

# Looking at Localities

Issue No 3.



Winter/Spring  
2009/2010

Your  
quarterly  
bulletin  
on  
Locality  
Delivery  
Plans



## Locality One



### Arson Reduction programme for Huntington

A Fire-fighter Cadet course will begin in Huntington on Thursday 25th February covering issues of arson and its impact on the fire service and the environment; its relationship to drugs and alcohol activity; and to create a graffiti art project to reduce public fear.

### Targeted programme of learning opportunities

South Staffordshire College through Rodbaston Campus have started delivering learning opportunities in Huntington.

Still more to do, and what we're working on:

- Friends group initiated in Penkridge
- Improved reports of locally sourced produce - 'Think local'
- Increase awareness of housing options

### Boxing Club for young people in Huntington

Plans are afoot to open a Boxing Club for young people in Huntington. Organised by the local PCSO and Youth Worker, the Boxing Club will encourage young people to also participate in community initiatives, such as litter picks, etc. in return for equipment for the club. It is hoped the club will be up & running at Littleton Youth Centre in the village in the near future.

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## Locality Two



### **Skate park and more in Wheaton Aston**

Youngsters involved with the Wheaton Aston Youth Forum and Staffordshire Youth Services have got together with local residents and the Council's architects to put into place new plans to improve the Marston Road play site.

Thanks to the Staffordshire Youth Capital Fund, a brand new skate park is on track to open before Easter. But the good news for the youngsters of Wheaton Aston doesn't stop there – subject to funding, there are new plans afoot to make the recreation area even better – with possible plans for a BMX track, natural adventure play area and an outdoor classroom meaning that the site, which already has a football pitch and youth shelter, will hopefully become a space for the whole community to enjoy.

### **Village Planning in Wheaton Aston**

An event was held in the village in September bringing together different agencies and key local community representatives, to start the process of looking at priorities for the village. From the big issues, to the very small issues, everything was aired and put on the table – however the event took a proactive and positive approach, and asked people to start thinking about potential solutions. Everyone put forward their 'commitments', and this information has been fed into the Parish Plan which is being developed at the moment. The Village Agent will be starting to take some of these issues forward, working closely with the Parish Council to ensure duplications are avoided.

## Locality Three



### **Sports Unlimited**

Sports Unlimited has taken place in Locality Three and continues to do so as funding is in place until March 2011. The Wii Fit activities have been delivered by Staffordshire Youth Service in Featherstone and the Youth Service have retained the Wiis to keep the Wii Fit activities sustainable in the locality. The fishing activity has not taken place but was replaced by late night football.

### **Great Wyrley Bike Track**

Soil from Kinver Bike Track has been transferred to Great Wyrley Bike Track to support the rebuild of the track. Support is being provided to the Community Reassurance PCSO on how to proceed with the project.

### **Young people helping the elderly in Featherstone**

Young people that make up the local youth forum, 'Featherstone Youth For Change' worked with the Village Agent to visit elderly residents during the recent bad weather to make sure they had enough provisions and to run any errands for them. This is the first time this has been tried in Featherstone, and the Youth Forum are now looking at how they can formalise the process for any future 'severe weather' situations, or indeed any other incidents which may leave an individual isolated. Further information will be available on this in future editions of 'Looking at Localities'.

### **Youth Club in Featherstone**

Local mothers in the village have got together to form a group called 'Loose Women' and are busy organising a variety of different projects and activities in the village. One of the things they have been working on recently is starting a Youth Club for the village. Meeting at Whitgreave Primary School, the Loose Women are giving up their time and efforts to make sure young people in the village have somewhere to go. They have been supported by Staffordshire Youth Services, Staffordshire Council Voluntary Youth Services and also the Village Agent to make sure they have received the appropriate training and are following relevant guidelines, ensuring the Youth Club is one to be proud of.

## Locality Four



### Skate Park opens its ramps

Bilbrook Skate Park was fully opened in December and is already being well used by local skaters and BMX riders. The users of the park have not been deterred by the dark nights and the cold weather and it is hoped the success of the park will continue into the summer months and will see even more children and young people in Locality Four using the new facility.

### Youth Clubs

As part of the continued partnership working in Locality Four, the Bilbrook and Codsall Action group are in the process of launching a new youth club. The Youth club will be aimed at middle school aged children in the area and it is hoped the club will be open two nights per week. Work is currently ongoing around the infrastructure of the club and the club is expected to open Spring 2010.

Here are a few more tasters of other projects:

- Site investigations into extra care facilities in the locality have been completed.
- Work is starting around developing an Action group and Action plan for Pattingham to encourage intergenerational working.
- Further development of Youth Activities in Perton
- Levels of perception of Anti Social behaviour and actual levels of Anti Social Behaviour have been reduced in Bilbrook and Codsall.

## Locality Five



### Wombourne Multi Use Games Area

The tendering process for the build of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on Brickbridge Lane playing fields in Wombourne has now been completed and a contractor has been chosen to carry out the work for the project. Work is due to start on the building of the MUGA during March with an official opening for the site due to take place in May. The Facility will be a great benefit to the village and has been made possible through the hard work of the Wombourne Youth Action Team (WYAT) who have been involved throughout the project and were successful in obtaining the funding required to build the new facility.

### Trysull Exercise Classes

Exercise classes for adults and older people have just begun in the village of Trysull. The gentle exercise session will take place on a Thursday afternoon, 2pm-3pm, at Trysull village hall and is open to all. The sessions are being delivered by the District Council's Health and Wellbeing team with the primary aim of getting more people physically active, who otherwise do not have easy access to Leisure facilities due to the rural nature of some areas of the District.

Up and coming projects also include:

- Work is still developing around intergenerational projects in the villages and will continue to do so over the coming months
- Investigate employment opportunities and Develop a Worklessness action plan for Locality Five

**Want more information on what's happening in the localities at the moment? Then why not refer to the latest edition of The Review for more...**

*Looking at Localities*