



CALNE COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP

February 2013 Update

Following the incorporation of Calne Springs CIC (Community Interest Company) it has been recognised that there needs to be effective lines of communication between CCAP and Calne Springs CIC. The first step was to prepare a 'Partnership Agreement' between the two organisations to ensure that matters of mutual interest are fully explored, especially those relating to the local economy. This will enable appropriate action to be taken by each relevant body within a timely manner.

The Steering Group of CCAP has recently been expanded to incorporate a Youth WG and a Fairtrade WG. The Youth WG will continue with their own agendas (such as the new Skate Park) but will join in the SG discussions to ensure that their voices are heard at all levels. The Fairtrade WG are working to promote Fairtrade within Calne and more specifically, to make Calne a Fairtrade Town.

Theme Group Reports

Calne Community Hub (Rebecca Field)

Over Christmas and New Year the Hub was closed for 10 days.

January has seen the Hub capitalising on its success. The front windows have been booked by various groups who wish to create displays and advertise themselves. For example, Calne in Bloom now has a display showing many certificates won last year as well as photographs of some of the local garden displays. Further displays have been booked. There is now a new volunteer –Rachelle- who has volunteered to coordinate the window displays.

Visitor numbers have fallen over the last few days of snow and freezing weather, but all the groups have continued running and expect to be well used throughout the year.

Transport (Anne Henshaw)

The Transport Board work is completed and they should be erected in 6 locations through the town within the next few months.

The group are now actively putting together a Green Transport day, with emphasis on cycling, to be held in September. It is hoped that it will be held on the same day as the Calne Food and Wine Festival and make a really interesting event.

Crime & Safety (Ross Henning)

This group has continued with good attendance at its meetings. The multi agency foot patrols with the police worked really well especially with members of CARP taking a special interest and producing a very good report on the needs and desires of young people out and about in town on a weekend evening. It is hoped to have more patrols in the future

Other youth issues have been raised with concerns over the use and future of the Grove and youth issues included in the Campus discussions.

Other notable items have included the use of the Calne Police Facebook page to try to identify offenders caught on CCTV.

Catching up on ongoing issues discussions have included the Springfield School entrance and associated road safety issues, hopes for strong community support from the PCC and litter in the town especially after the Friday market.

Environment (Peter Knight & Sue Wallace)

Friends of Abberd Brook (FAB) held a coffee morning (more are planned) and have received the proofs for an interpretation board, which will hopefully go on site in March. FAB is currently raising funds through a can recycling project. Castlefields Canal and River Park Association (CARP) carried out working parties, mainly to tidy up wooded areas.

Calne Environmental Network (CEN) held a raffle for a water butt prior to Christmas, as well as a Christmas Social (with CCAP). CEN is also trying to organise a bulk-buying scheme, whereby people from different addresses can group together to bulk buy fruit and vegetables at wholesale prices, and are holding a litter-pick soon at Porte Marsh Ind. Estate.

Plans are being drawn up to run Bee Wild In Calne again in 2013. This scheme, which helps plant wild flowers in public places and private properties, ran successfully last year. Members of CEN and FAB are again working closely with Calne Town Council in 2013 regarding Calne in Bloom/Britain in Bloom displays.

Economy (Paul Ogden)

Paul Ogden who is Vice-chair of the partnership, President of Calne Chamber of Commerce and a Director of Calne Springs CIC is now heading up the economy theme group. The close links this provides can only be of benefit to the community. Paul is arranging for the Chamber of Commerce constitution to be amended so that these close links can be maintained in the future. The Master Planning process undertaken by Calne Town Council and Wiltshire Council has highlighted many areas where we can work together in partnership to improve the local economy. We will be scrutinising the plan closely over the next month to identify specific project to start working with.

Always of concern for the economy is the condition of Porte Marsh Industrial estate. The Chamber has recently undertaken a survey of businesses on the estate and are due to report back their findings and recommendations at the end of January. It is probable that one of

the recommendations will be to proceed in the promotion of the area as a Business Improvement District (BID).

Housing (Richard Ayles)

Since Richard has been appointed as the Theme Group leader for Housing, he has visited the GreenSquare offices in Chippenham and have been briefed by Jan Morse, their Neighbourhood Manager.

There are two areas of general housing concern at the moment:

1. Impending government legislation on over-occupancy in accommodation paid for by the taxpayer.
2. Welfare Reform

On item 1, GreenSquare and no doubt other agencies are working to identify which households are going to be affected and contacting them with a view to support. Possible solutions include taking a lodger, mutual exchange and applying for a move.

On item 2, Welfare Reform, Wiltshire Council is sending out information to claimants. There is also information available on the web as well as CAB.

Health and Social Care Forum (David Evans)

The last meeting was held on Tuesday 13th November 2012 at James House, Calne. Short presentations with questions afterwards were given by representatives from the Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust - Denise Claydon, Service Director - Liaison and Later Life Strategic Business Unit and David Bolwell, Wiltshire Area Manager - Adult Acute Community Strategic Business Unit. They spoke about people with mental health issues in the past were not expected to recover but now the expectation is that everybody can recover and come out of secondary care into primary care for support where the majority of people are treated. Secondary services after GP referral are based on a recovery-based approach which is more accessible through Adult Social Care. The range of services teams include: Older Age, Complex Interventions, Memory Specific Services, Advocacy Services. National service user referral maximum targets are 4 weeks from GP to assessment, 4 weeks to allocation to an Allocated Care Co-ordinator and a further 13 weeks to start Treatment.

The Mental HealthTrust had recently appointed a new Chief Executive and they have reorganised their services to put mental health treatment on a more equal footing with physical health care and to make the service more local focussed.

Denise Cooper – Community Engagement Co-ordinator of the Somerset Care Group gave a short presentation about the new initiatives that her work involved in the Help to live at home service and the volunteer programme to make services more customer focus with greater service user engagement. Somerset Care is one of the four major care services commissioned by Wiltshire Council to provide the Help to live at home service. Somerset

Care also helps service users decide what package of care they will pay for and signposting to other services available.

Other local health and social care issues were discussed. Updates were given on the changes in the commissioning of primary and secondary care services as well as the Wiltshire Involvement Network being replaced by Healthwatch Wiltshire from 1st. April 2013.

The next meeting of the Calne and Social Care Forum is planned to be held on Thursday 21st February at 10.15 at James House. If any reader is interested in coming, please contact the Chairperson David Evans initially (djeevans@yahoo.com)

Malcolm Gull

Chair, CCAP