

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

Meeting date: TUESDAY, 19 JUNE 2018
Title: PARTNERSHIP WORKING UPDATE
Submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT - CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Principal author: DILYS DAY - PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 This report provides committee with an update on progress against the Community Strategy for Ribble Valley (2014-2019) which was adopted in October 2014 and the work of the partnership team.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – The Community Strategy and its associated action plans form the basis of the sense of place and common vision of the communities in the Ribble Valley
- Community Safety – The Community Safety Partnership exists to ensure that safety priorities are supported continuing to make the borough a safe place in which to live.

2. INFORMATION

2.1 Attached to this report as Appendix A is a summary report on the actions carried out over the past two years by the Partnership Officers. Within Appendix A is a summary of the actions currently being deployed in association with the town centre youth issues, and a summary of the Community Strategy actions to date set out in Appendix 1 and 2 respectively.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 That Committee note the contents of this report.

DILYS DAY
PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Dilys Day, extension 4549.



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Partnership working update to 2018

Contents

Partnership Working 2017/18	1
1. Facilities	2
2. Education and Economy	2
3. Community Safety	3
Road Safety	3
Alcohol abuse by young people	4
Community Safety Partnership	4
CSP projects	5
4. Health & Older people	6
Ribble Valley Dementia action Alliance	7
5. Local Democracy	8
6. Environment	8
Appendix 1 Table of Antisocial behaviour diversionary activities 2017/18	8
Appendix 2 Community strategy summary table with actions to 2016	8

Partnership Working 2017/18

The report which follows outlines the work carried out by the Partnership team, which is a role which sits within the Regeneration & Housing team.

A significant element of the Partnership work is geared towards the delivery of the Community Strategy which covers the five year period to 2019. Of the eight core areas identified, six are delivered wholly or in part by this role which also incorporates the planning & coordinating the Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership.

Since the adoption of this strategy, many if not all of the objectives have been, or are in the process of being delivered. A summary of the actions identified, with progress to 2016 is attached in Appendix 2.

The following report follows the thematic headings used within the strategy, and provides an update to 2018.

1. Facilities

- RVBC helped to start and develop the Village Halls Association (RVVHA) which now exists to support the delivery of projects in our rural areas, and to offer training and capacity building to help those communities to realise their aspirations.
- RVBC now supports the RVVHA, and has helped to devise a training programme in association with Lancashire Adult Learning to offer Health & Safety, Marketing, Basic Food Hygiene and First aid courses that would otherwise be difficult and costly to access. Further sessions are planned.
- Rural Forums have continued, and in 2017 a half day forum was held to address the issues around the sustainability of community venues. This was well attended, and showed the huge value of information and best practice sharing.
- Working with North West Ambulance Service, we helped to get Defibrillators into out villages. Much of the work was completed by them, but we were able to create the vital links to progress the initiative. It is now estimated that all villages have access to these vital pieces of equipment
- We worked to establish & secure a dedicated HARV domestic violence service here at the Council Office. This was a service that previously had to be accessed in Accrington – often difficult for many of our residents. This service is now even more valuable since the move to Victim Support services which now serves our area from Lancaster. We supported a joint bid to DCLG to secure the grant funding for this work.

2. Education and Economy

- We have supported community development projects including the work at The Whalley Old Grammar School when the LCC Adult Learning withdrew their support. This is now a thriving community business. In addition, we have supported the QE2 playing fields project in Whalley, the Read Cricket Club Project, and Work at the URC in Read.
- Support has been offered to community groups to assist with the sourcing and securing of funds to keep their groups afloat and to improve facilities. It's estimated that we have played a part in helping organisations to access or secure over £150k
- The partnership team work with the Clitheroe Chamber of Trade to offer support through community safety initiatives, and involvement with the RVDAA. We listened to their concerns, and towards the end of 2017 worked with the police to deploy a 'drugs dog' operation to support the night time economy. We are now working on the reinstatement of the Shop Watch radio system.
- Ribble Valley Business Awards. We also support this very popular annual event. Now in its 4th year, the Awards attract around 100 applications which are presented at a sell-out awards evening. This is a great flag flying event for local business and is now firmly established on the annual business calendar.

- We have also made positive links with schools, and work with them on road safety initiatives (through the Speed Watch project) and the Safe Drive Stay alive project. We have also supported a piece of work around fundraising at Ribblesdale School which has the potential to become a part of their enrichment programme. Additionally we work with the pastoral teams to develop projects to address problems around antisocial behaviour, and early intervention initiatives to support vulnerable young people.

3. Community Safety

The core objectives identified for Community safety focus on:

- Maintain low levels of crime
- Improve education & awareness around road safety
- Reduce alcohol abuse around young people

It is probably fair to say that all of these actions have been successful, and work continues to support these objectives to maintain the levels achieved.

Due to changes in the methods used to record crime, it may appear that crime levels have increased. Ribble Valley however, continues to enjoy the lowest levels in the County. The relationships across the CSP are very strong, and there are some very positive initiatives in place to tackle the key strategic objectives identified. We work closely with the police analysts, and are heavily involved in the 3-yearly strategic reassessment of our community safety priorities. The next review is currently underway, and the outcomes will form the focus for work in the coming years.

Road Safety

Working with the **Road Safety** team now based at Lancashire Fire and rescue, we have engaged all CRGS sixth form pupils in the high impact 'Safe Drive , Stay Alive' campaign. This is a hard hitting session which takes students out of school and to King George's Hall in Blackburn to hear first-hand from the victims of road traffic accidents.

We also support the links with schools to implement the Speed Watch sessions which involve the pupils in the monitoring of speeding vehicles on the roads around schools. This is effective as it magnifies the impact of speeding for the drivers as the visibility of the children is hard hitting. Equally, the children see first-hand the potential danger of speeding vehicles.

Alcohol abuse by young people

This has been an issue for many years, and the CSP has worked in partnership with the police, trading standards children's social care to deliver 'CAN safe' operations to minimise harm and educate for a number of years. This picks up the most vulnerable young people to protect them for the harm of alcohol and the associated issues that may ensue.

This has now been taken a step further. In 2017, we established a Community Alcohol Partnership or 'CAP'. There was a high profile launch at The Grand with around 80 attendees. This partnership includes licensees, schools, LCC Children and families' Wellbeing service, Addaction and the statutory bodies to address the supply of alcohol to underage young people. This has then developed further into the establishment of a Youth Activities group to address the issues around not only Alcohol, but substance misuse and associated ASB as well. See Appendix 1 for a summary of the latest actions being taken across the borough.

Beat Herder

Additionally, we work in partnership with the police, children's social care and trading standards to support the safeguarding work at the annual Beat Herder festival. This aims to educate and minimise the harm of drugs and alcohol at the festival.



Community Safety Partnership

The CSP is a proactive body comprising a number of statutory and voluntary organisations who come together to address our safety priorities and is driven by us.

We coordinate and drive projects in furtherance of the objectives identified by a three-yearly strategic review undertaken by the police analysts, Council officers and partners. We are allocated a pot of money by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to support that work, but each project has to be worked up and submitted on a grant application form to secure the funding. We have also been successful in securing additional funding to allow us to do more across our borough.

The recent work around the youth issues in Longridge show this partnership working at its best, with a range of targeted interventions which are making a real difference. (Appendix 1)

Other projects undertaken in recent years by the CSP include:

CSP projects

2017

Drugs dogs	Targeting licensed premises in Clitheroe & Whalley to deter drug usage. This has been repeated in 2018 with further operations planned
CAN safe	Discouraging alcohol usage amongst vulnerable young people.
Mounted Volunteers	Policing the rural locations with the help of specially trained mounted volunteers. This has been nominated for awards.

2016

Village CCTV	CSP has worked with Chipping & Sabden to install CCTV systems on village car parks.
Beat Safe	Organised safeguarding operation at the Beat Herder Festival. This will be repeated in 2018
CAN safe	Discouraging alcohol usage amongst vulnerable young people.
Polycarbonate glasses	This is aimed at keeping people safe whilst out drinking by minimising the risks around broken glass.
Jingle bells	This initiative was aimed at festive shoppers to deter pick pocketing at this busy time of year.
Safe and secure	This initiative was to encourage people to secure their outbuildings to deter opportunistic burglary.
Longridge CCTV	Upgrades to the Longridge system and transfer to Clitheroe for monitoring.
DV worker	This was a push to secure a place based domestic violence worker to be based in our offices. This has made a huge difference for many victims who otherwise would have needed to travel to Accrington. This has been further funded by DCLG, and we still have a worker based here in Clitheroe.

ASBRAC & Transforming lives

As part of the Community Safety role, we chair the monthly Anti-social behaviour risk assessment conference (ASBRAC) and Transforming lives (TL) panel. These are held across the county, and take a multi-agency approach to helping the victims of anti-social

behaviour, and to help people with chaotic lives who may otherwise become vulnerable or end up in the criminal system. Although RV panels are small compared with other districts, the results are excellent as people receive support package that encompasses their real needs rather than taking a 'one size fits all' approach. In the last year, we have worked with over 20 referrals, with at least two young people being stopped from running into the justice system.

4. Health & Older people.

Our priorities in this area are to:

- Align work with Ribblesdale locality of the CCG (& those other CCGs which fall into RV – BwD and Central Lancs).
 - We have a very strong relationship with the Ribblesdale Locality which serves around 70% of our residents. We are members of the Ribblesdale Community Partnership which is a pilot health project which is taking a joined up approach to addressing health issues with positive results. Working with the CCGs serving the Longridge and Wilpshire/Mellor areas is proving more difficult.
- Plan for the support needs of an ageing population.
 - This agenda is supported by continuing to maintain the work of the RV Seniors Forum (RVSF), and creating a lunch clubs network to develop new clubs. This has been increasingly important as resources from Age (UK) and RVS have been reduced and different ways of supporting our older residents has been vital.
 - We have supported the establishment of Lunch Clubs in Wilpshire, Ribchester, Grindleton, Low Moor & West Bradford with an approximate combined attendance of around 200 people. We also continue to support the other lunch clubs running in the area, and we now have around 25 in existence.
 - Working with the RVSF we helped them to secure funding through the Ribblesdale CCG to establish 5 Tai Chi groups. This is held up as being an excellent discipline for relaxation, balance and mobility. From a standing start, the weekly sessions have become sustainable and now attract around 120 people. Their popularity led to our Up and Active team setting up a similar session in Longridge with a regular attendance of around 30.

Ribble Valley Dementia Action Alliance

- There has also been continued support for the RV DAA. We have supported the drive to create a dementia friendly borough for a number of years. This work was started by the council under the guidance of David Ingham, resulting in the establishment of the Ribble Valley Dementia Alliance. The RVDA was an informal body made up of interested parties keen to develop the dementia agenda locally. As David moved away from the group in 2016, it became more closely associated with Dementia Action Alliance, and it changed its name, formalised its governance and elected new officers to work towards the goal of Dementia Friendly Ribble Valley.

RVBC supports the work of the RVDAA through secretariat support and membership of the steering committee to help the group to develop and realise its goal of making the borough dementia friendly.

The Council has supported the RVDAA by:

- Planning, organising & hosting member meetings
- Promoting the work of the RVDAA
- Developing & printing the Dementia guide
- Starting the monthly dementia drop in at Trinity Church Clitheroe
- Developing the dementia café and therapies at The Sanctuary Longridge
- Starting and maintaining the Face Book group
- Organising dementia awareness sessions in the community via Pat Pope from All about Dementia and more recently via Lancashire Adult learning
- Creating nostalgic materials to support dementia cafes and work at the library
- Identifying funding opportunities - success via Tesco, funeral directors etc.
- Create an area on RVBC website to support dementia.

- **Address issues around rural isolation & loneliness.** Whilst this is encompassed within some of the work already outlined, we have also worked with the RV Village Halls Association to develop the Good Neighbours project which is aimed at relieving some of the issues around loneliness and isolation. In progressing work the team is mindful of the fact that this isn't just about older people, and that young people are also affected, and we are keen to develop youth activities to address some of these issues.

We're also engaging with the Field Nurse service which is run by RV Crossroads. This is aimed at the most rurally isolated people in our community, and whilst its primary aim is to pick up otherwise undiagnosed health problems amongst the farming community, it also acts as a safety net to identify some of our more vulnerable residents by arming the nurses with

knowledge and information to highlight any issues that may then be addressed.

5. Local Democracy.

- The team have supported groups with neighbourhood planning, and held a well-attended rural Forum focused on 'Localism'. This introduced one project to the community right to build, and they were subsequently successful in securing £30k to develop their plans

6. Environment.

- Within this area working alongside the energy officer, to promote the Council's energy efficiency offer. This has included setting up awareness roadshows and cookery demonstrations and support for energy switching.
- Increase opportunities to use public transport has been pursued. Working with the RVSF to develop 'Bus Buddy' to encourage our older residents to get out and about on local transport. This project was spotted by Cumbria CC, and also adopted by them. Unfortunately, the cuts to the bus services have made it an unviable project, and sadly it had to be stopped.
- The team has also worked with the people of Sabden to help them to get their lifeline bus service reinstated.
- Helping with sustainability. A Rural Forum focused on sustainable community enterprises was arranged. Another well attended event looked at ways for community organisations to become sustainable community businesses.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Table of Antisocial behaviour diversionary activities 2017/18

Appendix 2 Community strategy summary table with actions to 2016



Antisocial behaviour activities 2018/19

Appendix 1

Location	Activity	objectives	providers	Duration - weeks	Funding from CSP
Longridge	Youth Club & disco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inclusion • Diversionary activity • To engage young people and reduce ASB & damage • Reduce substance misuse • See a reduction in crime figures 	Longridge Community Arts in association with LCC Children & Families wellbeing Service (CFW)		£4500
	<p>Alternative education provision – ‘U-Can’</p> <p>The U-Can programme is an alternative provision for young people aged 12-15 years.</p> <p>This activity is also fully supported by Preston City Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme is designed to explore in-depth the experience of young people who engage in and are affected by anti-social behaviour to understand more about their motivations, experiences and what they think would help to prevent them from getting involved in anti-social and criminal behaviour. • Reduce the likelihood of becoming engaged in antisocial activity in future years • Offer better life chances to vulnerable young people 	Longridge High School & St Cecelia’s high school Empower	14	£4200 (split between RV & Preston)
	Premier Kicks football in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inclusion • Diversionary activity • Encourage troubled youngsters to build rapport with trusted youth trainers to 	Preston North End FC in association with Longridge sports centre	On going	£300



Antisocial behaviour activities 2018/19

Appendix 1

		<p>address social issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To engage young people and reduce ASB & damage • Reduce substance misuse • See a reduction in crime figures 			
Clitheroe	<p>Castle Youth project. Based at the drop in shelter at the castle, this project aims to offer alternative diversionary activity to the traditional sports activities by offering some arts based activities. This will bring activity to the castle grounds for an additional 2 evenings a week.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inclusion • Diversionary activity • To engage young people and reduce ASB & damage • Reduce substance misuse • See a reduction in crime figures 	LCC Children & Families wellbeing Service (CFW) detached working.	14 weeks	£3250
	<p>Premier Kicks football in the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inclusion • Diversionary activity • Encourage troubled youngsters to build rapport with trusted youth trainers to address social issues • To engage young people and reduce ASB & damage • Reduce substance misuse • See a reduction in crime figures 	Burnley FC in the community	On going	

Community Strategy Actions – progress update

Appendix 2

Subject	Issues to be addressed	Tasks	Work being done
Housing	Provision of Affordable Housing		
	Housing for homeless young people		
	Suitable housing for older people		
	Reduce fuel poverty	Awareness events	Work on energy efficiency via: Draught proofing workshops Energy awareness raising events
Facilities	Improve access to services and facilities in rural communities	Maintain links with villages, and in particular community & village halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ RVVHA now established, and working with them to develop the network. ✓ Village Halls showcase event was held in November to highlight the projects that have been delivered since the association was formed. ✓ Working with North West Ambulance Service to get Defibrillators into out villages. To Dec 2015 30+ had been secured, with a further 30 funding bids in. ✓ HARV domestic violence worker now based in the RVBC office
		Work with The Go On initiative to ensure digital technology is accessible to our most rural areas	
	Increased outreach activities in villages	Work with villages to develop the services they need	
	Rural Forum to address issues that affect RV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Two rural forums held focusing on the specific needs of RV communities – community rights and technology 	
	Support for voluntary sector via office rental at RVBC		

Community Strategy Actions – progress update

Appendix 2

Subject	Issues to be addressed	Tasks	Work being done
	Work with RVVHA and Lancashire adult learning to build capacity for groups & volunteers		
	Support for groups to recruit volunteers	Work with One Lancashire Volunteering	✓ Liaison where needed
	Use the Play alliance to improve the sustainability & maintenance of play areas		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The alliance has had a few meetings, and so far has helped groups to save on insurance, to network and share contacts for contractors ✓ Additional work is being done on insurances. Grindleton has already saved £3k from being part of the Alliance.
			✓
Education & Economy	Increase opportunities for vocational training for 16-19 year olds in the borough	Develop innovatory pilot schemes for vocational learning & development of employment opportunities	
	Business support	Support & encourage enterprise & entrepreneurship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Working with community initiatives ✓ Supporting the Ribble Valley Business Awards
		Work with the GoOn Lancashire digital inclusion	✓ Working to access available support for Ribble Valley
		Develop support for social enterprise	✓ Supporting communities who are interested in managing community assets
	Tourism – develop:	Food	
		Heritage	
		Green	
Community Safety	Maintain low levels of crime	Maintain & support the safety partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continue to develop the CSP ✓ Commissioned rural safety checks via Home Wise ✓

Community Strategy Actions – progress update

Appendix 2

Subject	Issues to be addressed	Tasks	Work being done
	Improve education & awareness around road safety		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Looking at developing SPIDs in villages ✓ Supplied Safe driver books to CRGS
	Reduce alcohol (and substance) abuse around young people	<p>Form an Alcohol & substance abuse group</p> <p>Work with Trading standards and police</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Formed the group which met to assess work being done ✓ Significant number of activities in place, with a programme of awareness being rolled out to young people in Jan Feb in conjunction with trading standards ✓ Further CAN and CAN Safe operations planned
Health & older people	Align work with Ribblesdale locality of the CCG (& those other CCGs which fall into RV – BwD and Greater Preston)	<p>Work with groups to align outcomes</p> <p>Meet with other CCG localities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Met with both Central and Blackburn CCGs To explain priorities
	Plan for the support needs of an ageing population	Work with the Ribble Valley Village Halls Association, the LAVCH, village halls & community centres to facilitate essential improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continue to support the Seniors Forum ✓ Work with Public health ✓ Part of the RV Dementia Alliance steering group ✓ Working with partners: Age UK, CVS & others who support older peoples' priorities ✓ Developing Lunch Club provision ✓ Developed a Lunch Clubs network to support those trying to run clubs ✓ Continuing with Bus Buddy – new programme for 2016 developed
		Support the voluntary sector in the villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Visit all RV villages & understand any issues and support needs ✓ Assist with sustainability & funding
	Address issues around rural isolation & loneliness		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continue to support the RRVHA which has funding to develop projects to encourage involvement

Community Strategy Actions – progress update

Appendix 2

Subject	Issues to be addressed	Tasks	Work being done
Local Democracy	Introduce new mechanisms to strengthen local democracy	Encourage interest in parish councils	
	Neighbourhood Planning	Facilitate groups to develop neighbourhood plans and Community Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supporting villages where asked to do so ✓ Working with Whalley QE2 playing fields and their Community Right to Build bid. This has passed the first stage for funding, and plans are being developed
Environment	Improved access to the countryside	Footpaths & bridleways	
		Organised walking	✓ Stepping out programme
		Horse riding	
		Mountain biking	✓ New cycle routes developed & promoted
	Promote waste reduction & recycling	Look at energy efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Working with community buildings to reduce energy bills via projects to improve insulation, and energy generation opportunities ✓ More events to promote energy efficiency ✓ Working with CHIL
	Increase opportunities for use of public transport		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Opportunities identified to better inform pass holders about use of public transport (via Seniors' Forum) ✓ Bus Buddies starting to take off. New programme for 2015
	Encourage the promotion & protection of industrial archaeology & historical sites		
	Work with communities & partners to create sustainable initiatives		