

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

COASTAL COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

It doesn't seem 5 minutes since I wrote my last Chairman's report, but here we are, and another 12 months have flown by. It has been an exceptionally busy year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for once again giving their time to ensure that the Big Local Fund is used, as it was intended, to enhance the lives of the residents of Mablethorpe, Trusthorpe and Sutton on Sea.

We have worked on several new exciting projects, for example, with the Marisco Patient Group in conjunction with Magna Vitae, the facilitation of an exercise referral programme to encourage and enable patients to improve their health. We have also worked closely with Hope House by commissioning a pioneering pilot initiative for the homeless within our community.

The Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner was so impressed by our commitment to fund the Sandi Starfish project which protects our children and those children who may be on holiday here, that he asked to meet with us to work on further projects to try to reduce crime in our area. The result of those meetings is that we have become official Scambusters for our area and we are in the process of delivering a scam awareness initiative to each household.

Over the past year we have also worked in partnership with the Community Payback team. Each week the team have worked on community projects from clearing sand off the promenade, disabled ramps and steps, to cutting back and clearing St Mary's Park whilst also working in the gardens of many of our community buildings, plus Trusthorpe Cemetery. This has been at absolutely NO COST to Big Local. This is just one example of how we are working in partnership with many organisations, we have also worked in partnership with the Town Council, ELDC, County Council, Mablethorpe in Bloom and Mablethorpe Art Group.

Local Trust are very keen for partnerships to hold local community cohesion events, and in December, we did exactly that by way of a Christmas Extravaganza. Our volunteers worked tirelessly for many months planning and delivering this event which was hugely successful despite it being held on the coldest day of year!

In January 2018, we had an update leaflet designed, produced and locally printed and delivered to each household in the area so as many people as possible could see a snapshot of some of the projects that we had funded, along with giving everyone an opportunity to come along to our Annual Review to share their views on the themes and activities that we will be focussing on in 2018.

At our Annual Review, a number of local residents attended and we have taken on board their ideas and views to shape our plan for the next 3 years. The independent plan assessment visit was the final stage of our review process (a copy of this review is in this handout pack), after which, Local Trust have will issue a new funding agreement allowing CCC to continue making a positive difference to the lives of local people.

This funding agreement has now been confirmed and agreed by Local Trust.

We have continued throughout the year with our grants programme. We gave

out grants of up to £200, £500 and £5000 to groups that applied and satisfied the criteria that had been previously established and communicated to all groups.

All our grants and financial transactions are monitored by our Locally Trusted Organisation, the Lincolnshire Community Foundation. At this point, I would like to wholeheartedly thank Sue Fortune from LCF for her unwavering support, invaluable input and work that she carries out on behalf of the CCC.

We continue to run weekly drop in sessions at the Community Hall on a Monday & Tuesday and at The Meridale on a Friday, and anyone with a new idea or needing help with an existing project, can talk to us at any of these venues and we will be only too pleased to put these ideas and suggestions before committee.

The CCC are eternally grateful to our two flagship projects....Paul Scott from Experience Enterprise and Andy & Amanda from ELAP (East Lindsey Advice Project) for their continued dedication and hard work for the benefit of our local area. The CCC also appreciate the continuous support from the Town Clerk Steve Fletcher, the Town Council, the Community Hall Committee and John Monk from The Meridale.

My final thank you is to Alister Shaw, our Big Local Rep, who has provided guidance and support over the past 2 years, which we truly appreciate.

Over past 18 months we lucky enough to have been joined by several new committee members who have made a positive difference to our team and we have all been working together to make Mablethorpe, Trusthorpe and Sutton on Sea a better place to live and work.

John Gregory

Chairman – Coastal Community Challenge

23-05-2018