

Constituency Committee - Birkenhead
Wednesday, 14 June 2017

REPORT TITLE:	Birkenhead Constituency Committee
REPORT OF:	Director for Health and Wellbeing

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 submitted**
- **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

Skip Fund, Community Partnership days and Clean-ups

In total the Birkenhead Constituency Committee has provided and planned 91 skips for 2016/17 and given officer support for over 36 Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of circa **£11,880** from the skip fund budget. Please see Appendix 2 for details of all the clean-up days so far. 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, **is that it equates to at least 108 tonnes removed**. The skip days bring local residents, Councillors and partner agencies like the police together. The action days 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 Beaconfield centre clean – up 19th May 2017
- Magenta Bidston Rise clean-up – 18th May 2017

Up and coming clean ups:

- Marquis Street/Frodsham, Tranmere - clean up by residents date TBC
- Rodney Street Residents - date to be confirmed
- Clifton Park Residents – date to be confirmed

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:

Location	date sent	date completed
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
Oxton 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

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

Birkenhead In Bloom 2017

Birkenhead in Bloom swept the board last year at the RHS North West in Bloom competition by winning 16 awards and Oxton winning the overall cup.

In 2017, the Birkenhead in Bloom team is aiming to do better, by submitting more applications and building on current projects.

2017 'In Bloom' proposed projects include:

1. All things Bright and Beautiful – planters and hanging baskets in Borough Road and YMCA garden
2. Beechwood in Bloom – partnership work transform Beechwood
3. Ballantyne in Bloom - hanging baskets improve Bidston Village
4. Bidston Village in Bloom – hanging baskets improve Bidston Village
5. Gautby in Bloom – youth club, play scheme and staff flower up Gautby Road
6. Livingstone Street in Bloom – centre users grow vegetables and flowers
7. Bidston Rise in Bloom – residents and Magenta work to have hanging baskets and planters
8. Blue wood in Bloom – Magenta and residents planting up wild flower areas
9. Jamesbrook Close in Bloom – residents and Magenta working to improve alleyways

10. Oxton in Bloom – secret gardens and hanging baskets
11. Williamson in Bloom - Courtyard garden will be completed for judging
12. Rock Ferry in Bloom – Neo are working to improve one stop shop area
13. Beaconsfield in Bloom – developing community garden
14. Prenton in Bloom – continued improvements on Woodchurch Road
15. Claughton in Bloom – working with retailers and the 6th Form College to have an Oxton style hanging baskets
16. Epworth Grange in Bloom – residents develop their own tranquil garden
17. The Lauries – tenants improve the town centre landscaping
18. Alleyways behind Claughton Road – residents transform into an oasis of flowers
19. Alleyways behind Water Street – residents and WMHA transform into an oasis of flowers
20. Strip of land around B&M – partners are working together to improve this grotspot
21. Flaybrick Close in Bloom
22. The Hive, Fire Station and The Lauries in Bloom
23. Vincent Norton Court and Rose Court

A full list of Wirral's projects can be found at Appendix 3. These submissions are subject to change.

The projects are a great example 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 with their time and funds, along with schools, Environmental Team and constituency team

- Probation and residents will also give time and resources to the project.
- In Bloom projects have a number of positive outcomes:
- Makes retail areas more inviting so encourages local economic growth
- Provides volunteering opportunities
- 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.

Judging will take place over three days around 12th July 2017.

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.

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 will be submitted**
- **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

St James Centre had great Easter Holidays. They provided two Open Play sessions with a hot lunch for children of any age and had 25 children attend over two days. The children made Easter Baskets and posters to go on the wall.

St James Centre delivered two youth trips for young people aged 11+, taking 18 on two different trips, one to Llandudno and one to Blackpool. Feeding Birkenhead funding meant we could buy the young people a hot meal out during the day trips. In Llandudno the young people outdid themselves, by walking to the top of the Great Orme. It was very touching, most had never been to North Wales, and the young people felt they had achieved something great, and had never seen such fab views!

St James Centre also delivered two Homework Club holiday specials - they usually use this time to support children with their school work, and learning some life skills.

During the holidays we do cooking activities. The children made Stir Fry one week and homemade healthy KFC Chicken the next week, from scratch for themselves and their parents, and we all sat down and enjoyed it together at the table.

St James Centre weekly Monday Club was attended by 23 children, and all enjoyed a hot meal one week and a packed lunch the week after. We visited Bubbles Play World in New Brighton as a special treat.

Autism Friendly Library is supported by Autism Together, and they offered an Easter Egg hunt and a lunch in St James Library, this was attended by 10 children and their families.

St James Centre are beginning to prepare for Summer Holidays and have been working with Churches in Heswall to deliver a packed Summer programme. With the Churches support we will be offering two Play Out on the Park sessions a week, complete with full packed lunch for all children who come as well as our usual community program. St James Centre are also working with the Rotary Club and the WI to add even more events and food to our summer program.

St James Centre are also working with Louisa Blake, a school teacher who wanted to provide packed lunches over the 6 week holiday to children in Wirral. St James Centre will be a hub for Louisa, she will be there each day offering 30+ packed lunches to children and families. This is for anyone to access, so please share.

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

Beechwood Update

It was reported previously, that finally, after, four years of negotiations and meetings, that on December 12th 2016, the Beechwood Play & Community Centre was asset transferred from Wirral Council to a newly formed community company called The Beechwood Centre. However, following application for charitable status, the Charities Commission, advised that it could not be called The Beechwood Centre, even though, it had been accepted by Companies House. After, discussions and meetings with the Directors, Community groups and input from residents, it was agreed, and accepted, to be called **The Little Centre, Beechwood**. This proved popular, because it has been called this, for many years by residents!

The opening of the centre has been delayed for several reasons, including problems with the boiler and electricity. Cullens (the approved builders) and Directors of centre have been working tirelessly to resolve the problems and hopefully an opening date will be agreed in early course.

The Centre will be run by the Community for the benefit of the community, with the employment of a new Centre Manager, to facilitate this. The job will be full time, and will be advertised in early course. Talks continue to look to work with Wirral Council to employ a young person, through Councils Apprenticeship and Skills Manager, to work alongside the Manager. In addition, it has been agreed with Big Local Partnership to fund a Cook for the kitchen, this will help with the running of the new café, and also facilitate the food projects, planned for breakfast and lunches. Residents have been missing the Food Larder shop, which has provided much need

provision for the food bank. In the meantime, the breakfast club at St Pauls for the benefit of Beechwood Primary school children continues to be extremely popular and beneficial to the children of both St Pauls and Manor Primary.

Concerns have been raised, that several residents from Beechwood, who were referred to the DWP had been refused a crisis loan or support, and the only thing that was offered to them, was to contact the Chairs of local community partnerships to see if they could help, regarding food and household provisions. Community provision is provided as an addition support, not instead of.

The tender for the soft play has been agreed, and work will commence on this immediately, with completion due at the end of June. It will be completed by Softplay Direct and the community have been involved in the planning and decision making to agree the theme and equipment.

The tender for the skateboard park was released, and a meeting is arranged for this week for a decision to be made. Jackie Smallwood has agreed that Neil Danns from Wheels Extreme can support the process to score the tenders. Once agreement is reached, work will commence immediately and will open end June / July. Residents have been involved in the naming of the park and it has been put out to consultation for the final decision to be made. In the meantime, young people have been enjoying skateboard park training with support from Big Local and Liverpool Housing Trust.

The remaining 106 monies will be utilised for the outside of the community centre, and for small playground area.

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

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.

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

Half Term holiday provision is going well this week, it was brilliant to provide holiday food to over 30 kids from the local area.

Neo had a big clean-up on 19th May 2017. Magenta, the environmental team, recycling team, PCSOs, Biffa and skips from the constituency committee enabled local residents to get rid of fly tipping locally and improve the area. Neo delivered a fun day the next day with mascots, candy floss, slush and food and activities for the kids.

Neo are going to do a further clean-up and tidy up at Rock Ferry One Stop Shop on 1st June, all this in preparation for Rock Ferry and Beaconsfield in Bloom competition. Neo are developing the garden at the Beaconsfield Centre and 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 our former Volunteers Colin to a full time position, enabling him to

achieve his adult teaching qualification at the end of the month, 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 began 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 on 10th May.

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 hopes to extend the ILM placements.

A new mums and tots group has started and a course in functional skills will begin from April. 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 has cleaned up a grot spot called the Monkeys that was being used for Anti-social Behaviour and fly tipping and is located near to the centre. The work was done in partnership with the Parks team and North West Construction. It is estimated

that the work if completed by a commercial company would have cost £11,000. It will be part of their 'in Bloom' competition submission.

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.

From next week the public access computers will be 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 are 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.

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 next 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.

Some generic aims have been established across the areas:

- 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.
- A 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/Remploy/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

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).

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
June 23rd- 25th		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	The Lauries
Aug	16:00-18:00	Summer Sessions 4th Aug Natalie Collins 11th Aug Caroline England 18th Aug Mark Kenny 25th Ian Cowell (insanity beach duo)	Hamilton Square
Wed 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 Oct		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 xmas 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. 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. 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.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Finance Table

Appendix 2: Environmental Update

Appendix 3: In Bloom project list

Appendix 4: Community Engagement update