



**Meeting Community Forum Meeting**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**Present:**

M.Rathore (BCHS), C. Seddon (Y.M.C.A / ARC Project), C Ward (Learning Disability Partnership Board), L Parkinson (Intack Primary)Cllr  
T. Humphrys (BwDBC Shadsworth & Whitebirk), L. Mercer (Familywise / CANW). SBR (BCHS).

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action &amp; by Whom</b>
Welcome and Introductions	M. Rathore opened the meeting and welcomed members old and new. Brief introductions were made around the table.	
Minutes of the Previous Meeting	Not discussed	
Updates and Upcoming Community Events	<p>C Seddon advised the following: ARC has had a bit of a change as Emily Jones has left. Several other staff have picked up her responsibilities and all the usual things are carrying on. YMCA links closely with ARC. The 'Champions' are people who have been in the country a bit longer or who have good English skills and understanding of British systems. We work with them through a project funded through the Cabinet Office on New Beginnings. They hold a monthly meeting which covers educating, extending knowledge and understanding. Andrea Bradbury, Counter Terrorism Inspector for the area, recently did a session on British Values which was entertaining and informative. Some of the things the Champions will be doing in the future through John East, who organises with the Yorkshire Dales, include lambing, stonewalling and tree planting. We take groups to Clapham St Market and have been asked if we would like a stall this year. Approximately 350 trees have been planted. We are looking at doing something with the new forest project. We are involved along with Amnesty International and others, in the City</p>	

of Sanctuary. This leads to all sorts of other initiatives such as School of Sanctuary and County of Sanctuary. This will be launched on the 19<sup>th</sup> and invites will be issued in due course.

School visits to work with Asylum Seekers. They tell their stories and all questions are answered. It is amazing how little students know about the plight of Refugees and issues they are escaping.

C Ward advised the following:

The anniversary of the Wish Centre and as part of the celebrations they will be featured on Radio Lancashire.

International Women's Day on 8<sup>th</sup> March. The Cathedral have given their space for free. The theme this year is Press for Change. This will be very informal with market stalls, craft stalls etc. Lancashire MIND are involved as are many other groups. There will be a permanent wall in the mall featuring dedicated artwork. We would like schools to be involved. This will be a celebration of women's achievements and everyone can come along and get involved.

We have thought about a Jacob's Join but this may be difficult with dietary needs but we have considered some sort of disclaimer of eat at your own risk as it would be impossible to police. We have lots of ideas, anything and everything will be considered.

L. Parkinson advised the following:

Parent and Toddlers groups at Intack are ongoing with more and more families getting involved looking at food and healthy eating. They will also be producing a newsletter.

Family learning is still ongoing with a recently completed maths course and an English course for EAL parents will be underway next week.

World Book Day will be celebrated as usual and parents will be invited into school to help with making costumes.

We will be starting a litter project with Denise Cottam, our local community officer, linked to Westbury Gardens. There is some land on North Road which can't be built on due to methane gas and there is fly tipping going on. We are hoping for a billboard which will feature work from a local artist in co-operation with local children.

Cllr Humphrys advised there is a ten thousand pound grant for the

L. Mercer asked for information to be emailed. This will be done when arrangements are nearer to finalisation. In the meantime details will be sent to attendees of the meeting. C. Ward to action.

	<p>improvement of Audley area.  We have been approached by Whitebirk 2000 who want to start a foodbank for Intack and Whitebirk. There is one on Momney Walk and they will be contacted for advice as we would like to know how we can help them. There is a £5 charge for this and patrons receive a box of groceries. There is also the Food Poverty Alliance who are looking for partners.</p> <p>Cllr Humphrys advised the following:  Reminder from last meeting regarding the flu epidemic. This has still not reached its peak. Despite leaflets and advice take up on vaccines has been poor. Cost may be a factor for some families and this is being re-examined.  Funding for school roof has not been finalised. SHN is dealing with this and M. Rathore will speak to her.  There is a football club starting in February (Cllr Humphrys distributed some leaflets).  We have a whole list of 'Grot Spots' suffering from fly tipping.  The local shop has had his license to sell alcohol removed so he will no longer be able to sell alcohol to underage customers.  Intack and other local schools are becoming involved in the clean-up of the local areas. Students from BCHS are already involved with the Westbury Gardens clean-up.  There will be a boundary change soon and Shadsworth and Whitebirk will become Shadsworth and Whitecroft.  BCHS choir did a sterling job singing Christmas Carols at the Shadsworth Older People Christmas Dinner.</p> <p>L. Mercer advised the following:  C.A.N.W requested that people put the tokens received at supermarkets be put into the collection pot for young carers.  We try to take young people from deprived backgrounds or looked after children out for fun activities. Money is always a problem so any low cost or free activities which the meeting could recommend would be very welcome. Museums were suggested as entry is free and they can do a sort of treasure hunt. Steve Irwin at the museum is very helpful. There</p>	<p>M. Rathore to send details of Food Poverty Alliance.</p> <p>M. Rathore to speak with SHN.</p>
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	<p>are also walking tours of Blackburn for a nominal charge. Starting this week-end for 16+ there is a Young Leaders course called Catalyst at Blackburn Cathedral. It is for three weeks and you have to attend all sessions.</p> <p>M. Rathore advised the following:  Deliveries over Christmas to Maundy and local food bank fed approximately 450 families.  The recent Panorama programme was awful, BwD did a filmed response and our school was featured. The film shows Blackburn at its finest and our students represented us really well.  We have had a visit from DfE they wanted to talk about Community Cohesion and we are hoping they will return.  It was stated that M. Rathore is instrumental in the excellent reputation for Community Events at BCHS.  Bollywood Ladies Evening on 13<sup>th</sup> April 6.00 – 9.00 tickets are £20 and includes a DJ and food. Childrens tickets are available at £12. All proceeds go to the Enrichment Fund which has bought winter coats and shoes for the children. It also helped one student with bicycle repairs which enabled him to ride it to school.  Youth Elections are next week. Jaffar will be in next week with the ballot boxes.  We sent Christmas presents for the YMCA. The students really enjoyed it and sent Christmas cards and messages.</p>	<p>All to share suggestions with L.Mercer.</p> <p>M. Rathore to share the link.</p>
A.O.B	<p>Cllr Humphrys has discussed with M. Khan from Healthy Living, veterans who are neglected in the community. It has been suggested they visit schools and the local community to tell their stories. The First World War will not be marked by the Government after next year but war is constant in one place or another. We are looking at the feasibility of this. M. Rathore suggested that Gary Chinery be involved as he is ex-forces.</p>	
<b>Date of Next Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b>		