



Community Safety Working Group

10:30am 16th July 2024

Present: Councillor Brian McDaid (Chair), Councillors Lewis Morgan and Claire Nash Skipton Town Council, Stacey Reffin Community Safety Officer CDC, Kirsty Mellin North Yorkshire Youth, Louise Close Chief Officer Skipton Town Council, Jenny Dean Deputy Clerk Skipton Town Council, Rosemary Simpson Craven College, Cllr Andy Solloway- North Yorkshire Council, Jibhran Kahil- Skipton Academy, PC Craig Blake North Yorkshire Police, James Neil Skipton Youth Council, Adam Jackson Ermysteds

1. Chair's Welcome

Councillor McDaid welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Introductions and apologies

Introductions were made. Apologies had been received from Cllr David Noland, Sarah Howsen Skipton BID, Cllr Winston Feather.

3. Minutes from the last meeting held on the 22nd May 2024

The minutes from the last working group on the 22nd May 2024 have been circulated and were approved.

4. Actions from the last meeting

Action: Sarah to get an up to date/revised costing for the camera at the bus station- Item on the Agenda

Action: Cllr Solloway to discuss the camera with NYC, and find out about potential funding- Item on the Agenda

Action: Kirsty to gauge the interest from young people about a young persons allotment. Jenny to discuss with the Chief Officer and Estates staff at STC- Kirsty is currently undertaking consultation with young people in Skipton about the type of activities they would like to see. James will send Kirsty the results of

the Youth Council survey from 2023. There will be an online survey available soon, Kirsty will circulate the link when it is ready.

Action: Jenny to draft up a litter picking schedule- Completed

Action: Jenny to follow up with the Youth Bus -Item on the agenda

Action: Jenny to complete action from the previous meeting regarding services for older people. Item on the agenda

5. Update on Local Crime Figures

PC Blake can an update on local crime figures. There has been one burglary in the West ward in July, and two in the South ward in June. West and South continue to have the highest figures in relation to crimes, followed by North and then East with very few incidents.

Councillor McDaid asked if the new Government directive to include investigate shop lifting for items under £200 would have an impact on the Police. PC Blake said it would have some impact on teams that investigate those incidents, and that the Police rely on shops reporting incidents and providing the evidence such as CCTV footage when they have it. *(Sgt Evans has subsequently confirmed that in North Yorkshire they have not used the £200 threshold and have always looked at each job on an individual basis not based on the cost of goods stolen).*

Stacey encouraged everyone to sign up to and to continue to promote the community messenger service.

Cllr McDaid asked if there has been any increase in people reporting incidents online. PC Blake will find out.

Cllr Morgan reported that he had been made aware of people congregating at a bench on Middletown Rec smoking cannabis. PC Blake reiterated the importance of people reporting issues to the Police.

6. Update on Middletown Allotments

Jenny reported that the shed that had been used as a gathering point had been removed, and no further issues have been reported to the Council since. A wildlife camera had been put up and not captured any significant footage. The Estates Team have repaired some of the boundary fencing and allotments tenants have been reminded about locking the gate, the Neighbourhood Police Team have also been provided with a key.

Councillor Solloway suggested that joining Incredible Edible and helping work on their plot could be a good introduction to any young people if they wanted to have an allotment. Jenny reminded the group that if there was to be an allotment for young people there would need to be an organisation taking responsibility for the plot, and the usual allotment tenancy rules would apply.

7. CCTV at the Bus Station

Sarah has had some correspondence with the bus companies and will provide an update on this and any revision to the costings of the camera when available.

Councillor Solloway will provide £3500.00 from his ward members budget and has also been in contact with the North Yorkshire Mayors office to see if there is some funding available from them. He is yet to receive a response.

Councillor Nash asked if the other North Yorkshire Councillors would be able to use any of their budgets, as although the bus station is not in their wards it is close to them and it is used by people across Skipton.

Stacey reported that the Bus Station does remain on the Police Teams patrol plan, and that she may have some of her Community Safety budget available. Stacey asked if there would be any of the funds from the Skipton Gateways project available to contribute towards the camera, as this involves the Train Station and Gallows Bridge. Cllr Solloway will find out who the lead officer is for that project.

8. Focus on supporting older people in the community

Jenny has done some investigation into what activities are available for older people in the community. She will compile the information together and circulate it round so that everyone can add to it if they know of other activities.

Rosemary reported that there will be a new Enrichment Officer starting at Craven College, and 'befriending' could be an opportunity for their students when volunteering. Jibrhan thought it could potentially be an opportunity for Skipton Academy students as well.

9. Update on the Youth Bus

Jenny has contacted Inspire Youth again, and they have indicated that they may be able to provide some sessions in September. Jenny, Kirsty, Stacey and Brian will discuss some logistics and report back at the next meeting.

10. Update from the Youth Council campaigns

James provided an update from the Youth Council. They have had stalls at the community day and Sheep Day raising over £500 for the Youth Council.

They have a meeting with the Substance Team at North Yorkshire Council later this month to discuss their anti-vaping campaign.

The litter campaign has been successful with 98 people getting involved and 48 bags of rubbish collected. Skipton Girls School won the competition and have put the funds towards buying more litter picking equipment.

Children at Water Street have helped design some posters. The Youth Council have narrowed it down to 3 and are asking this group to choose their favourite design. Jenny will circulate the 3 options for group members to comment on.

The campaign now has a slogan- 'GO Green and keep our town clean'

The Youth Council are also working on making a directory of groups/activities for young people. Kirsty has a list already and will share it with them.

11. Confirmation of plans for the litter picks

Dates have been circulated; everyone is welcome to join when they can. Dates go up to December so far with a mix of times, week days and weekends.

12. Open Discussion

Cllr McDaid raised the proposal of having a community hub in Skipton, and whether a community hub in the town centre could play a part in revitalising the High Street and providing space for community groups and organisations to meet. There are several locations on or near the High Street that could be considered.

It was agreed that if there was a will to do it, the challenge would be the logistics and involving the key stakeholders. The backing or support from the North Yorkshire Mayor would be beneficial.

There would need to be consultation with the public to see if this is something that would be needed and wanted.

Cllr McDaid has been doing some research and will bring it to the next meeting for further consideration.

Summary of Actions

Action: Cllr McDaid to provide research on the Community Hub for the next meeting

Action: Police to provide information on whether there has been an increase in reporting incidents to them using their online systems

Action: Jenny to circulate the list of activities for older people when ready.

Action: Jenny to circulate the posters from the Youth Council, all to respond with their comments/favourite one.

Action: Cllr Solloway to find out the lead officer for the Skipton Gateway Project, and to follow up enquiries with the Mayor regarding CCTV Funding

Action: Sarah to give an update on the costs of the a CCTV camera

Action: Jenny to provide a further update on the Youth Bus

Next Meeting TBC to be held after the summer holidays.