



Bellshill & District Community Forum
Report to Local Area Partnership
February 2009



Background

The Community Forum has held three business meetings since the last LAP:

- Thursday 20th November
- Thursday 18th December
- Thursday 15th January

This paper aims to give LAP members an update on Community Forum activity over the past few months.

Community Forum Update

Community Planning Partnership Events

The Forum participated in a partnership event on the 2nd December to hear about the development of the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and to contribute to discussions on the development of a partnership agreement between the North Lanarkshire Partnership (NLP) and the 8 Community Fora, including Bellshill and District.

Two representatives from Bellshill and District Community Forum attended a joint community planning event with Local Area Team, Local Area Partnership and NLP Board community planning partners on the 16th January to contribute to discussions on improving the SOA and improving communication within all components of the community planning structure.

Partnership Agreement

A representative from the Forum has been participating in a working group to develop a partnership agreement between the Fora and the NLP Board.

Blue Light Disco

The last Blue Light Disco (BLD), which was merged with 'Saturday Sport Scene' and held on Saturday 13th December at Sir Matt Busby Sports Complex, was a great success with 115 young people attending, an increase on previous attendance.

The BLD action group have now decided that combining the discos in conjunction with 'Saturday Sport Scene' will continue throughout 2009.

The events will be scheduled to take place as follows:

- Saturday 28th March 2009
- Saturday 13th June 2009
- Saturday 3rd October 2009
- Saturday 12th December 2009

The Blue Light Discos are an excellent example of the Community Forum and Local Area Team members working in partnership through the community planning process to provide a safe drug and alcohol free youth engagement/diversionary activity.

Membership

The Forum are working hard to increase membership and to ensure they more accurately reflect the communities they represent and have recently purchased a mobile induction loop to support the participation of a deafblind Bellshill resident who will be representing Deafblind Scotland on the Forum.

The Forum now has an induction pack for all new members so that they are aware of the roles and responsibilities of the Forum and how the Forum contributes to the wider community planning process.

Sub-group Progress

The Forum's sub-groups continue to deliver the work of the Forum.

Health and Inequalities Sub-Group

Completed 'Calendar of Events' for 2009 to promote health and other local events/significant dates and will progress the health action plan this year.

Media and PR Sub-Group

- Bellshill & District Community Forum now have a new logo (see above). The Forum was overwhelmed at the response to the recent logo competition, receiving in excess of 100 entrants from Cardinal Newman and Bellshill Academy schools, and is delighted with their new logo.

Prize winners were:

Mhairi Sinclair (Age 12) from Cardinal Newman - 1st prize £150

Sheryl Hunter (Age 14) from Bellshill Academy - 2nd prize £75

David Banks (Age 13) from Bellshill Academy - 3rd prize £50

- The PR sub-group are currently working on:
 - the development of a website
 - articles for the next addition of the NL News
 - promotional materials to raise awareness of the Forum
 - publicity for future BLD

Issues for Consideration at LAP

Viewpark Glen Regeneration

In relation to the ideas outlined in the November LAP report regarding the regeneration of Viewpark Glen, the Forum would like to know if there is any possibility of the Council and community planning partners pursuing a project like this?

Future Community Forum Meetings

The dates of the next Community Forum meetings are:

Thursday 19th February

Thursday 19th March

Thursday 16th April

For further information on the Community Forum, or the content of this report, please contact Walter Baker (Chair) on 01698 745891.