue to invite agencies like job centre plus, Remploy, Reachout, health connectors to discounted supermarkets to promote services, joint lobbying for energy vouchers, Crosby training have done pop up events
- Joint training and e-learning will be offered eg. Child Poverty e-learning, Energy Projects Plus training, food hygiene across the partnership

- Sals shoes project – collecting shoes in each area for African children to enable them to attend schools are being collected across the partnership to be delivered to HQ in Surrey in October.
- Continued monitoring and collation of case studies

All these activities are delivered by partner groups in each of the pilot areas. The work they do is exceptional and we would like to thank the groups for taking the time to be involved in the Improving Life Chances community pilot meetings.

There is more work to be done to increase service delivery to these local areas. If you would like to get involved in any of these activities in Seacombe, Beechwood or the North end of Birkenhead, please contact: joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk

Spotlight on the projects

In Bloom

Peter, local resident from the Livingstone Street Centre said, 'I haven't got many gardening skills but it didn't matter. I've really enjoyed being involved in developing the centre's garden for the in bloom competition. We've grown vegetable and herbs and used them to make food for groups using the centre, and recycled all sorts of things to make planters for flowers'.



Livingstone Street close to North end being judged by RHS Northwest in Bloom judge Alan Hulme



Seacombe roundabout: Seacombe resident and RHS judge

Phil from Seacombe spent countless volunteer hours working with Wirral Environmental Network to improve two roundabouts in Seacombe and create and plant up planters in Place in the Park, using recycled materials. He says ' Making Seacombe better means a lot to me, I wanted to make people proud of the community where we live, I've used flytipped materials found in and around Seacombe to create the planters'.



Phil with his recycled sign on Seacombe roundabout.



Partners in Beechwood working together to improve the area

Karl Rooney Big Local Partnership coordinator says, 'In bloom is a great way to get partners working together to improve the area. In Beechwood, Big Local, the Council highways and environmental services and Liverpool Housing Trust have come together with residents, Councillors, schools and the local community groups: Beechwood Community Trust and Association, to make the centre of Beechwood beautiful. Residents have reported back with comments that they have never seen their neighbourhood look so good.'

Hair and beauty at Birkenhead North Youth Project and below Dan and Luke ILM community and youth workers.



Dan and Luke our ILM community and youth workers at Gautby Road Community Centre in the North end who deliver youth activity, bingo, clean-ups, in bloom, holiday food provision and much more...



Food Hubs



The food hubs in each of the pilot areas (Beechwood, North end and Seacombe) are well used and complement the Wirral Foodbank. The hubs also provide other information about services available for residents. Access to food hubs varies according to each site

Christmas Hampers

But what difference did it make to be people in need?



Peoples relief on doorstep





People felt part of a community again



People wrote cards of thanks

The hamper scheme was delivered in each of the three pilot areas and reached people in food crisis over Christmas.

And that's not it...

Thanks to the Birkenhead Constituency Committee, we included leaflets about local support organisations on topics such as welfare advice, debt and getting involved in your community

We simply said Merry Christmas - you are part of the community!

The Christmas hamper project will be delivered again at Christmas 2017 and organisations are already fundraising to make hampers for people identified in their areas.

This gives a little more flavour to some of the activities going on in the ILC pilot areas. There are many more. Please email any comments and ideas:

joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk