Bellshill & District
Community Forum
Chairman
Duncan McLeod
17 Kenilworth
Crescent
Bellshill
ML4 3EO
07987 490166
07746811210

Report to Local Area Partnership
March 2016

This paper gives LAP members a brief overview on Bellshill Community Forum activities since the last LAP.

The group has met twice since the last report in December.

What Matters in Viewpark

The Community Forum took part in an event for community group organisers and their representatives on Saturday the 6th of February at Viewpark Community Centre.

This event was used to consult with group organisers to find out why they became involved with their community, what challenges they have faced and what gaps they believe exist in the Viewpark area.

A few concerns were raised at the event including:

- Viewpark Gala Day committee are in need of financial support
- Asthma concerns – there was concern that asthma levels (particularly young children's) were being affected by living near motorway, with all the new road developments as well as the fact that many of the local trees have been cut down. The Forum NHS representative was happy to provide feedback on this and advise that other factors need to be taken into account also – including higher smoking numbers in that area.
- Some members of the public were not happy they were not consulted over the sports developments at Bothwellhaugh and the change of provision form rugby to football.
- There was a general consensus that people ask for their opinions but don't listen to them which causes low community spirit.

There will be a follow up event organised to engage with members of the local community.

PPF

Forum members have attended two Public Partnership Forum (PPF) meetings. The main focus has been on public consultation on healthcare strategy. As such the Forum posted links on Facebook. The post reached 367 people so it is hope the public is now more aware, and provided feedback.

The PPF also send notification of NHS's proposed plans to build a pharmacy on the Orbiston area of Bellshill. Again this information was disseminated via social media and reached 1601 people.

At the previous LAP meeting (21.01.16) the Fire service discussed older people being vulnerable in the community; as such the Forum posted a link to their website, which reached 96 people in the community.

Paul Kelly PX2 programme

The Forum were happy to support this initiative. Staff members at Bellshill Academy identified a group of pupils within the school who they believe would benefit from some additional support and information which would help them make better informed, more positive choices both in the school environment and in other aspects of their lives.

PX2 has been developed by the Pacific Institute and is aimed specifically at young people in the 14 – 24 years age range. PX2 is a programme which examines our decision making processes and identifies ways in which elements such as environment, emotions, history and experience guide us towards the decisions we make and ultimately, shape who we are and/or who we become.

The programme has 12 components which are delivered over a 25 hour period, with the aim of assisting participants to examine their decisions more closely and identify the consequences of their decisions and actions. All participants use a PX2 workbook throughout the period of the programme and the workbook then becomes reference material for them to review as and when they feel it necessary / appropriate.

One Parent Family Scotland

One Parent Family Scotland encourage and enable single parents across Scotland to make the most of the opportunities available to them so they can flourish as happy, healthy and achieving families. The forum part supported One Parent Family Scotland to provide holistic therapies to one of their groups in Bellshill, as part of a wider programme.

Community Learning and Development Partnership

The Forum have been linking in with the CLD Partnership group to support their action plan items that involve community engagement.

Recruitment

As always the Forum is actively looking to recruit new members. We recognise membership is low and are looking at ways to address this.