

Local Youth Network 2015-2016 report

The Local Youth Network have spent **£46,467.50** (Capital and Revenue) on **20 different new activities** which has reached approximately **660 young people** so far, plus more who engage with us informally; either through drop in sessions at John Bentley School or outreach around the town. Our Youth Work Apprentice has also supported a number of groups over the year; including 'Calne Wild Life' youth group, The Youth Trust Drop-in and the new Groundworks Youth Club for young people with special educational needs. Our Youth Work Apprentice has also launched her own groups looking at Child Sexual Exploitation. Our Community Youth Officer has joined multiple working groups advocating the voice of young people and helping the whole community area to meet the needs of young people. This also includes safeguarding roles for a number of groups and organisations and one-to-one work with some young people, who don't meet the thresholds for other agencies but still require some support.

The management group membership:

Chair- Rebecca Green, Vice Chair- Jordan Holt, Area Board member- Howard Marshall, Application Appraisal- Joe Provis, Town Council Rep- Claire Selman, Community Partnership rep- Lauree Couchman, Beth Wheeler, Jake Brock, Jane Vaughan, Natalie Viveash, Helen Bradley.

Highlights:

April 2015



The Dragons Den event was developed by the LYN management group. They developed a scoring system which meant more young people could join in the process of commissioning activities. Organisations and groups pitched an idea to the 'dragons den' and asked for a set amount of money to deliver their activity. The young people present then voted on the ideas separately.

The Area Board delegated £5000 to this event for the young people to allocate. They have £3863.50 to 3 different projects. 2 summer activities and one ongoing activity. The ongoing 'salad bowl' project later won a youth achievement award from South West in Bloom for their activity.

May 2015

Magna Carta celebrations.

All community areas joined in a huge celebration in Salisbury, bringing a local clause for a modern magna carta. The Community Engagement Manager and Community Youth Officer worked with a group from John Bentley School to come up with our clause: 'Respect for ourselves, our differences, and our environment'. Our affectionately named baron 'Billy the Melon' has visited the Calne Summer and Winter festival since. The big story from this event is the legacy project; the same

group of young people have committed to keeping these clauses alive by joining in town events and adding in positive activities for young people, for events that would meet these aims.

June 2015



The Bowl opening event.

This is the culmination of years of hard work from young people in Calne and the working groups around them. The event was hosted by Calne Summer Festival and saw over 200 people, young and older at the bowl over the day. This event also reached a need for young people who had asked for more holiday activities and youth specific activities at town events.

The Calne Community Youth Officer also took on a work experience student for a week, which met an aim of the JSA to improve opportunities for young people to gain work experience and opportunities.

July and August



Summer activities took place throughout with several events, for example; one off workshops such as first aid, a pop up café for a week in Castlefields Park and media workshops.

September and October

September led to new ideas as the youth work apprentice kicked off a child sexual exploitation project, which has continued through to March 2016. The Community Youth Officer also began exploring restorative practice in Calne. The LYN reviewed the academic year and began to look at new projects to deliver. We also supported the HACCA (Healthy Active Calne Community Area) to deliver cooking workshops for young people about to leave home and young carers.



November

The LYN and skate bowl group joined the lantern parade and Billy had another outing. We devised our Parish Tour 2016, where we seek to get the views of young people living in parishes and villages and we helped 'Launch to Learning' put together a yearlong project; with media mentors. Young people who took part in the summer workshops are taking on the project themselves and leading it for other young people over the year.

December

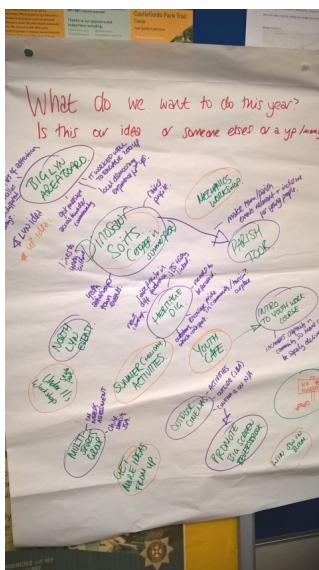


This attracted around 200 young people and adults to take part at different games and stalls that highlighted issues for young people and showed what services and activities were on offer. This was followed by the area board which was co-chaired by our local youth network chair.

This was our highlight month as we delivered the Unfair Funfair



January- March



We've been busy looking forward to the next financial year and starting up a lot more projects. We launched our Youth Club for young people with special educational needs, a literacy strategy group which looks at the whole community area, set up a skills swap mentoring scheme for young people not in employment, education or training (which involves a community gardening project and IT skills) and formed a youth cafe action group, which will start in this next financial year. The bowl group have been busy designing the phase 2 space to be more family friendly and have raised funds for a drinking fountain and picnic area, and they are launching their first consultation on April 12th.

Report Prepared by Helen Bradley, Community Youth Officer and Rebecca Green, Local Youth Network Chairperson. 22nd March 2016.