

## **Integrated Youth Service - Youth Work Team**

### **Report to South West Wiltshire Community Area Board - 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

#### Highlights from the past few months:

- 12 young people from Mere & Tisbury DC4YP have engaged in a kayaking project. 3 of these are hoping to progress to a BCU level 1 coaching award over the summer and 6 of the group who were new to the activity are hoping to gain their BCU 1 star qualification within the next month.
- The young parents group in Tisbury have been making their DVD about life as a young parent and they are now starting to develop materials for workshops to be taken into schools & youth clubs
- 12 young people took part in a Leisure Credits reward residential @ Calshot Activities Centre during the Easter holidays.
- A pilot transport scheme has been running from Dinton & Barford St Martin into Wilton on a Monday evening to enable young people from these villages to access the Development Centre for Young People
- 3 young people have used Leisure Credits to gain their CBT's and we are currently working with Youth Action Wiltshire to enable our 3 remaining old Mopeds to be used in a 'wheels to work' type scheme for young people in the South West Wiltshire Area.
- Young people have continued to engage in Leisure Credits work sessions; restoring benches in Hindon, cleaning railings in Wilton, completing the community garden in Bowerchalke, widening and reinforcing a footpath around Long Hill in Mere as well as the continued cultivation of the various allotment plots in Tisbury which have been developed by the Young Enterprise Initiative. Young People have also helped with some refurbishment work in the centre in Mere and supported a Charity Event in Mere by helping on stalls and running the BBQ

#### Implications of cuts to Integrated Youth Service Budget 2012/13:

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 the IYS Youth Work budget was reduced by £450k however, in order to minimise the impact on front line delivery, as much of the savings as possible were found from central support costs rather than staffing. There has been a 15% cut to the youth work staffing budget across the county and to ensure a professionally qualified youth worker retains responsibility for each community area, the full time staffing budget was reduced by £34,000 and the assistant youth work budget was reduced £68,500. These reductions have been managed across the service with the entire staffing budget being put through the staff

funding formula (which considers the 13 - 19 population, deprivation and rurality) to ensure they were distributed fairly. Mere, Wilton & Tisbury have the 3 smallest budgets for youth work. Mere & Tisbury already share a Youth Development Co-ordinator (who is also the Locality Team Leader) meaning more of the budget can be used to employ Assistant Youth Workers for daytime and evening sessions in the communities. Following the reductions Wilton was faced with a very small assistant youth work budget to support a full time Youth Development Co-ordinator so following consultation with all the staff concerned it was decided to create a half time Lead Assistant Youth Worker for Wilton who would be supported by the Locality Team Leader. This decision was with 2 main considerations in mind; one being the restrictions placed by planning on the use of the centre for youth work sessions during the day and the second ensuring there was sufficient budget to employ Assistant Youth Workers to retain 3 nights a week opening in the new centre as well as providing support to young people at a school drop-in session, re-establish the football project one night a week at Castle Meadow and develop a programme of weekend leisure credits sessions out in the Wilton Community Area. These staff changes are currently in progress and it is hoped that a new lead Assistant Youth Worker will be appointed to Wilton within the month.

#### Community Area Young People's Issues Group (CAYPIG) News:

- Young People from the Tisbury CAYPIG skate park group have continued to be engaged in meetings with designers and the adults steering group to progress plans. They also went on a trip to Midsummer Norton Skate Park to try out a concrete skate park which they loved.
- Young People from Tisbury CAYPIG have also met with members of the shadow COB to put forward their ideas and thoughts about what they would like to see included in the new campus development.
- Young People from Wilton engaged in a consultation event about the proposed 'Eco Park' development and made suggestions about what kinds of leisure opportunities they would like to see included
- Young People from Mere CAYPIG have met with the Mere Fireworks Event organisers to offer their ideas and support for this year's festival. The group are also taking part in consultation about the proposed skate park development in Mere.

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