

# Community Projects Team

**Project Activity 2018/19**

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## Introduction

Lancashire County Council's Community Projects team work with the people of Lancashire to support projects to strengthen communities and improve wellbeing.

The team have expertise in project planning, developing funding strategies and bid writing. They also make connections between communities and public services.

2018/19 has been a busy and highly productive year for us. We are pleased to provide a selection of case studies taken from the 50 projects supported this year, showing the range of projects, the local people we helped and the partners we worked with. We have also included a summary of the remaining projects supported this year, as well as a map to show their distribution in relation to our priority areas.

Many projects that the team work on take several years to develop and fully implement. This is due to the need for extensive community consultation in the development phase of projects, and the lengthy process of securing external funding for delivery. A key use of the team's revenue funding is to support the initial development and design stages of projects, enabling groups to prepare successful funding bids and implement the project in a subsequent year.

Most projects will also involve volunteers in a wide range of roles. This will include undertaking practical work on site, trustees managing community groups and arranging fundraising activities.

### Team Priorities

During 2018/19 the team's emphasis continued to shift from purely being responsive to requests for assistance to a more targeted approach where we have a much greater presence in areas of greatest need. This reflects Lancashire County Council's policy of proportionate universalism in service delivery responding to the Marmot Review of the Social Determinants of Health; Fair Society, Healthy Lives. In practice, this has meant that the majority of the work of the team is focussed on the urban parts of the county, particularly Burnley, Nelson and Brierfield, Accrington, Preston, Skelmersdale, Fleetwood, Lancaster and Morecambe.

The work of the team has focussed on three key themes during this year; improved access to quality green spaces, reducing social isolation and food (both food growing and access to healthy, affordable food). All projects have worked on these themes.

### Total Neighbourhoods

Ensuring improved health and wellbeing outcomes for people across Lancashire, at a time where budgets for services are under increasing pressure, requires public service organisations to work jointly in a fundamentally different way.

The Total Neighbourhoods project aims to demonstrate, though work within the Fleetwood neighbourhood and within the context of the Healthier Fleetwood initiative, how we can use LCC resources to work more effectively and efficiently with partners (organisations and communities) to improve health and wellbeing outcomes.

The intention is to use what is learnt in Fleetwood to support the approach in other areas of the county, initially within the public health service.

## Future Work

A key priority for the work of the team is to integrate our work with community sector groups more closely into the wider work of public health colleagues, the rest of the County Council and the NHS. Mobilising communities to take more control of their

### **Lancashire County Council 4 Community**

The team commissioned a grant finding database that any community organisation or individual in the county can use to find information about grant funding that is available from a wide range of sources (including National Lottery, charities and grant making trusts).

Over 140 individuals accessed this free service in the first month of operation. Levels of use and the amounts of funding secured will be monitored over the coming 12 months to ensure that the service is offering a valuable return before it is recommissioned

lives is key to improving wellbeing and ultimately reducing demand on expensive public services. This is recognised in the latest county council corporate plan, the national NHS long term plan and emerging local plans for Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System. As resources in both the public and voluntary sectors will continue to be extremely limited it is vital that we work effectively across organisations to maximise the impact of these resources. The team's role at the centre of the County Council's pilot "Total Neighbourhoods" approach in Fleetwood is a key way that this will be demonstrated over the next few months.

The work of the team has been reviewed in line with the corporate plan. We encourage communities to take responsibility for their own wellbeing and work with our partners such as the voluntary, faith and community sectors to tackle loneliness and help people to be more connected in their communities. The team supports community activities that enable people to be independent, happy, healthy and safe. Much of the team's activity involves bringing in additional resources in the form of grants and other support into the county. Many projects work with some of our most vulnerable residents.

Within the Health Equity Welfare and Partnerships team there are 3 emerging priorities.

- Mobilising communities and empowering residents to support their own health and wellbeing
- Developing multidisciplinary integrated teams that take ownership and responsibility for delivering care that is personalised and proactive in neighbourhoods
- Improving the socio-economic-environmental determinants (seeds) of health in a given place

The work of the team will continue to focus on the areas and communities with the greatest need. A named officer will continue to lead activity in each of the 5 health economy areas. The team have seen an increase in demand for core infrastructure support for community groups around areas such as governance. This is not an area of expertise within the team, and is a result of changes in wider support for the Voluntary Community Faith Sector from LCC (eg loss of Central Gateway/CISP support). A key challenge for the next few months will be to work with voluntary and public sector partners and others within LCC to identify a sustainable way of ensuring high quality support is available to individuals and organisations. Without this support,

the county council's ambition to see a vibrant sector able to support individuals in our community will not be realised.

## Project Case Studies

### We Are Warriors - A Community of Women with a Shared Story

#### Background to the Project?

Kirsty is a photographer who runs Bipolaroid Photography. She embraces her bipolar through her photography and hopes she can also support others with complex mental health problems through this medium. Kirsty approached the team with an idea to create an exhibition highlighting the battles that women go through in everyday life. Those dark times, loss, addiction, cancer, eating disorders, mental health, abuse and homelessness, linking to the 100 years anniversary of women gaining the vote.

It was also intended to be a story of beauty and hope and be equally heart-warming and captivating. A community of women with a shared story and a triumph of the human spirit.

#### What was our role?

As the women were recruited to the project they agreed to meet in small groups to have a brew and share their stories with each other.

The role of the team was to work with the women to enable them to see that no matter how difficult things are at any point in our lives we still have amazing gifts and assets that we can share in one way or another.

This was done through an asset based gift discovery exercise from the DePaul Asset Based Community Development Institute.

Each warrior was asked to share one gift in their head.... What knowledge do they have, one gift in their heart....what are they passionate about, one gift in their hands... what can they do or teach someone else to do, and what they truly care about....what's important to them in their life.

It was a privilege to play a small role in this amazing project. Kirsty worked tirelessly to ensure success of her exhibition. She couldn't have done this without gaining the trust of the warriors. It was also humbling listening to the warriors as they bravely shared their unique stories.







### **What was achieved?**

In total 60 women came forward to share their unique personal story, their hidden gifts, and be photographed as a warrior for the exhibition. These women were empowered throughout their journey with Kirsty. During the exhibition visitors were able to view the powerful images, read their stories and increase their own awareness of the hidden battles people endure every day. We are currently looking for more venues to display the

exhibition.

Due to the success of the exhibition Kirsty has gone on to receive additional funding of around £4,500 from BRIC to develop a photography course and exhibition for people recovering from addiction.

### **Funding**

The Community Projects provided £500 towards the running costs of the project. £700 match funding was received from local businesses.

## **Fence Nifty Fifties Bulb Planting**

### **Background to the Project?**

Last summer the Community Projects team were approached by members of the Fence Nifty Fifties group with a request to assist them with one of their projects.

The Fence Nifty Fifties group have a programme of activities in Fence and Wheatley Lane for anyone over the age of fifty. These activities help alleviate social isolation within this age group. Activities organised by the group included a local 3 mile history walk in May, which was attended by 27 people and a cream tea and bake off (with quizzes) in June which was attended by 28 people.

The group aim to hold at least one event a month with events such as working with local businesses to hold Christmas Crackers and



cheese events and supporting the local village hall at a Christmas Community Lunch.

A longer term ambition for the group is to enhance the history walk and produce a leaflet/booklet to be published in time for September 2019's National Heritage weekend.

### **What was our role?**

The Community Projects team discussed the project with a representative of the group, gave advice about working with the local parish council and helped to fund the bulb planting.

### **What was achieved?**

At the end of October the group carried out the bulb planting day. The event was run in conjunction with Old Laund Booth Parish Council. It was a very successful event and 20 volunteers took part. Although the weather was a little cold, the participants



found it so enjoyable that the group are running regular community gardening sessions.

Many of the people who attended this event had lived in the village for many years and had not previously attended a community event. The group will be involving these residents in the planning of future events to try to ensure their continued participation.

### **Funding**

The Community Projects team provided £100 towards the project that went towards the purchase of bulbs and equipment.

## **Burnley Wood History Project**

### **Background to the Project?**

Residents in Burnley Wood raised concerns at their Community Action Network meeting that the neighbourhood felt divided now that new housing was beginning to replace the old terraces in the neighbourhood. Members of the church suggested that a history project with the school could support this and other members of the group agreed that a project that involved both children and adults from the local area looking into its history could bring both the new and old communities together with a sense of pride. A volunteer from Age UK who has an interest in history was recruited to support the project and a small group of local residents, church members, and the local history society was established.

Several local history displays and events were held locally with Blue Plaques placed in local businesses and housing, letting local people know who lived there in 1911 and what their occupation was.

Future plans include a pie and peas and chat about the 'good old days' to gather and record older residents' stories about growing up here.

### **What was our role?**

The Community Project team provided initial secretarial support to the group, supported the events and provided old maps of the area. We also involved the local Library and Queen Street Mill staff who were key players in making the events a success.



### **What was achieved?**

The group along with the local Library, pulled together a collection of local photographs of the area from the early part of the last century along with household and weaving/mining artefacts for an after school display at two of the local primary schools in July 2018. The events were open to children, parents and members of the local community. The Age UK volunteer provided attendees with the opportunity of finding out 'who lived in my house?' from the 1911 Census. Those who shared their house details were given a blue plaque window sticker telling the neighbourhood about the profession of the householder from 1911.

To get the community talking, the local shops and businesses along the main roads in the area were invited to put blue plaque stickers in their windows detailing who lived there and what the business originally was. It was interesting to see how many drapers and milliners were in business in the area in 1911. This caused a buzz of local interest and conversation.



Springfield school took a full day to capitalise on the afternoon's exhibition where children were sent back to 1911 to find out what life was like living in Burnley Wood back then. They rotated round classrooms that each had a theme from what it would be like to be in school back in 1911 to how different it would be seeing a Doctor a century ago. Two local Doctors came and spoke



to children about medicine 100 years ago and brought old medical instruments for the children to see and feel.

This display was taken to St Stephen's Church for the Big Lunch celebration and community members were given the chance to find out, 'Who lived in my house?' in the newly opened Computer suite at the Community Centre.

In September Finsley Gate had an open day for the canal Wharf development. Members of the group attended with the displays and talked to attendees about the project and found out details about who lived in my house?

The volunteer visited the GP Flu Clinics to share with patients in the waiting room information he'd discovered about the history of the area and enabled more residents to find out about who lived in their house. The local church held a memorial service for the fallen from Burnley Wood. It was standing room only.

## **Funding**

The Community Projects team provided £351.80 towards the blue plaques and refreshments at the events.

## **Harmony & Health**

### **Background to the Project?**

As part of their support for the Healthier Fleetwood initiative, Wyre Borough Council established Harmony and Health in Fleetwood. This community choir meets weekly and performs regularly at events in the town. The popularity and success of this has led to the establishment of further groups in Thornton and Hambleton. Following some joint work evaluating the effectiveness of these, colleagues at Wyre Borough Council asked whether we could support the development of a further group in Garstang. This group started meeting in spring 2019.

### **What was our role?**

We supported a creative participatory appraisal evaluation of the impact of the Harmony and Health project in Fleetwood. This demonstrated that rolling the approach out to other areas could be beneficial.

### **What was achieved?**

The four groups have between 150 – 200 people who attend every week. The people who attend are from all walks of life, including isolated older people, people with learning disabilities, and older people from care homes. The sessions are fully inclusive and people come back regularly. They have performed at a number of local events and had many visitors, such as GP's, to view the vibrant groups. The sessions provide an opportunity for local people to come together, have fun, enjoy some singing, have a cup of tea and socialise. This has enabled people to meet up, make friends and socialise within and beyond the groups.

Results from the evaluation in Fleetwood show that 82% of attendees report a significant improvement in their wellbeing, and 75% report a significant increase in connectivity to their local community and reduced social isolation.

## **Funding**

For the Garstang group, £1500 from Community Projects, £1500 from Wyre Borough Council. Across the four groups since they were established in 2017 approximate costs have been £30,000, funded through Wyre Borough Council and the NHS.

## **Preston Community Asset Network**

### **Background to the Project?**

Early in 2018 the Community Projects Team became aware, through conversations with members of the VCFS community working in Preston, that there was a growing sense of isolation in the sector following the closure of Preston CVS and the reduction in activity of other key networks in recent years.

### **What was our role?**

As a response to this and coordinated by the team, Preston Community Asset Network was launched in April 2019.

### **What was achieved?**

The network facilitated by the team, meets regularly throughout the year, providing opportunities for community groups, voluntary organisations, charities and support partners in Preston to get together, find out more about each other, share information and resources, identify issues and potentially develop new ways of working together that will be beneficial to everyone.

The network now has around fifty organisations participating in its activities and is shortly hoping to merge with an established charitable organisation that is seeking to widen its remit to include supporting VCFS activity across the whole of Preston.

The Community Projects Team has been supporting the merger by assisting the organisation with refreshing its governance structure and preparing a bid to the National Lottery Communities Fund for a development worker and communications officer whose roles would be dedicated to supporting and developing the network going forward. In the meantime however, the team will continue to facilitate network activities until the merger is finalised.

## Peace & Unity Women's Group

### Background to the Project

A group of women from Stoops Estate in Burnley initially came together through support of Building Bridges to attend a peace course led by the Warrington Peace Centre. The community has been struggling with regular disputes including violence for a number of years. The purpose of the course was to enable them to build more positive relationships in their community and to lead by example. As a result of the course, the women worked with Burnley Youth Theatre to develop a banner and rap under the title, 'Peace and Unity in Our Community' along with a presentation they had prepared. These were taken to local schools, care homes and community venues and as a result the local MP invited them to visit Parliament to perform there.



At the course, the women heard about a community benches scheme through WIDE (Women Inspiring Dialogue Everywhere). They were successful in securing Near Neighbours funding to work with other groups of women across Burnley to design, make and locate these benches across their communities. This project took the women outside of their own area to meet with other women from different communities.

The women continued on their journey in attending a further Warrington Peace Centre course aimed at solving conflict through community dialogue. As this course was again outside of the Stoops area and therefore outside of their comfort zone, they met lots of other women from different areas and backgrounds including a group of women from the Stonyholme community on the other side of Burnley. The Stoops and Stonyholme women, though coming from very different ethnic and religious backgrounds, began to bond and have since visited each other's communities for joint sessions in arts therapy and community celebration events. As a consequence of these sessions, the women have plans to jointly run some discussion sessions across the Burnley community in 5 different community centres across the town. The first session has already been held at Vanguard Community Centre. They now intend to run an additional 5 more sessions.

### What was our role?

We provided minimal support with planning the London trip, attending some sessions to get to know participants and writing up the findings of the initial community consultation. We also established initial links with Lancashire Adult Learning and ran a group evaluation discussion about their journey.

## What was achieved?

Around 25 women have been involved in the group, many when they started meeting had very low self-esteem, confidence issues and negative experiences of education. At the evaluation session it was clear that they have really built a strong bond and now support each other as a consequence of all they have been through. They talked about their new found confidence and a belief in themselves as both individuals and as a group. All members are now engaged in education through Lancashire Adult Learning and/or volunteering in their community. One woman said, 'It keeps me sane, it feels good to have the chance to talk to other adults and to hear others' perspectives on issues that I'm dealing with'. Another said that her anxiety and depression is now much more under control. Another woman is now on her 4<sup>th</sup> course including Maths and English and said of the experience, 'I look back at what we've done. It's been a long road. It's been amazing! It's given me lots of confidence.'

All 12 women that visited London had not been before. It gave them an opportunity to travel outside Lancashire, and broaden their experience. They talked of it as an alien



experience and many were clearly out of their comfort zone. In the evaluation, they agreed that though it had been a tough trip it had given them the chance to push themselves, try and see new things and it gave them a chance to see our capital city and parliament, something some thought they'd never experience. As a result of these different experiences they have since felt confident enough to leave the Stoops estate and travel together to Stonyholme without the support of the group leaders for a joint event and have built strong

friendships with the women from Stonyholme whilst learning a lot about a very different culture.

The value of this project has been enabling these women to go on this journey together, finding strength and support from each other to bond and build connections with women from a very local different community. Vital to the group being able to run has been the fact that childcare has been funded to run alongside the group. These women are now looking to how they can build self-reliance into their project to pay for their childcare with the constant support of Building Bridges so that they can continue to meet and grow and to continue their inspirational journey.

## Funding

£1,000 from Community Projects

£3,000 Near Neighbours

## £1,000 Burnley Football Club

The Peace Centre training was partially funded by Burnley Borough Council, the remainder funded by the Warrington Peace Centre.

They have since received £1,500 additional funding from the Community Projects Team to continue their joint community consultations across Burnley in conjunction with the Stonyholme women's group.

## Food Poverty

### Overview on food projects

There have been many requests to support food poverty and holiday hunger this year across the county.

In summer 2018 five groups from Lancaster district applied for support to run holiday clubs that would also support the holiday hunger agenda. This was due to the previous experience of group leaders who find that children turn up for a day of activities with a packet of biscuits or a bag of crisps and no money to buy additional food.

One of these projects supported young people aged 14-19. The whole programme was free due to match funding and good will from numerous partners. Over three-quarters of the attendees (78%) of attendees came from disadvantaged communities. Conversations highlighted that these young people struggled financially and were highly unlikely to go on holiday or engage in further positive activities. Nearly all of them reported struggling with friendship, social media, bullying, expectations, and self-esteem.

The project was delivered in partnership with the Lancaster University, enabling the young people to visit facilities on the campus and enabling the University Team to connect with communities and young people in the district. Activities on campus ranged from multi sports to accessing IT projects in the Management school to engaging in Environmental projects. On the last day, a celebration event at Forrest Hills included activities such as archery, arts and crafts, politics afternoon, food and refreshments. Over 120 young people attended this event.

The Lancaster food club alliance uses intercepted food to support food insecurity. The team has supported the alliance to grow the food club network from five to ten clubs. Their vision is to have a food club in every neighbourhood by 2020. The food club network has offered significant support to at least 200 households in the district in 2018

The network has subsequently been able to demonstrate strong partnership working and the community projects team have helped them to secure for £51,000 from the Walney Community Energy Fund, £30,000 from the Transformation Challenge Award £10,000 from Awards for All, with two other substantial grant applications pending.

The existence of the food club network, and the teams support to help them keep pressing for action, was instrumental in bringing about the establishment of a Food Poverty Action Planning Group led by Lancaster City Council.

In Fleetwood, the team is facilitating the establishment of coordinated support around food poverty. A pilot holiday food parcel project was successful in providing food



parcels to 59 families identified by schools as being at risk of holiday hunger. Early feedback suggests families really appreciated the food given to them and enabled some families to have disposable income which allowed participation in physical activities for their children.

In Skelmersdale, as a result of the high levels of inequality locally and the lack of free school meals during the school holidays, local residents concerned that local children might be going hungry over the school holidays decided to put on a Holiday Breakfast Club. The first one took place in May half term and it was so well attended that, it was decided to run it again during the long summer school holidays.

## Time Credits

### What are Tempo Time Credits?

Time credits are a community currency aimed at valuing the time and skills of local people. In its simplest terms, people that volunteer through community groups and organisations that sign up to Tempo can earn a time credit for each hour they volunteer. The time credits can be used at more than a hundred venues throughout Lancashire as well as any of the other venues throughout the country that are part of the Tempo spend network. If recipients prefer, they can gift the time credits to friends and family. A directory of venues that accept time credits is available at <https://timecredits.com/>

### How are the Community Projects Team involved?

From summer 2018 the Community Projects Team have been using Tempo time credits to support community organisations to increase their number of volunteers. There was a particular emphasis on organisations focusing on social isolation, food and access to greenspace.

The team used our existing networks to publicise the concept and availability of time credits. This process was beneficial to the team as it helped us find out and work with groups that we had been unaware of. In conjunction with the Tempo Lancashire network manager, the team helped to carryout training sessions with interested organisations. We also helped organisations complete the time credit partnership agreements and administered the distribution of the time credits.

### What's happened so far?

During 2018/19 16 organisations completed Tempo time credit partnership agreements. These organisations are geographically spread throughout Lancashire and include schools, community associations, advocacy groups, housing associations and environmental charities. To date approximately 2,000 time credits have been distributed.



### **What's next?**

The contract with Tempo runs up to summer 2019 and we'll continue to distribute time credits to interested organisations until our allocation has run out. Tempo will be rolling out a range of subscription models to enable existing groups, as well as new ones, to use time credits.

## **CLAHRC - Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research & Care**

### **What is CLAHRC?**

The Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care North West Coast (CLAHRC NWC) brings universities, local authorities, NHS organisations and the public together to work on accelerating the translation of research findings into health and wellbeing improvements and changes that will reduce health inequalities and improve population health.

One strand of the CLAHRC is the Neighbourhood Resilience Programme. It brings together residents, local organisations and services to improve the wider conditions that affect health and wellbeing. The programme is about building not just community or individual resilience but 'system resilience,' enabling these partners to work together with residents at the heart of the process. Two neighbourhoods in Lancashire are part of this programme, St George's in Preston and Worsley in Haslingden. The Community Projects Team play a key role in this initiative.

### **The role of resident advisors**

Resident Advisors are key partners in the programme. It's a voluntary role, someone who lives in the neighbourhood and is interested in using their experiences of the area to help develop the programme of work. Resident Advisors collect information about local priorities and what is important to people in the area and work with stakeholders to identify how things could be improved, how changes can be made and how these changes affect people. They contribute to the programme in various ways including helping design and deliver activities, making decisions on the direction of the programme and helping other local people to get involved. They are a key link between the public and local organisations including statutory authorities. There are currently 8 resident advisors in St George's and 4 in Haslingden

### **Local Oversight Group**

The Local Oversight Group (LOG) is the key decision making mechanism in the neighbourhoods. The LOG membership is different in each neighbourhood. In St George's the group meets roughly every 6 weeks and is made up of resident advisors, councillors and representatives from Lancashire County Council, Preston City Council, Preston Muslim Forum, Lets Grow Preston, Community Futures and the local PACT. In Worsley, they meet every two months. Members include Resident Advisors, the CCG, REAL and CVS (local voluntary sector infrastructure groups), the district council,



and a representative from Connecting East Lancashire, a Department for Transport funded initiative

### **What's happened in St George's**

At the start of 2018 a series of discussions were held with residents and local organisations to identify the topics that mattered most to the people of St George's. From these conversations the street environment and access to play

were widely considered to be key issues for the area.

### **Resident Enquiry**

During the summer of 2018 the resident advisors carried out a resident enquiry to collect more detailed information from residents about the street environment and access to play. This involved the resident advisors talking to St George's residents and going through questionnaires with them. One questionnaire focused on journeys and the street environment whereas the other looked at access to play. In total 78 questionnaires were completed.

The information from the questionnaires was collated and presented at a feedback session in August. Following this session the resident advisors and LOG decided on the priorities for action. These are:

- Alleyway Transformation
- Littering and fly-tipping
- Addressing concerns about uneven pavements and overgrown trees

### **Community Clean-up**

A community clean up event was held in November, supported by Preston City Council and Lancashire County Council – the attendees were enthusiastic and had several conversations with members of the public whilst they were litter picking and the event left resident advisers feeling positive about its impact.

The LOG decided to hold further clean-ups and to talk to Preston City Council's Environmental Services department to investigate potential systems changes that could be implemented to help tackle littering and fly-tipping.

### **Alleyway Improvements**

The quality and usefulness of the alleyways in the area was an issue identified in the resident enquiry. It was decided by the LOG to trial the improvements in one alleyway to see if this was successful before rolling it out to other alleyways in the area.



Three of the resident advisors live in properties backing onto the alley and they contacted all the residents to discuss the project and invite the residents to an 'ideas' session which took place in February. The ideas session was run by a representative of Let's Grow Preston, a community gardening organisation in Preston, who are also a member of the LOG. It was a very successful session and lots of ideas were generated. Residents who took part are going to visit Let's Grow Preston to get some training, with the aim to hold an implementation session in late May or early June.

### **Future activity**

In addition to the continued work on littering and the alleyway improvements, the LOG will also be looking at ways to tackle some of the other issues raised through the resident enquiry. The first of these will be the concerns about the street trees and quality of pavements.

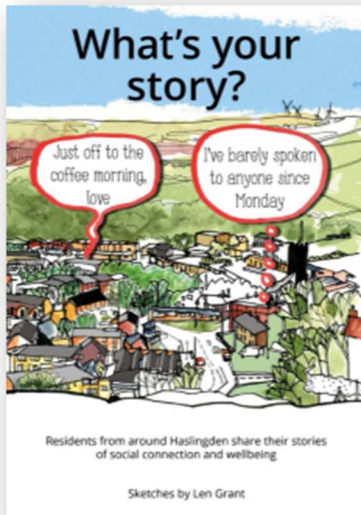
### **Community Projects Team involvement**

The Community Projects team have been heavily involved with the project to date, including helping to facilitate discussions with residents and local stakeholders collating and presenting the resident enquiry information, assisting in the organisation of the community clean-up and chairing of LOG meetings.

### **What's happened in Worsley?**

Following a survey led by residents into social isolation in 2017/18 a graphic booklet was produced to facilitate local discussions about the problems of social isolation and to enable residents to consider how they could work together to tackle these issues. Resident Advisors took the booklet to a wide range of local groups to facilitate group discussions about how social connections could be further encouraged. The findings from these conversations were added to the findings from the survey enabling the Local Oversight Group to agree a plan of action to tackle these issues. Three themes





came out strongly: communication and information, activities to support social connectedness and transport. These have been approached through the following:

### Communication and Information

- Community leaders forum – to enable those who run events and groups from across Haslingden to come together, network, share ideas and work together, members include statutory partners and the VCFS.
- A newsletter and directory of events has been produced and circulated throughout Haslingden, more will follow as they have been very well received.
- Notice Boards – residents felt that those

who don't use the internet were missing out as they don't know about things happening locally. Funding has been secured from Connecting East Lancashire and Rossendale Borough Council to put up three new noticeboards across the Haslingden area.

### Activities to support Social Connectedness

- A local environmental community interest company has been funded to develop an Environmental Masterplan for Haslingden through consultation with members of the community and local organisations. Many aspects of the plan have been completed including a local garage that funded Civic Pride to beautify a grot spot on their land, and council land being adopted by local voluntary groups to place planters growing flowers and a community clean up with a number of partners led by Civic Pride and Rossendale BC. To achieve the final aspects of the masterplan, the local environmental community interest company has been funded to take forward aspects, including Haslingden Graveyard, the Town Trail and planting of Street Trees. They are working with the community to consult and bring volunteers in to support the work, support design of the plans and are seeking funding to complete the work in collaboration with the Council.
- A joint community social event with music, market stalls is being planned for late summer with the usual partners including the local business leaders to bring the community together.



### Transport

Resident Advisors were trained in interview skills and then, with support, devised and led a consultation with several groups of residents. They found



that heavily reduced services are affecting the communities' ability to access health appointments, work and social engagements. These findings will be shared with the Rossendale Overview and Scrutiny committee and included in an animation to assist in spreading this message. The animation will be a call to action for members of the 'system' as well as the community to think differently about how this issue can be tackled. The idea being to build a movement with residents and system players to tackle the issues faced by this rural community.

### **Community Projects involvement**

The Community Project team have supported all the initiatives including drafting the initial Transport survey plan with residents and partners, typesetting the newsletter, supporting the community event, funding the Environmental plan, and town centre initiative to build pride in the area, facilitating meetings and much more!

# Summary of Projects Supported in 2018/19

## ***Project Funding***

In the 2018/19 financial year the team has been involved in 50 projects. As part of this report we will financially report of 34 projects. The total Lancashire County Council spend on the projects supported in 2018/19 was £35,095. These projects attracted £476,763, from external funding sources giving a total value of £511,858. For every £1 of Community Projects funding invested, the team's work helped to attract an extra £13.58 to projects.

Of these 34 projects, a mean average of £13,622 was attracted to each project we supported. Additional funds were secured from both public and private sources such as Lancashire Environmental Fund, lottery programmes, local councils, charities, businesses and group fundraising.

18 of the projects can be classed as "Low" financial investment, allocated less than £1,000 from Community Projects budget, with a mean average of £295 invested per project. We were able to attract an average of £4,514 from external funders to these projects. 6 of these projects received officer time only, with no additional financial commitment from Lancashire County Council.

In the "Medium" category, where we invested £1,000 to £2,500 per project 15 projects were supported. We spent an average of £1,555 per project, attracting an average of £15,704 in external funding per project.

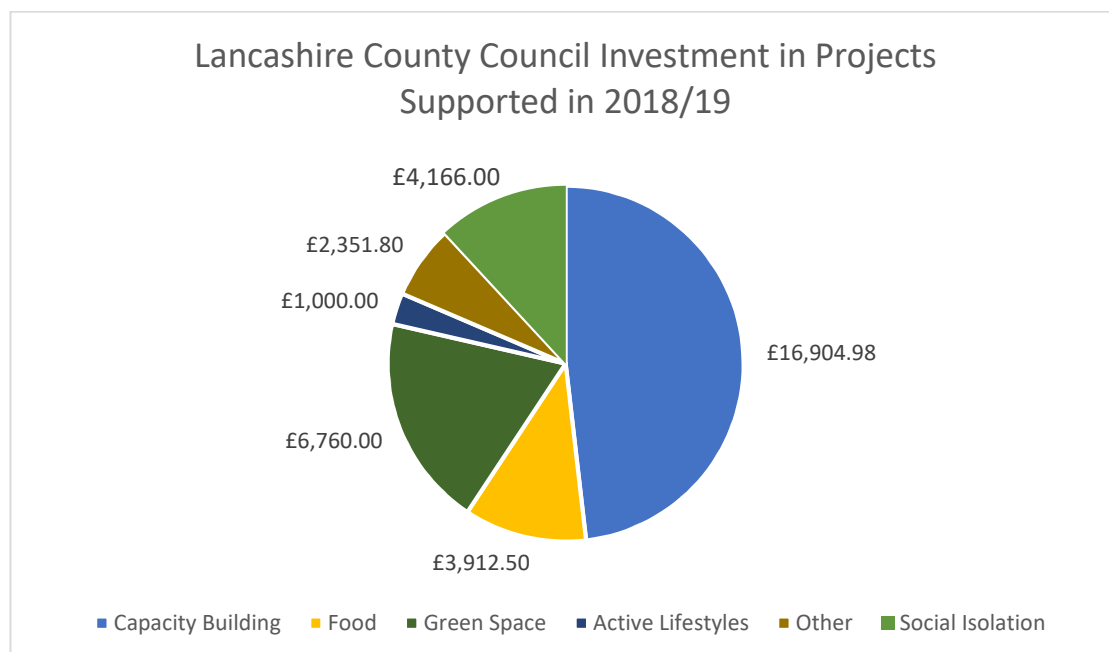
The remaining 2 projects fall into the "High" category, where we allocated over £2,500 to each project (spending an average of £4,000). These projects attracted an average of £69,324 per project from external sources.

*Please note that while they were supported in 2018/19 projects may have received funding in different financial years depending on the length of the project. They also include funding from other Lancashire County Council sources, therefore the Lancashire County Council investment is not a simple representation of the team's annual budgets.*

## Project Themes

The graph below indicates how money was spent on different types of projects in 2018/19. The projects are classified by their main theme, however projects usually consist of several different aspects and are rarely based on a single theme. For example, community engagement and consultation often forms the building blocks upon which many different projects are built and is rarely the sole purpose for the project.

Just under half of the total investment was in capacity building projects, the second biggest theme is projects under the Green Space category. The third biggest theme was Social Isolation, followed by Food (which includes food growing and food club projects) and other and Active Lifestyles. The Other Category includes projects as diverse as the Burnley Wood History Project and Regenda Arts Project. The team have also worked on Community Buildings projects throughout 2018/19, however these projects have only received officer time with no additional financial support.



## Project Feedback

*It's a growing relationship, we learn from each other and share ideas and resources where we can. We believe in each other and in each other's passions and visions and we hope this grows*

Lancaster CVS

*Supportive and passionate about the project. [The Officer] brought energy and belief in myself to be successful. They were totally non-judgemental and attended sessions at weekend and evenings which was great.*

We Are Warriors

*We are able to share issues freely. They have a good understanding of the difficulties in delivering community based projects. They understand the issue of attracting funding from ground zero and the amount of development time it takes. Very good experience with working with all members of the community team.*

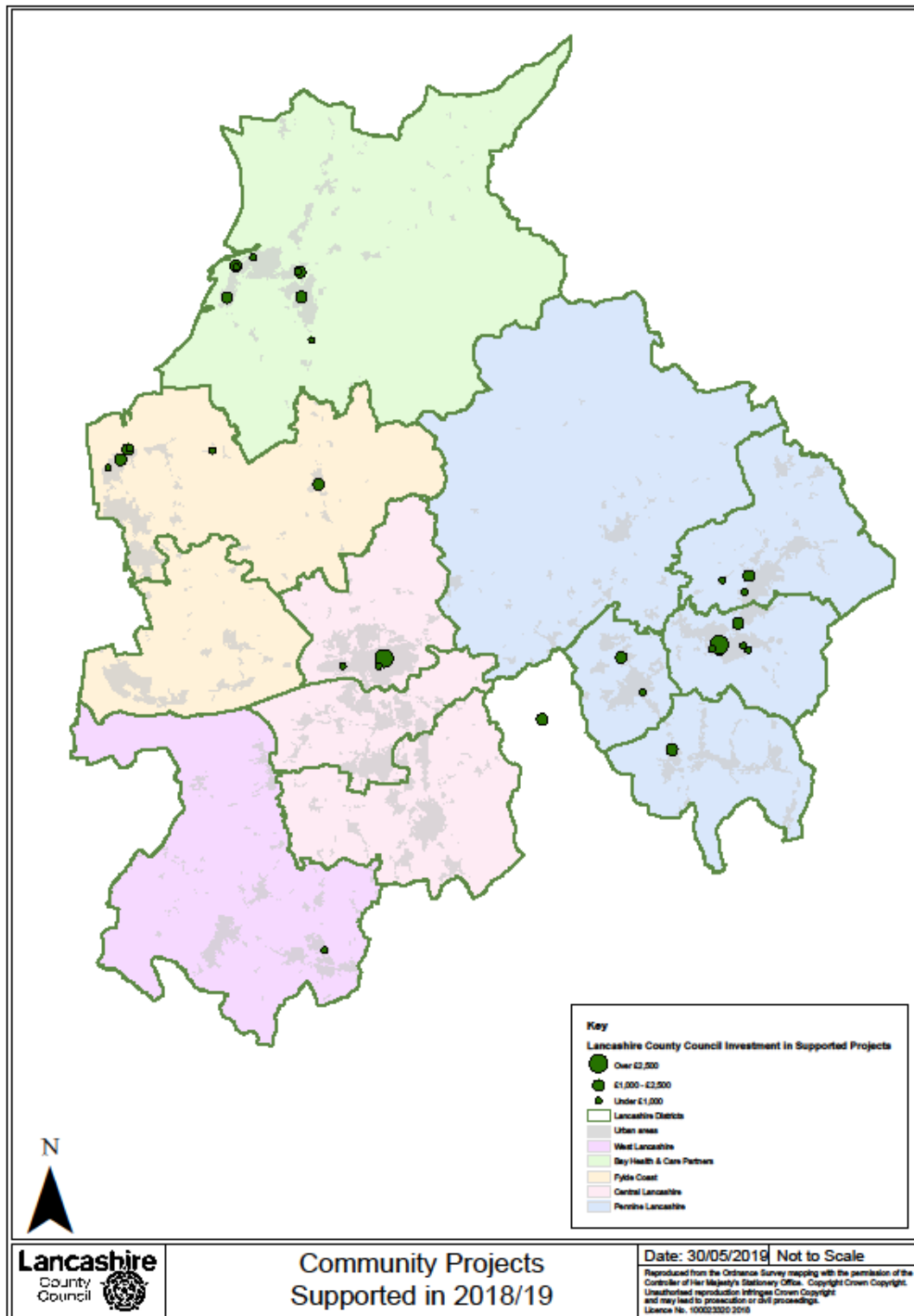
Mercer Park Wheeled Sports Project

*It's great! It really helps you feel part of something.*

Burnley Wood History Project

## Project Distribution Map

The following map shows all of the projects supported by the team in 2018/19. The projects are split into three categories, based on the amount of funding they received from Lancashire County Council budgets. The map also shows the distribution of projects across the five areas of Healthier Lancashire & South Cumbria





## Project List

A full list of projects can be found on the following two pages. The projects have been listed by the amount of investment by the Community Projects Team, in ascending order.

Projects Supported in 2018/19			
Project Name	Community Projects Funding	Total Value Including Other Funders	Project Type
Social Isolation and Community Transport	£0.00	£0.00	Social Isolation
Fleetwood Green Spaces	£0.00	£75,000.00	Green Space
Burnley Asset Network	£0.00	£0.00	Capacity Building
Brierfield Town Hall Improvements	£0.00	£0.00	Buildings
CLAHRC St Georges - First Community Clean	£0.00	£0.00	Capacity Building
Let's Grow Preston - Ongoing Support	£0.00	£0.00	Green Space
Bulb Planting in Fence & Wheatley - Nifty Fifty	£100.00	£100.00	Green Space
Burnley Wood Incredible Edible - St Stephens Church	£300.00	£1,100.00	Green Space
Burnley Wood History Project	£351.80	£351.80	Other
Make Lunch - Morecambe Bay Primary School	£400.00	£400.00	Food
Summer School	£400.00	£400.00	Food
Youth Holiday Hunger Club -Lancaster CVS	£400.00	£5,000.00	Food
Celebrate Skelmesdale Holiday Breakfast Club	£400.00	£400.00	Food
Tool Library Morecambe	£500.00	£500.00	Capacity Building
Bipoloroid Photography Project - We are Warriors	£500.00	£550.00	Capacity Building
Holiday Hunger - West View Community Association	£500.00	£1,000.00	Food
Action for Dementia	£666.00	£972.00	Social Isolation
Skerton Community Centre Holiday Hunger Project 2018	£800.00	£800.00	Food
Sustainable Schools Conference - Ongoing Support	£1,000.00	£5,014.00	Capacity Building
Building Bridges - Peace and Unity in our Community	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	Capacity Building

Project Name	Community Projects Funding	Total Value Including Other Funders	Project Type
Whitefield & Bradley Activity Programme	£1,000.00	£7,200.00	Active Lifestyles
Holiday Hunger - University Hospital Morecambe Bay NHS	£1,012.50	£1,012.50	Food
Community Computer Access Project	£1,404.98	£1,404.98	Capacity Building
Harmony & Health Garstang	£1,500.00	£3,000.00	Social Isolation
Burnley Community Dialogue -Womens	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	Capacity Building
Mercer Park Wheeled Sports Area	£1,600.00	£131,200.00	Green Space
Haslingden Environmental Projects Master Plan - Proffits	£1,760.00	£3,520.00	Green Space
Make My Day	£2,000.00	£20,000.00	Capacity Building
Lancaster Community Asset Network	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	Capacity Building
Morecambe Community Hub - Stanley's (Heysham Health Community Hub)	£2,000.00	£15,780.00	Capacity Building
Regenda Arts Project	£2,000.00	£7,000.00	Other
Fleetwood Voices Project	£2,000.00	£42,000.00	Social Isolation
Harrgher Clough Wheeled Sports Zone - Proffits	£3,000.00	£136,648.00	Green Space
Preston Community Network	£5,000.00	£10,000.00	Capacity Building
Lancashire County Council 4 Community – Funding Portal	£11,950	£11,950	Capacity Building

## Ongoing Project List

We have also supported a number of further projects over the last two years that are currently ongoing and we will report on these projects fully once they are complete.

Project Name	Project Type	District
Lancaster Food Depot	Food	Lancaster
Tanhouse Project - Architects Plans	Capacity Building	West Lancashire
Fleetwood Men's Shed	Capacity Building	Wyre
Age of Inspiration	Capacity Building	Lancaster
West View Community Association - Capacity Building Support Esme Fairbairn application (Development Worker)	Capacity Building	Wyre
Healthier Fleetwood - Memorial Park Dementia Garden	Green Space	Wyre
Healthier Fleetwood Intergenerational Project	Capacity Building	Wyre
Men's Shed - Link Bridge	Social Isolation	Burnley
Burnley Wood Creative Arts Recovery Project - Activity Hub	Social Isolation	Burnley
Charter House Disability Day Care Service New Facility	Buildings	Burnley
Bury Meadows, Oswaldtwistle HLF Resilient Heritage Bid Development	Green Space	Hyndburn
Elmfield Hall Phase 3 Survey/Support	Buildings	Hyndburn
Faringdon Community Centre	Green Space	Preston
Community Connectors	Capacity Building	Preston
Hillside Community Field	Green Space	West Lancashire
Haslingden Graveyard/Trail and Street Trees	Green Space	Rossendale
<b>Total Community Projects Support</b>		<b>£50,384</b>

For more information about the team, this report or any of the team's projects please contact:

Fiona Cruchley, Community Projects Team Manager, 01772 533906, [Fiona.Cruchley@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.Cruchley@lancashire.gov.uk)

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