BRIEFING TO EAST OLDHAM DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

Community Development Update

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Jean Stretton, Neighbourhoods and Devolved Services
Report Author: Anne Fleming
Date: 2\textsuperscript{nd} October 2012

Purpose of briefing:

The purpose of the briefing is to update East Oldham elected members and residents on work being carried out in the community development field within East Oldham

Requirement from District Partnership:
To note the report.

How to be actioned:

- ✔ Report author attending
- ❑ Discussion item
- ❑ Presentation
1. NEON - As part of my role in supporting the community/voluntary sector within East Oldham I have continued to support the development of NEON.

Membership of NEON currently includes the following groups

- HVRA
- Fatima Womens’ Association
- OPAG
- Greenacres CC
- Men Behaving Dadly
- Charisma
- FOSP
- Big Local
- St Barnabas & Waterhead Churches
- Moorside Juniors FC
- Fullwood Rangers
- St James Art Project
- MAHDLO
- St James Childrens centre
- Higginshaw Community project
- Secret Garden – Community spirit Project

Other groups have also been contacted and are considering membership, these include:

- Moorside Cricket & Bowling club
- Beever St Childrens centre
- Spring Meadows Childrens Centre
- Rainy City Rollers
- Pakistani Community Centre
- St Thomas’s Church
- STYLE
- Friends of Clarksfield School
- Friends of Arundel St Park
- Teen Flavour
- Moorside Historical Society

Two allotment groups in the area have also been contacted but do not wish to join the network at this point.

Further groups are being contacted and an information leaflet is currently in the process of being drafted.

The group are continuing their successful collaboration with the Oldham Chronicle and further NEON pages giving information about groups in the area are being written.
The group have also supported the relief effort in Shaw by helping to organise and run a pop up shop in Tommyfield Market, selling donations. The shop raised around £4,500 for the Shaw Disaster Fund in the 2 weeks it was open.

2. In addition I was asked to provide additional support to Shaw for 3 weeks over the summer, co-ordinating volunteers and helping to arrange pick up of furniture and starter packs from Bulky Bobs.

3. The BIG Local programme is progressing. Next steps include development of a profile of the area, creation of partnership documents and development of the partnership itself. A number of local residents have become Star People, receiving small amounts of funding to develop their ideas for improving community life in the area. These ideas include delivering an anti-racist message through Rap & music and setting up a timebank.

4. The development of Holt St is progressing with building work now being complete. A programme of services and activities is being developed and includes regular CAB sessions, welfare right sessions, lifelong learning provision and library service provision. FCHO and Threshold are using the facility to meet with tenants; groups and organisations are also using the building as a meeting space. Homestart – a charity working with parents is in discussion to use the building as a base. The official opening of the building will be held on 30th October from 4-7pm.

5. The East Oldham Community Chest is accepting applications. A panel made up of NEON members is currently being organised.

6. A meeting asking people and groups who are working around or have ideas to carry out work around food has been organised for Monday 8th October from 1-3pm at Holt St. The meeting hopes to pull together people involved in food growing, food distribution, cooking, healthy eating, possibly develop a food co-operative and discuss ways forward in East Oldham as a whole.

7. Fullwood Rangers are about to sign a 30 year lease with the Council in order to develop a nature reserve, community garden & allotment and a small football pitch. The group, in partnership with Groundwork, have raised around £40,000 to develop and upgrade the site.

8. A Localgiving workshop has been organised in partnership with Forever Manchester for Wednesday October 10th, 2-4pm at Holt St. Localgiving is a social enterprise which charges a small fee to join. Once people give donations through this scheme 25% giftaid is automatically added to the original donation allowing charities to maximise their income.