

Wormley and Turnford Big Local Delivery plan 2016-2019

1. The Vision

Our vision has now been defined as

To transform Wormley and Turnford into a place where people are proud to live, that nurtures aspirations, opportunities and a strong sustainable community.

Our objectives are

To empower the residents of Wormley and Turnford to build a community

To bring people together across physical and social divides to interact positively

To define and develop a plan for the Wormley Community Centre

To undertake a study and pilot for the development of a community transport scheme

To maintain a robust Grants and Commissioning process designed to facilitate the delivery of our themes

Our Values

Are also our themes;

Community Cohesion and Involvement

Community Facilities

Children, young people and families

Awareness of the countryside and open space

Access to services for older people and people with disabilities

Social Investment & Financial exclusion

Healthy Lifestyles

We will act honestly, fairly and transparently with ALL individuals and organisations

Our Guiding Principles

To act as a catalyst within the Wormley and Turnford Community for positive change

To enable the community to have a voice by actively listening

2. Learning from our review

Our main successes were:

- Working together and ensuring a cohesive group which is reaching agreements
- Getting the plan submitted
- Getting the hub running
- Having a profile on the high street
- Having a good grants process

Our main challenges were:

- Raising our profile further
- Recruiting and keeping more people involved and ensuring diversity/inclusion
- Ensuring timely decision making beyond planning

We had some success in;

- Organising events
- Reviewing the Outdoor gym proposal
- Making contact and working with organisations already working in the area

And we learnt:

- We need to delegate either by extending the volunteer base or by commissioning activities
- That the lead time for any activity is much longer than expected (things do not happen overnight)
- There is a degree of cynicism/apathy/lack of belief - people do not believe that things will change - we need to effect culture change

3. Applying the learning to our priorities for 2016-19

Outcomes and Action Planning

The Big Local outcomes are key to all themes - projects or activities will only be undertaken if in some way they help us achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them.
- People will have increased skills and confidence, so that they continue to identify and respond to needs in the future.
- The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises.
- People will feel that their area is an even better place to live.

Our initial priorities/themes, in line with Big Local outcomes remain:

Priority i: Community Cohesion and Involvement

Priority ii: Community Facilities

Priority iii: Children young people and families

Priority iv: Awareness of the countryside and open space
Priority v: Access to services for older people and people with disabilities
Priority vi: Social Investment & Financial exclusion
Priority vii: Healthy Lifestyles

We have used our themes to define our vision, this is designed to enable the improved engagement of residents through clearer articulation of what Big Local is for Wormley and Turnford.

An action plan for the two years Oct 2016 to Sept 2018 has been developed to help further define the objectives and maximise potential progress against our vision and themes.

The Action Plan acknowledges that the first plan was about sowing seeds across a wide range of areas and we now want to nurture some of these as identified by our residents while still allowing the remaining seeds to continue to more slowly develop.

We intend to build on our existing working groups and processes whilst supporting the projects identified to be taken forward at this time. The Action plan budget is cross referenced to our existing budgeting blocks as follows;

Hub Operation

We intend to keep a High Road presence at the new Hub (83 High Road) this will be used as our shop window, highlighting our activities and promoting all events/organisations active within the community. We will look into the possibility of using this area as an internet café or similar meeting point. We are then looking at moving our office activities from 39 High Road Hub to existing offices at Wormley Community Centre which have greater potential to be used by support services such as CAB, Debt Advice, local housing association etc. for one on one or open surgery sessions.

Community Development

We are looking to continue our current community development activities, these include the use of a support worker, finding more ways of engaging with the local community both by exploiting physical (meetings and newsletters) and technological (social media) opportunities.

We have also included in the budget the potential for additional paid work (staff and/or consultancy) which could be in engagement work or communications.

We also want to look at more ways to get residents involved with the plan delivery be it through manning the HUB, producing a newsletter or running events and activities.

Grants and Commissioning

The existing grant process has proved very successful in supporting the local community to access children's services including holiday clubs, support services based in schools and children's centres, and after school activities/homework clubs etc. We have also had some success with supporting other local not for profit groups with equipment or funds so that they can expand their activities or their user base. We look to continue this for the next plan with an intention to achieve matched funding (either money or resources) wherever possible.

We have had a little success with our Enterprise funding and look to move this forward with the help of other organisations and maybe extend its reach by including business networking and get back to work opportunities within this category

We will look to the efficiency of these opportunities by changing grants to commissioning of services if this is deemed more appropriate.

Events

We have looked at our events delivery and would like to concentrate on one main event each year, potentially based around the National Big Lunch scheme and then to look at supporting other individuals or organisations in event delivery. We have also budgeted to hold an annual open/awards evening or similar to enable us to showcase our activities at the same time as recognising the involvement of residents in creating our community.

Communication and Marketing

We have budgeted the on-going use of our website, regular newsletter/leaflet drops. We have purchased software to enable more in-house development of these.

Outdoor Gyms

Following our consultation work in plan 1 we would like to follow this up with some additional detailed work with the residents most closely affected by the building of a gym and then look to get matched funding in place to undertake the actual installation of the gym equipment. This proposal includes not just the gym equipment but also the on-going maintenance, security and safety of the equipment and the associated ground as well as the provision of trainers to help people use it safely and effectively.

Wormley Community Centre

This local hall is being left to deteriorate on the outside and almost half of the facility is not currently used by anyone. We have a plan to review this complex with a long term goal of including a drop in café at this location (see attached initial project plan).

The budget for this area includes £70k for Start-up Capital Costs should this option be taken forward. Part of the project plan will be to identify other sources of funding and the best operational management structure to support this in the long term.

Community Transport Scheme

One of the biggest concerns raised by people is the problem of getting either around our own area or accessing local buses to get to doctors and other services which are located outside our area. Transport goes north to south along the high street but there is no provision for those in the estates to get to the high street, the roads are not suitable for full size buses so we want to look at the viability of a small bus/minibus route linking the estates to the high street and major activity sites on the outskirts of the area.

The budget has two elements, one for an initial feasibility study and the other for a small pilot scheme (possibly lasting a year) to establish take up if the feasibility study is positive. We are also investigating the possibilities of working with other experienced community transport providers and accessing additional grant funding (to match allocated funding).

Overall

Delivery of the plan is very dependent on people resources and the plan is expensive because we have budgeted to use staff and consultants to achieve results. The more that we can involve volunteers the more this will help reduce costs. This will remain our goal.