

# Stronger Communities Service

## 2018/19 Quarter 2 Narrative Report



## CENTRAL

### ABCD in Action

#### *Building the Capacity of People and Facilities*

PEOPLE ACHIEVING  
THEIR  
POTENTIAL

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

The Lew Whitehead Centre in Ward Green, was a struggling community venue with only a small number of discouraged volunteers involved in the management of the building. The centre had been under used for many years with only the resident football team and Youth Club providing any regular activity or income.

Chair of the Centre Committee and Football Team manager, Ian Langworthy, contacted Community Development Officer Michelle Toone for support and guidance. During the initial meeting, existing volunteers worked with Michelle to outline a plan to bring the centre back into community use and build the capacity of the volunteers.



It was recognised that in order for the building to become a community hub again improvement works needed to be carried out. The group worked alongside Berneslai Homes, Worsbrough Ward Alliance and Community Payback to secure funding for redecoration, installation of a new kitchen and the purchase of new white goods.

Through her local connections Michelle was able to identify local residents who were willing to get involved with the centre and together with existing volunteers they carried out a low level consultation to find out what activities the area could benefit from and also support the development of the centre.

With the support of Central Family Centre Team, Michelle and the new volunteer, Lucy, set up a toddler session. The first session was a success and within two months went from monthly to fortnightly sessions. The sessions attracted more new volunteers that expressed an interest in supporting the centre as a whole.

The centre played host to the summer 'Healthy Holiday' provision and supported the delivery of four successful sessions, using them as a hook to encourage people to use the centre and advertise the existing activities on offer.

The recent 'Open Day' planned and delivered by the volunteers of all the associated groups at the centre generated a funding pot to enable them to delivery further community activities. It also provided an opportunity to positively engage with residents in the local area that had not previously engaged, some of whom have been known to cause antisocial behaviour.

The centre now has a thriving toddler group, the youth club has been rejuvenated with a considerable increase in membership over the last two months and the centre committee has three new volunteer members. The group plan to continue to deliver community led activities during October and Christmas breaks and are also looking at other avenues for generating income to ensure the long term sustainability of the venue.



The group are now accessing training provided by the Ward Alliance and other supporting organisations and will be in a position to continue to operate independent of support from the Community Development Office in the very near future.

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### Central - Barnsley YMCA

#### *An Early Help Approach: Building Emotional Resilience in Children and Young People*

PEOPLE ACHIEVING  
THEIR  
POTENTIAL

**Outcome 7:** Reducing demand through improving access to early help

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

Barnsley YMCA has been delivering a service commissioned by Central Area Council since 2016 to build emotional resilience in children and young people aged 8-12 years. The following letter from a young person demonstrates the project's direct contribution to building emotional resilience, and is a good example of the work the YMCA is doing to enable a child to make that initial first step: Building confidence and self-esteem; creating opportunities to build friendships; developing support networks; and participating in a programme that is engaging, fun and develops wider key life skills.

The following is an extract from a handwritten letter from Oliver and his parents:

“I just wanted to say thank you for helping Oliver grow in confidence these past few months. Oliver has always relied on his older brother or us to help him go to new places, especially when it came to school and school activities. Oliver wouldn't go unless his brother was there to support him. Oliver always mentioned after school clubs that were going on and thought they would be good but never had the confidence or self-belief to go.



Oliver spoke about wanting to join a football team but kept putting it off. He would go every week and watch his brother play but said he wasn't good enough to play and never joined in. The same applied to Beavers & Cubs another interest that he didn't have the confidence to participate in.

When the chance of joining the YMCA club came up at school Oliver mentioned it but it took a lot of help and encouragement from family and friends for him to try it! We explained that with it being in a school setting it was a familiar place. People and friends from school would be there too, he only had to try it once and if he didn't like it he didn't have to go again. We explained his situation to staff and told him everything would be ok and nobody would mind or get mad if he didn't like it.

The change in Oliver since attending, staying at the session and enjoying it has made all the difference. He really enjoyed it; the change in him is really brilliant to see. With the support and being around friends he is so chatty, funny and happy. Now as an individual he is so positive -his confidence has grown. Oliver's brother left to go to secondary school and staff were worried how he would cope. But now thanks to the YMCA Oliver is really positive and full of confidence. He's now joined Beavers & Cubs and plays football as part of a team and attends all YMCA holiday provision by himself. Thank you YMCA! “

Oliver says: “The different crafts and things we do make me want to keep trying new things. I feel happier to give things a go and feel things I couldn't do I will do now - I will just try it! I feel good about myself and now I'm more confident. Thank you to the YMCA.”

**DEARNE**  
*Summer Fun for Everyone*

**PEOPLE ACHIEVING  
THEIR  
POTENTIAL**

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

**STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

The aim of 'Summer Fun for Everyone' is to ensure that every child in the Dearne area had access to a hot/cold meal during the six week holidays. Many children in the Dearne area access free school meals during term time and have nothing in the holidays, so the Dearne Ward Alliance agreed to put on activities for the families and free food, especially for the children, in place as a pilot to see if this is what the families wanted. Working with FareShare (Feeding Britain) helped to ensure a budget was provided and a project plan was then put in place.



The main objective was to ensure that every child had access to a free meal and had a chance to meet up with others, play out, and enjoy a bit of 'me' time with other children in the area by sharing ideas, colouring, playing and eating together.

**People Achieving Their Potential:**

The Dearne 'Summer Fun for Everyone' sessions provided a balanced variety of food for the children, introducing fresh healthy alternatives, ensuring that all of them had a breakfast of fresh fruit and cereal with milk. It also gave the children and families an active afternoon with different activities ranging from sports to some creative crafts making the children think whilst having fun at the same time.

**Strong and Resilient Communities:**

The project activities had six weekly sessions which required 70 individual volunteers in total, in which 9 were from the Ward Alliance to assist at every one with setting up the room, preparing, cooking & serving the meals, ensuring the games/crafts were all set out, entertaining the volunteers contributed towards stronger communities helping the families to take part with the activities.



Four local Councillors from Dearne North & Dearne South attended some of the sessions to help with providing meals and entertainment to the families and to assist with any issues that came forward as their role of leadership for the Barnsley Council. The Ward Alliance members also assisted in the cooking of the meals and sat on each of the tables to assist in the arts & crafts. Volunteers were needed as 994 meals were handed out to children over the 6 weeks. 427 individual children attended altogether. The SROI totalled £4175.59.

The Dearne Community Development Officers met with Churches Together to plan the project and how it would be delivered in the Dearne community. Firstly arranging the venues, site visits and what activities were feasible. Then funding was sourced and a budget plan was made. The CDO's were paramount in the delivery of this project. They brought all the external services e.g. family centres, volunteers, FareShare together to make sure the weekly sessions went to plan, from setting up each of the venues making sure the families & children had a good time and plenty to eat, engaged with the parents & children on the activity and evaluated at the end and then cleaned the areas to make sure the tables/chairs and mess had been cleared away before leaving.



The Dearne Area Team made sure the delivery of the summer fun project went smoothly and all the families, mainly children, were fed and got to interact with everyone who attended. Many of the external partners that attended the summer fun events enrolled new families and got to engage with residents that they hadn't seen before. They have all said the events were excellent and want to definitely have more in the Dearne in the school holidays.

We received extremely positive feedback about the initiative from the families who attended; members of the community, volunteers, and from partners who supported the events. Most commented that it was great to see things going on that are free, accessible and bring the community together. Parents said it was a real help to be able to take the children out where they can do activities and eat for free, as otherwise they would be at home all summer due to the financial struggles that can come with school holidays. Below are some examples of the feedback that have been left on our social media posts regarding the Summer Fun programme:



It was truly a brilliant family event. Thank you for a great afternoon 💕💕

Kids really enjoyed this, it's lovely to see such nice things happening for the local community xx

Well wot a brill day again my grandchildren loved every minute so thankyou and well done xx

Had a fab day at thurnscoe community centre kids have loved it even grandad too well organised too lovely Buffett as well all free as well thank you to the organisers we will be going to more events x

Me n mine missed 1 event out of all.. and they have enjoyed all the ones we been to...thank you so much for a fantastic 6 week activities we have loved it as a family...😊 xxx

We received comments from some who did not know about the events and hadn't seen the Facebook promotion of it until near the end of the programme. Should the initiative run again in summer 2019, we will consider putting together a timetable of events and liaising with local schools so that they can pass them onto parents before the children break up for summer.

Some families who have children with physical and/or learning disabilities and difficulties stated how they felt that there is not enough provision for children with additional needs. They told us that there are events provided in Barnsley, but they find this inaccessible due to the long trip on public transport. This is something to consider and discuss for the future.



**NORTH**  
**Darton East**  
*Incredible Edible Mapplewell*

**PEOPLE** ACHIEVING  
**POTENTIAL** THEIR

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

**STRONG &**  
**RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

It is just over a year since the new Manager, Nick, took over at Mapplewell and Staincross Village Hall. In that time the local gossip is that there has been a dramatic culture change for everyone involved. There is emphasis on providing 'a good experience' for all who use and work in the Village Hall. A host of new activities and classes have been introduced, the latest being to create the first Incredible Edible project in the North Area; a community garden space in Mapplewell to grow fruit and vegetables.



Nick met with both the Twigg's projects team and Twigg's Clean and Tidy team to discuss logistics of the project and identify the best place for it within the Village Hall grounds. Nick secured Ward Alliance funding to enable the Twigg's project team to purchase materials and install the raised beds.

Within the space of a few days three raised beds were built, installed, and filled in within the garden area around the back of the Village Hall. Local volunteers, community groups, residents and businesses will be encouraged to plant the beds – the food grown in the first two beds will be available to anyone from the local community to pick and use at home. The third bed will be for the Leap Ahead Day Nursery who are based in the Village Hall – they will use it as a learning opportunity to teach children and parents about growing and healthy eating.

Nothing like this has been tried in the local area before, there is a real buzz and excitement from the community so it looks set to be a big success.



**Darton West**  
***Gawber History Group***

<b>PEOPLE</b> ACHIEVING THEIR <b>POTENTIAL</b>	<b>STRONG &amp;</b> RESILIENT COMMUNITIES
<b>Outcome 9:</b> People are healthier, happier, independent and active	<b>Outcome 10:</b> People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

A couple of years ago, a few local residents living in Gawber felt that something was needed for local people to get involved in and come together. They organised an open evening and invited Hugh Polehampton to give a talk on the history of Gawber – 40 people attended this and from here the ‘Gawber History Group’ was formed.

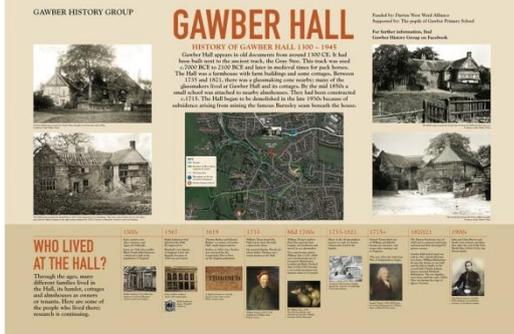
The group currently has 12 volunteers who are passionate about the local history of Gawber. Hugh Polehampton himself became a member and travels from Manchester for every meeting (his family had links to Gawber Hall). This group of volunteers are incredibly enthusiastic about the work that they do. They go above and beyond to research and pull together ideas – one of the members has recently spent two days in Sheffield Archives researching for their next interpretation board.

Within in their first year, the group gained blue plaque status and with funding from the Ward Alliance installed a plaque close to the site of where Gawber Glasshouse once stood.

With passion and momentum going for the group, they decided to create a heritage trail around Gawber - the blue plaque being the starting point. The group contacted the local school, Gawber Primary as they were keen to preserve the history and heritage for the next generation to see if they would like to be involved. The school were extremely keen and have been incredibly supportive of the history group. They worked with them on the designing of the first interpretation board in the Gawber Trail. Funding was sought from the Ward Alliance for the board and after hours upon hours of research in March this year the first interpretation board was unveiled.



The group continued to flourish as did the relationship with the school, the group have been in to give talks to both pupils and parents. Those who attended these were fascinated to learn the history of Gawber, the various industries that were in the area and the old tales. The head teacher has also given time on the curriculum for Year 5 pupils to do a project on the Gawber Trail – an exciting



prospect indeed. Their dedication and hard work hasn't gone unnoticed. In 2018, the group were awarded a Star of Darton West for everything they have achieved.

The History group now have 28 notice boards full of historical information about Gawber and are busy planning interpretation boards 2,3 and 4.

The group now understands that for their fantastic work to continue they must evolve. They realise that they cannot be reliant on the Ward Alliance and must start to fundraise themselves and look for alternative funding. Over the next few weeks I will be supporting this group to become constituted and open a bank account.

### Old Town Ward Live 'n' Local

**THRIVING & VIBRANT ECONOMY**

- Outcome 1:** Create more and better jobs and good business growth
- Outcome 2:** Increase skills to get more people working
- Outcome 3:** Develop a vibrant town centre
- Outcome 4:** Strengthen our visitor economy

**PEOPLE ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL**

- Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

**STRONG & RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

- Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

Live 'n' Local is a live music event that was run in Wilthorpe Park in September 2018. It was completely organised and staffed by volunteers, and involved bringing six live acts to the local community. Local businesses were invited to take part, including the use of a Gin bar and sold reduced cost community picnic bags. The event received huge attention and on social media reached 40% of the population of Barnsley.



The Live 'n' Local event was aimed at creating an innovative community event, aimed at bringing families into the park and helping them enjoy the park as a community resource. In addition to this, the event raised money for two very important local charities – Barnsley Hospice and Pippa Jones Little Treasure Trust

The Friends group experienced significant issues achieving the project. These were typically around businesses dropping out at the last moment, leaving a gap to fill. For the most part, they were able to overcome that by simply finding another company and inviting them along. Another problem was the procurement of a generator, which required industrial machinery insurance. This was looking to be a significant problem but, thankfully, HSS Hire were great in providing an option for getting the insurance included as part of the equipment hire.



Finally, perhaps the most significant problem was in ensuring that it complied with BMBC licensing regulations. The issue was that the group had to monitor attendance and keep it within 499 people throughout the event, but the park was an open area so there was no easy way of restricting access (as it's a public park). They implemented a solution by creating a roped off perimeter within the park that could hold 499 people in it, and had staff monitoring the numbers inside to ensure no breaches ensued.

#### **Thriving & Vibrant Economy:**

- The event gave local businesses the chance to reach an audience that they wouldn't otherwise and to make money, thereby boosting the local economy.
- The volunteers increased their skills by pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and forcing themselves to learn how a larger event runs.
- The event itself was very highly publicised and drew people to it from all across the Borough. It was a huge success and year on year is expected to grow.

#### **People Achieving Their Potential:**

- This event was something that people in the local area have wanted for some time, and was a project that members of the group were passionate about delivering. The amount of positive feedback was phenomenal and it's likely that the event will be held again in 2019.

#### **Stronger and Resilient Communities:**

- The event was a big one and required a number of volunteers to make it a reality. Not only was there a significant amount of time taken before the event to plan, but on the day, volunteers were also on hand to set up, take down, man stalls, monitor attendance and otherwise keep things running smoothly.



The event was organised on a completely voluntary basis by members of the Friends of Wilthorpe Park and Ad Astra, a Community Interest Company. They formed a working group and for at least three months did all the planning from booking businesses and stalls to arranging staging and generators and liaising with sound engineers.

On the day itself, approximately 10 other volunteers were recruited with the help of Ad Astra to man the stalls and monitor the attendance at the event as well as physically set the event up and take it down.

The CDO in the North Area was one of the volunteers who helped set the event up. They used their experience, skills and contacts gained from the team to help set the event up.

The rest of the Area Team provided a supporting role in allowing time to plan the event, and the use of the van to move vital equipment backwards and forwards. Without the Area Teams support, this event would likely not have happened because the planning time might not have been able to be found elsewhere, and there was no spare budget to hire vehicles to obtain and move equipment.

The event achieved a huge amount of publicity for the park, the organisations, and charities. Approx. 50 new people followed the groups Facebook pages, meaning more likelihood of engagement in future projects.

Approx. 800-1,000 people attended throughout the day (3 – 4 times more than for any event they've held previously). Money was raised for each charity, and local businesses made good amounts of money. Plus, from the feedback received, there was an overwhelmingly positive response and people would love to see it again.



Whilst not a new way of working, this event did enable the group to develop close links with key people in events management activities e.g. Matt Mitchell, and BMBC Licensing. This close communication will be key in developing future events and making even better and more exciting things happen in the local area.

Feedback from the event, taken from social media:

	<b>Angela Bywater</b> Fantastic day at Wilthorpe Park, live n local. Brill music, a bit hard at the end but otherwise brill, amazing local interaction, seen people from years ago. What a Fab Time ❤️
	<b>Kerry Rodgers</b> Great to have an event like this in our local park. Thanks to everyone who helped to organise and would like to see it happen again next year.
	<b>Sarah Goldsbrough</b> What a fantastic afternoon , well c [redacted] all who organised it lovely to see community spirit xxx thank you 😊😊😊

Some learning points from the event, and what will happen next:

- Arrange for 4-5 different food stalls so if some let them down, will still have food
- Work with BMBC Licensing to find better ways to regulate attendance
- Book more toilets
- Apply for funding earlier (delays in funding made an impact)
- Have more mainstream bands
- Ensure there's enough funding for qualified security



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### St Helen's *St Helen's Cycle Route*

<b>THRIVING &amp; VIBRANT ECONOMY</b>	<b>PEOPLE ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL</b>	<b>STRONG &amp; RESILIENT COMMUNITIES</b>
<b>Outcome 4:</b> Strengthen our visitor economy	<b>Outcome 7:</b> Reducing demand through improving access to early help  <b>Outcome 9:</b> People are healthier, happier, independent and active	<b>Outcome 10:</b> People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

Geoff Bentley is a resident of New Lodge and has many ideas on how to improve the quality of life for partially sighted people who would like to enjoy their hobby of cycling. Geoff has approached the Area Team to look at developing an easy to read and understand cycle route so that people who are partially sighted or otherwise vulnerable or low in confidence, can come along and enjoy a ride along the route.

It's designed to help people who enjoy cycling but are perhaps a bit vulnerable, or have difficulty reading the standard BMBC issued cycling maps. It's there to improve the quality of life for people and help to make them able to overcome obstacles and continue to participate in and enjoy cycling.

#### **Thriving & Vibrant Economy:**

The ideas Geoff has will potentially attract people from around the area to participate in the cycle route and hopefully stay to use local businesses too.

#### **People Achieving Their Potential:**

It is hoped that the creation of the cycle route will fulfil a need for partially sighted people in the Barnsley area and maybe beyond, and will reduce the demand placed on services for things like healthy activity for partially sighted people (and fully sighted people too if they wish).

**Strong & Resilient Communities:**

Geoff is passionate about helping people and he is committed to doing what he can to help make his community better. Geoff has spoken to numerous agencies and groups about his vision. These include the **NHS, CycleHub, Cycle Penistone, New Lodge Community Centre, local Councillors** and of course, the **North Area Team**.

We were asked to help be the liaison between BMBC street lighting and Geoff. We are also looking at working with Coalfields Regeneration Trust and New Lodge Community Centre to develop a local cycling group.

The project will be aimed at improving the lives and health of local residents. It is still under development, so we have yet to fully realise the outcomes and obstacles. Anticipated obstacles may be permissions from Street lighting and costs of manufacture of the signs as well as installation. The cycle route project will predominantly be dealt with by the North Team, BMBC Street Lighting and the St Helen's Ward Alliance, but the cycle club will involve multiple community organisations as detailed above.

After speaking with Elaine Meehan from public health, she said there is a good potential benefit for partially sighted people. People from Cycle Penistone have also said they are interested in potential future work with Geoff on some of his innovative ideas.

Once the project has been delivered, we will be looking at working with Geoff and the other agencies to foster greater interest in it and get something regular set up.

**NORTH EAST**  
**North East**  
***Let's Dance – Great Houghton***

**STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

The Let's Dance group received a grant from the North East Ward Alliance for £453 and meet weekly at the Great Houghton Welfare Hall Great Houghton, where they danced for an hour and a half. The group are active older people, both men and women.



“Dancing is a universal human experience. We dance to express joy and celebrate events.”

The project's aim was encourage older people to be more active and reduce social isolation. The evidence for the health benefits of exercise is indisputable. Physiologic studies have demonstrated that regular activity builds muscle and bone, reduces fat, increases aerobic capacity, lowers blood pressure, and improves the ratio of "good" to "bad" cholesterol. Dance has been shown to have all these benefits. The quotations below are taken from participants in the Lets Dance group:

“An enjoyable afternoon, in good friendly company and a little light exercise.”

“To come to this venue gets you to be in friendly company.”

“If I hadn't come here after losing my husband last year I would have been suffering from depression, but meeting the lovely friendly people has got me doing things so I'm not on my own.”

“Tuesday afternoon is a fun time for dancing.”

“It keeps use fit and active.”

“It keeps the village helping the elderly”

“It's a good laugh!”

“It's an enjoyable afternoon with great dancing, beautiful music, lovely company and good exercise.”



The area team helped bringing people together and supported the volunteers. For these participants, dancing clearly transformed how they felt, provided emotional wellbeing and keeps them fit. So the next time you find yourself at an awkward Christmas party or wedding dance floor, wondering whether or not to get up and groove, just do it.

**Royston**  
**Royston Canal Club – New Boat**

**PEOPLE ACHIEVING  
THEIR  
POTENTIAL**

**Outcome 8:** Children and adults are safe from harm

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

**STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities



Royston Canal Club comprises of a small number of local volunteers that restore and maintain the Canal area for the whole community to use and enjoy throughout the year. They applied for external funding (Henry Boot – Better Barnsley Bond) to fund a new boat which is a much needed resource for the canal club.

Royston Canal Club needed a new boat as the old boat was no longer fit for purpose. The old boat had a leak so could no longer support two volunteers to carry out maintenance work on the area cutting back bushes/trees on the banking etc.

The Canal Club supports local volunteers that contribute towards a stronger community. The Canal is an asset used by local fisher men, dog walkers, and cyclists. They work with local schools to provide activities teaching children how to fish. The work they do maintaining the Canal is beneficial to the local environment. They are part of the Barnsley in Bloom Campaign and have won Gold for a second year in a row.

The chair of the Royston Canal Club supported by the North East Area Team submitted a funding bid to the Better Barnsley Bon (Henry Boot). He, along with others, volunteer on daily/weekly basis to maintain the canal and the surrounding area. Thanks to the new boat which is safer is much lighter meaning it takes less volunteers to complete routine maintenance jobs on the other side of the canal.



The area team officers supported the Canal Club chair in the accessing the Better Barnsley Bond funding. The team also supported by bringing people together and brokering throughout the process. Facilitation of a photoshoot between Henry Boot (the funders) and the Canal Club along with Barnsley Chronicle. The article was featured in the local paper.

The bid was successful so they got a new boat. It has allowed volunteers to maintain the site easier and safely. The well maintained area is used by lots of member of the public as they create a beautiful natural habitat for wildlife for everyone to enjoy.



The old boat which was no longer suitable for Royston Canal Clubs needs has been donated to Carlton Marsh and is to be used are part of the preservation work happening there. The bid benefitted two local community groups.

The club are very appreciative of their new boat. It has made jobs on the canal a lot easier for volunteers, they are delighted with it.

The Chair of the Club received a special recognition award at this year's Barnsley "In Bloom" awards ceremony for all his hard work and efforts at the canal. He was truly touched and overwhelmed to receive the award in acknowledgement of all his volunteering.

Volunteers are passionate about developing the site further and after the results and feedback from this years "In Bloom" competition they were one mark from the Platinum award in their category. Volunteers have set themselves a goal of reaching Platinum in next year's "In Bloom" competition.

**Monk Bretton**  
**Carlton Gala – Summer 2018**

**PEOPLE ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL**

**Outcome 8:** Children and adults are safe from harm

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

**STRONG & RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

Physical Futures is a resource centre based in Carlton, providing opportunities to help adults with learning and physical disabilities to have a fulfilling life. Our service is important for several reasons:

- It provides people with the opportunity to take part in various interests and activities both building based and within the local community
- To make friends & develop relationships
- Develop new skills which lead to increased confidence and independence

Support people to make a positive contribution to the community.

The service users were keen to be involved in organising a Gala, as it provided the opportunity to make a positive contribution to our local community and to be noticed for their achievements and not their disability. The Gala was held on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018, at Carlton Park, with perfect weather conditions for such an event.



The volunteers that organised and helped to run the event were empowered. They brought people together in a safe fun environment providing a sense of community.

Service users were integrated within the community and had a sense of belonging. Service users organising and helping to run the event has dispelled the stigmas/myths surrounding disability and what people with disability can do/achieve.



There were 23 volunteers assisting in the smooth running of the gala over the course of the day - 10am to 4pm. Volunteers included Members of the Ward Alliance, volunteers from various community groups, parents and family members of the people with disabilities.

North East Area Environmental Team supported this event by providing the Marquee and Gazebos on the day and supporting in the set up for the event.



The North East Area Team supported this project by bringing people together and providing brokering. Monk Bretton Ward Alliance supported with Ward Alliance Funding which was integral to the event taking place.

The event was a huge success bringing the whole community together for a family fun day (Gala).

The Physical Futures service user felt empowered by their achievements creating a fun day for the whole



community. Being accepted and integrated within the community. Being acknowledged and seen as people not focussing on their disability first.

The project raised awareness of the fantastic work that the Physical Futures centre does and delivers in that area.



Feedback from the project: “The event was well attended by members of the public, service users, friends and families with many commenting on the success of the day, this added to many of the stall holders wanting to return in 2019”.

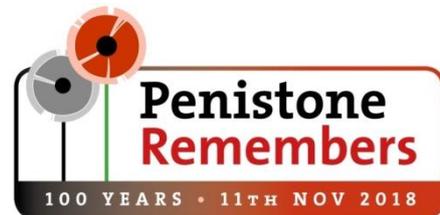
As a result they want to plan and deliver more community events including an even bigger and better Gala next year.



**PENISTONE**  
*Penistone Remembers*

<b>THRIVING &amp; VIBRANT ECONOMY</b>	<b>STRONG &amp; RESILIENT COMMUNITIES</b>
<b>Outcome 4:</b> Strengthen our visitor economy	<b>Outcome 10:</b> People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

The Penistone Area Team and local councillors became aware of a number of groups wanting to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the First World War. As part of their aim to build strong and resilient communities they called a community meeting to bring people together. The result of the meeting was a new partnership called 'Penistone Remembers'. The partnership was made up of community representatives, the Penistone Show, St John's Church, Penistone History and Archive Group, Penistone Town Council, Penistone Armed Forces Day and other local groups and businesses.



To deliver a large-scale community event the new partnership successfully applied to the Penistone Ward Alliance Fund and have committed over 600 volunteer hours to the project.

The partnership wanted to be ambitious and attract people into Penistone, helping to contribute to building a thriving and vibrant local economy. To do this they have engaged with national remembrance programmes; the 'Beacons of Light' campaign and the 'There But Not There' public art installation. Penistone will be the host to 10 life-sized, transparent, silhouettes as part of a national public art installation, described as the defining centenary commemoration of the end of the 1914-1918 war.

***"We are very proud to be part of the national 'Beacon of Light' campaign and it has been both interesting and humbling so far to read the stories about the local people who died or who were injured during that time. The Penistone Remembers event is a way to remember those local people as well as to show what it was like to be in our area at the time."*** Rebecca Barnett, project lead and local business owner

The project culminates in a day of activities and beacon lighting at St John's Church, Penistone, on Sunday 11 November.



### ***Team Green Moor cleans up at awards***

**STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

Team Green Moor are a volunteer group linked to Hunshelf Parish Council who look after the green spaces in their village. The Penistone Area Council are committed to local environmental projects and helping people to achieve their potential, creating strong and resilient communities. To achieve this aim the area council commissions Twiggs, a local environment company, to support volunteers in their aims.



The Twiggs Penistone Clean and Tidy Team have been supporting Team Green Moor for nearly a year in a range of projects leading up to the Yorkshire in Bloom Awards in September. The results have been spectacular with the group winning Best New Entry, Best Overall Village and one of only two Category Winners from the Barnsley Borough (the other being Oxspring Primary School).

Cllr Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson for Communities, said: “I want to thank everyone who took part and congratulate all the places and people who received these well-deserved awards. I’d also like to give a special mention to Team Green Moor and Oxspring Primary School which received category winners.”

Team Green Moor have also been supported by the Penistone Ward Alliance Fund to provide equipment and storage for the volunteers. They have also successfully applied to the Tesco ‘Bags of Help’ fund and the National Lottery.

The team average over 300 volunteer hours a month, a fantastic effort and commitment to their local community.

**SOUTH  
Darfield  
*Darfield Summer Gala***

**STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

A community event aimed at promoting community groups in Darfield and building community cohesion across the area.

The project was designed to:

- Help local community groups to become self-sufficient by providing an opportunity for them to promote their work and raise funds;
- Act as a conduit for WA members to carry out their Community Champion roles and raise awareness of the area arrangements;
- Build community cohesion by bringing together all members of the community;
- Provide free fun activities for local families;
- Work with other local organisations.



**Strong and Resilient Communities:**

As a community event, the gala will contribute towards the developing of sustainable community support networks bringing together both local people and community groups. The gala is an opportunity for local groups and organisations to share communications with the wider community, promote their work, do some fundraising and recruit new volunteers. This is an intergenerational event aimed at both the young and old; it offers information on how people can get more involved with their local community by showcasing the different groups and activities available, helping to improve social networks, skills and overall health and wellbeing.

The free activities for children will help families many of whom are struggling financially, relying on volunteer support in terms of the community groups attending with a stall, provision of activities and the planning and delivery of the event.

A small working group from the **Darfield Ward Alliance** took part, consisting of 3 members who were involved with the planning and delivery of the event. Work between them included obtaining

prices / booking activities, liaising with the Doctor's surgery regarding access to the park, contacting businesses asking for donations, shopping for catering supplies, help with distribution of posters, making links with Dearne FM, and on the day support with setting up and clearing down. This work was carried out as part of their community champion role.

**Berneslai Homes** supported the event by providing members of staff to help with the stewarding on gala day and by funding 2 of the activities as part of its work to engage with BH families.

The **South Area Tidy Team** provided invaluable support with the loan and transporting of equipment, set up and clear down on gala day and a litter pick a couple of days prior to the event as part of their Area Council Commission.



**Darfield Bowls Club** provided toilet facilities, first aid provision, hot drinks as well as free bowls in-order to promote itself and encourage new members and also as a thank you for the WAF the Club has received.

**Barnsley Leaders Basketball Club** provided a basketball demonstration again to promote the Club and by way of a thank you for previous WAF.

The CDO provided the much needed encouragement and support to the WA working group for them to fulfil their community champion role. Although this project is the best to date for Ward Alliance members being actively involved there was still a considerable amount of work involved with the gala which was picked up by the CDO and necessary to the success of the event particularly around the protocols of running community events.



The CDO acted as overall project manager and was able to bring in the support listed above from partner organisations. A couple of activities booked for the event didn't have the necessary CHAS registration. The CDO was able to act as a link between the service providers and our Health and Safety Unit to ensure steps were taken to resolve this issue. This resulted in one service provider becoming CHAS registered and the other being booked for alternative activities (downgrading from high risk to low risk activities).

Without the above involvement by the CDO the Summer Gala would not have achieved what it set out to do. Members of the working group would have felt unsupported and at risk of negative feedback following the delivery of a poor event. This could have had a detrimental effect to their development as community champions.

Fifteen volunteers (including one new volunteer) helped out at the event, totalling 54 volunteer hours. The event received £380 additional funding (consisting of £350 from Berneslai Homes and a £30 donation from Tesco).

Excellent partnership working was evident throughout, and links were made with PING Barnsley which will help the CDO support a Darfield community group with the delivery of free table tennis sessions (a project which has been funded out of WAF but as yet the group has struggled to get it off the ground).



Feedback has on the whole been positive with a couple of suggestions received for next year's event. The gala was well received by residents, service providers and community groups. Speaking to the service providers, they seemed pleased by the level of interaction they received at their stalls as did the community groups who also did well in terms of fundraising.

Learning points include:

- Ensuring CHAS registration is in place for all high risk activities
- The gala felt busier being mid-week with a good turnout from service providers. Initially, there were concerns over community groups being able to attend mid-week as many of their volunteers are working but overall this wasn't an issue with the same number of groups attending as in previous years.
- There is the desire for the gala to grow again for next year with the provision of more activities.
- More volunteer support is needed on gala day.

A closure meeting to take place to discuss what went well / not so well. This information will then be used to inform the planning of next year's event which will commence in the New Year.



**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham**  
**CV Writing Skills**



**Outcome 2:** Increase skills to get more people working



**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active



**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

The project was designed to help young people to develop a good CV so that young people could use this as a tool to find work or an apprenticeship.

A CV is the first opportunity to make a great impression on a potential employer. The project was designed so that every young person attending went away with a high quality CV that they could send out to potential employers or apprenticeship providers to gain meaningful employment or training.

The young people were encouraged to seek out volunteer roles to enhance their CV. This was done by promoting known vacancies to the group and discussing how volunteering can enhance a CV. Having an excellent CV that stands out from the rest and helping young people to identify the skills they have and those they need to improve helps them move into paid employment.

Three young people attended the event and two submitted CVs for evaluation. The attendees spent two hours having one to one help and advice with their CV from the TIAG team and then additional help from the digital champions enabled CVs to be uploaded to online employment sites.

By planning the event and ensuring that we had enough time to deliver a quality product and managed expectations, the session delivered higher results than expected. The CDO promoted the event and recruited attendees. The CDO then brought everyone back together a week later to monitor.

All three attendees left with well-constructed CV that could be submitted to potential employers. 1 returned to full time education; one found a place on an apprenticeship and one will remain in contact with the TIAG team. Of the 2 that submitted CVs for further advice one is now in full time work, the other continues to seek part time employment.

The project supported new ways of working with teams within the council. The library staff sourced a suitable venue and the TIAG team led the CV writing sessions. The digital champions also attended to provide help with getting their CVs online and helping the young people to access job opportunities online. Young people have access to social media on their phones but frequently do not have access to computers.

One of the people who submitted their CV for checking is now in full time employment and two of the attendees have gone on to further education or employment.

“Better than I expected. I got my CV but also a job / apprenticeship interview.”

“I found it really helpful as they helped improve my CV and apply for an apprenticeship and arranged a date to visit college.”

“It went great, I’m taking steps forward.”

The session failed to attract high numbers of participants expected and it was considered the main reason for this was that project was delivered too late in the year. Most Year 11 to 13 students need to have their CV complete by Easter. Having considered this we are going to host another workshop in February half term. A planning meeting is scheduled for January 2019.

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**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham**  
***New Volunteer – Kylie***

 <p><b>THRIVING &amp; VIBRANT ECONOMY</b></p>	 <p><b>PEOPLE ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL</b></p>	 <p><b>STRONG &amp; RESILIENT COMMUNITIES</b></p>
<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Increase skills to get more people working</p>	<p><b>Outcome 9:</b> People are healthier, happier, independent and active</p>	<p><b>Outcome 10:</b> People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities</p>

The Golden Memories Café, St Andrews Community Centre, Hoyland started in October 2017. The café is open to anyone in the area and is a joint venture between the South Area Team, Berneslai Homes, Tesco and Walderslade Surgery. The group was formed to try and tackle social isolation by providing a weekly meeting place where attendees feel safe. Around 20 older people regularly attend the group which runs every Monday (with the exception of Bank Holidays) who enjoy a wide range of activities such as trips out, talks on a diverse range of subjects, games of bingo, raffles and armchair bingo.

Recently numbers of attendees have increased significantly and another volunteer is required to strengthen the group and take on some routine tasks, as the members are older and infirm, many have some loss of memory, they are unable to take on any kind of volunteer role themselves.

Kylie already has experience in paid and unpaid work; she has been working in a local café and as a volunteer with Elsecar Heritage Railway. Her employment at the café stopped when the business ceased trading. She has found it difficult to find alternative work and her ultimate aim is to return to paid employment.

Her current duties include, serving tea, coffee and toast to group members, washing and drying dishes, interacting with group members, helping group members play bingo, if they struggle to see the numbers or keep up with the number caller. We hope that with support, Kylie will be able to prepare refreshments independently and take responsibility for collecting the raffle and bingo money.

Kylie has been accompanied for the first few weeks by a support worker from the Employment and Volunteering Team. Kylie's volunteering with the group meets one of Hoyland Milton and Rockingham's ward priorities: "A healthy local economy with opportunities for all – make sure local people have access to the help they need to get new and existing jobs" and Kylie has the opportunity to develop her existing skills, learn new ones and enhance her CV.

The Community Development Officer (CDO) contacted Jenny Miszewski-Wall from Barnsley Council's Employment and Volunteering Service and asked her to help the group find an additional suitable volunteer. The team assess skills, interests, preferences and aspirations of potential candidates to find the most suitable candidate for the group. A representative from the team attended the group to assess suitability and look at key tasks, basic health and safety assessments were made including locating the closest bus stop.

The group was formed to try and tackle social isolation by providing a weekly meeting place where attendees feel safe. Around 20 older people regularly attend the group which runs every Monday (with the exception of Bank Holidays) who enjoy a wide range of activities such as trips out, talks on a diverse range of subjects, games of bingo, raffles and armchair bingo.

The project is a joint venture between the South Area Team, Berneslai Homes, Tesco and Walderslade Surgery. Kylie was recruited through the Community Development Officer working in partnership with Jenny Miszewski-Wall from Barnsley Council's Employment and Volunteering Team. Kylie said that "volunteering is a way of meeting new people and gives me something to get out of bed for." Many of the attendees confirm that Kylie is an asset to the group.

Sometimes it is necessary to have a complete job description to find the right volunteer for the post. Having a new regular volunteer will let the CDO take a step back and allow continued growth and sustainability within the group. The CDO will remain in contact with the group and provide support as required.



## Wombwell *School's Out for Summer*

PEOPLE ACHIEVING  
THEIR  
POTENTIAL

**Outcome 9:** People are healthier, happier, independent and active

STRONG &  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

**Outcome 10:** People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities

'School's Out for Summer' was a Ward Alliance funded project which provided a programme of activities for families during the summer holidays.

The project aims was twofold, firstly to address the healthy and active lifestyle strategy, and utilise existing community assets for delivery of activities.

It is a well-known fact that many children and young people spend their school holidays sat at home playing computer games, often not engaging in any physical activity. This project was aimed at getting families out of the house and participating in free activities delivered in local venues by existing community groups and their volunteers.



The project delivered 11 activities and a free healthy picnic lunch was provided at most of the sessions. The families engaged in sporting activities, traditional games, crafts, healthy cook & eat and a bug hunts in the local woodland. All the sessions were delivered by volunteers.

In total, five community groups took part in the project. We linked into **Wombwell Library's Holiday Hunger** initiative and worked in partnership with the **South Area Tidy Team** on the Bug Hunt in Wombwell woods. The **Wombwell Sporting Athletic Club** delivered two let's Get Active Sessions. The club's lead volunteer coach organised track and fun activities for the families. Six young people from the Athletic club supported the coach on the session, gaining invaluable experience of coaching others. **The Friends of Wombwell Park** are always keen to run more family activities out of the park pavilion and delivered the craft & games sessions. The old traditional games proved to be very popular with the adults and children. Five volunteers from the **Wombwell Community Luncheon Club** supported the Area Team with delivering the two family cook & eat sessions. The participants made healthy pizzas and wraps and homemade



apple/blackberry crumble. The children were encouraged to taste the fresh produce and talk about making healthy choices.

The CDO in the Area Team was very involved in the project management of this initiative. The CDO approached local community groups to assess their capacity to contribute to the project via volunteering and what type of free activities they could deliver. A small core team was established to develop the timetable of activities. The CDO attended all sessions and was on hand to support the volunteers. A Ward Alliance application for £460 was granted for the healthy picnics and the two cook & eat sessions.

A volunteer from the luncheon club who had a food safety certificate was able to support the Friends of Park group with their activity.

In brokering some of the sessions the CDO looked at projects that the Ward Alliance had funded (community lunch club / Building blocks for learning) to see what they could contribute to the "Schools Out for Summer" programme.

This project enabled families in Wombwell to dip in and out of a programme of free summer activities in Wombwell. There was something for everyone with the emphasis on being active and healthy and trying out new things. The project raised the profile of the Athletic club within the community and also gained some new members for this club.



The Friends of Wombwell Park got a new volunteer for their group.

Families were doing activities together, communicating, getting active and having fun. Many new friendships were forged.

- 10 families participated in "Let's Get Active" 6 new volunteers
- 24 families (58 children) in "Crafts & Games in Wombwell Park! 7 volunteers 1 new volunteer
- 15 families cook & eat 5 volunteer 1 new volunteer
- 14 families Bug Hunt
- 16 families "Fun with Phonics" 2 volunteers

The CDO was able to utilise working relationship with the community groups and existing volunteers and impart and share ideas on engagement activities. The Area Team delivered three activities (Fun & games with Phonics) in Wombwell Library as part of the libraries holiday hunger initiative.

The Area Team CDO approached Tesco's for a donation and their Community Development officer supplied a donation of fresh fruit for the first week's sessions and Barnsley homes funded a face painter for the Wombwell Park event

One parent remarked “My son really surprised me. He is quite lazy and I didn’t think he’d like the “Let’s get Active“ sessions, but he really enjoyed taking part.”

A Grandmother of 5 said, “My grandchildren range from 5 years to 13 years and the activities have catered for them all; better still they were free.”

Janette (lead coach at the Athletic club) said, “I was very impressed on the way the young people (club volunteers) conducted themselves.” As a result Janette is now thinking about looking for funding for coaching training.



The project was well publicised. The CDO produced a flyer which was distributed to all primary school children in the area. The CDP informally spoke to school’s Parent Support Advisors about the project and encouraged them to promote the programme to those families who would benefit the most. However, more work needs to be done in this area working more closely with partners.

Activities that ran in the late afternoon were not as well attended.

Discussions currently taking place re-evaluating lessons learnt with a view to delivering a future project next summer with a more extensive menu of activities.