

**Otley Town Council**

**Community Development Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Subject: Community Development Officer's Report**

**Report by: Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer)**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of the Report is to advise Members on the issues which the Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer) has been dealing with in relation to Community Development matters.

**2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S ACTIVITIES (AUGUST – MID-OCTOBER)**

The CDO, alongside Open Country and Friends of Gallows Hill, has carried out maintenance work on the **Gallows Hill Nature Area**. The next planned works are on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. The CDO, alongside the Executive Officer, have been in discussions with Practically Green with regards to developing plans for a **community orchard** at Gallows Hill.

The CDO has attended meetings of both the steering group and sub-groups with regards to the **Neighbourhood Plan** and commissioned AECOM to undertake work to provide an Employment Opportunities and Employment Land review on behalf of the Housing and Employment sub-group and will continue to work closely with the Executive Officer to progress the plan.

The CDO attended a meeting alongside the Chair of the Council, Otley Town Partnership and representatives from Leeds Library Services with regards to future plans and proposals for the **Otley Tourist Information Centre**.

The CDO arranged and attended an informal meeting with councillors and other key local partner organisations with the lead developer to gain an understanding and update on the plans for the proposed **East of Otley** development.

The CDO continues to work with Leeds City Council with regards to the delivery of a Tour de France legacy project which will see the introduction of **new cycle stands** around Otley and the Voice Your Choice winning project on **new cycling signage**.

The CDO has attended meetings, alongside councillors, Sustrans, officers of Leeds and Bradford, parish clerks and councillors from Pool-in-Wharfedale, Menston and Burley-in-Wharfedale with regards to progressing the **Wharfedale Greenway project**.

The CDO has been advertising and administering the ballot and count for **Voice Your Choice 2015-2016** and advertising and attending some of the activities during **Yorkshire Week**.

The CDO has been in discussions with Prince Henry's Grammar School and local community groups with regards to establishing an **Otley community day in 2016** – linking community groups with Year 10's as part of a Citizenship Day.

The CDO arranged for Road Cycling World Champion **Lizzie Armitstead to visit** the Whartons and Westgate Primary Schools and accompanied the Town Mayor and Lizzie on these visits, as well as coordinating and responding to all enquiries from the press.

The CDO, alongside the Sports Development Officer at Leeds City Council has attended a meeting with **Otley Cricket Club** with regards to future plans for the cricket club.

The CDO has been assisting the Otley Chevin Rotary Club in providing a **defibrillator** in the Orchard Gate shopping centre and has been liaising with the Orchard Gate owners with regards to erecting a **'Welcome to Otley' sign** on the canopy of Otley bus station.

The CDO, alongside the Executive Officer, have been working on the planning of the **Christmas Lights turn-on** event to be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.

The CDO has worked with the editorial committee to produce the September (No.73) edition of **Otley Matters**. The CDO attended the reading of Otley Matters for Talking Newspapers.

### **3. LEGAL ASPECTS AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Council is empowered to provide information concerning the services and facilities available in the area provided by Otley Town Council, other public authorities or charities and other voluntary organisations under S142 (1) Local

Government Act 1972 and may appoint other such Council staff as it deems necessary under S112 of the same Act.

There are no financial applications to this report.

#### **4. SUSTAINABILITY**

The Community Development Officer's role is to develop and involve the community so that they work more closely together which is sound and compliant with the Aalborg Charter.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.