

Victoria Ward Notes



Notes of VWP meeting
@ Salaam Centre,
Murray Street – 2nd
November 2022

Next Victoria Ward
Partnership meeting –
9.30 (-11, latest)
Tuesday 13th
December @ Salaam
Centre



What is the Victoria Ward Partnership?

The Victoria Ward partnership is a collective effort to try and bring residents and organisations together to create a community within the Victoria Ward. This is seen through collaborative work to create community events and address issues that local people have.

Contents

Page 2: Play Streets, Litter Pick, Walk to the Burny to play, Family Time

Page 3: Supporters Club, Liz Million, Lynnfield School, Youth work

Page 4: Salaam Centre, Girls group, Hartlepool Outreach Team, Hate Crime Reporting Centres

Page 5: Youth Sessions, Family support discussion, Independent visitor service, Safe families, targeted youth support service

Page 6: Social prescribing service, Growing community resilience, Church of the Nazarene, Hartlepool Supporters Club

Page 7: Sewing group, Thirteen Group, Halloween trail, Free training for volunteers

Attendees: Juli Simons (Facilitator), Sarah McCluskey (HBC Youth Service), Paula Carol (HBC, Active Hartlepool Team), Carolyn Laking (Lynnfield Primary Schools), Rachael Wanley (Changing Futures), Stephanie Bailey-Minton (Changing Futures), Fiona Cook (The Big League CIC), Penny Thompson (HBC).

Play Streets

The first Play Streets session hosted by residents of Thornton Street and supported by the Vic Ward Partnership and Sarah Parker's Play Out Hartlepool. This enabled residents to close down the street for a few hours to allow children time to safely play outdoors while they manage traffic that needs to access the roads. This months event was attended by 30 kids aged 2-12, who, despite the rain had a great time! With council permission and general consensus from neighbours, residents legally close the road to through-traffic, using 'Road Closed' signs and cones, or other barriers such as wheelie-bins. Residents still have vehicle access and can leave their cars parked on the road. It is hoped that this scheme will continue throughout the town as a resident-led way of getting children playing outdoors safely.



Rain couldn't stop the fun!



Great work keeping the parks tidy

Litter pick

Starting at Thornton Street, a small group of residents took part in a local litter pick. The kids aged 4-15 enjoyed going around and helping keep their neighbourhoods tidy.

Walk to the Burny to Play

From Thornton Street to Burn Valley, the group alongside the VWP and Sarah Parker had a great time with outdoor activities, pond dipping, engaging with nature and having cups of soup with bread rolls. An older portion of the community was also out enjoying the day, who commented on how nice it was to see young people enjoying the outdoors and wanting the area to be used for similar future activities.

Family Time

Family time hosted an event in Middleton Grange shopping Centre, which the Victoria Ward Partnership came to support with crafts and colouring activities as well as a visit from a friendly T-rex! This was alongside the launch of Active Hartlepool's Ship in a Shop and the Augmented Reality Halloween Trail, both great, short trips which help develop children's reading and navigational skills.



A rare Steph-o-saurus sighting

Supporters Club

The VWP are hoping to host 3 nights at the Hartlepool Supporters Club where residents can meet up, have a soup and a bun and find out what's going on in their ward. These would be on the 21st, 28th November and the 5th December. 73 Sandringham Rd, Hartlepool TS26 8PS.



Liz Million

Following discussions with Donna from Hartlepool Community Hub Central, the VWP are helping to host accomplished children's author and illustrator Liz Million and as such she will be having an event in the Victoria Ward. At the event there will be book signings, illustration classes and a buffet. When more details are worked out, invitations will be sent out to the event.



Lynnfield School

The school has been in contact with the Hartlepool Huskies to be able to offer a 6 week course at the schools, for years 1,2 and 3 starting on the 21st November. This will be at no charge to the parents of the groups which will consist of 25 students.



Hartlepool Huskies
One Pack One Family

Youth Work

Hartlepool Youth Services Victoria Ward consultation to find what young people (aged 12-19) in the ward want went well, 24 young people were consulted and found that with the long list of positives about the area where they live, with kids enjoying going out and physical activities. They are also very much in favour of a youth club in their area, of which they would like to see sports and arts and crafts cooking and video games. Also found in the consultation were the key issues affecting young people, which were: bullying, boredom and mental illness. For the next stage, there will be further discussion on what can be done further which will be presented at the next meeting of the VWP.




Salaam Centre

Girls Group

6-8pm on Tuesdays girls from age 10+ come together to bring or make food, take part in activities (whether physical or more arts and crafts related). The group is mixed-culture and incredibly friendly so why not come along!

Following this there has also been significant interest in having an equivalent men's group to go alongside it.



TOGETHER GROUP
FOR GIRLS YEAR SEVEN AND ABOVE
**EVERY TUESDAY 6-8pm @The Salaam Centre,
Murray Street, Hartlepool**

The Group will provide a safe place for girls to grow and develop giving an opportunity to try new interests, learn new skills and meet new friends. There will be a range of activities on offer such as

- Arts & crafts
- Health & Beauty
- Physical activity – dancing, kick boxing, yoga, netball etc

Theme nights eg. Healthy eating/cookery, health & well being, film nights,
Your suggestions for activities will always be welcomed and encouraged too!

Hartlepool Outreach Team

The Hartlepool outreach response team are starting to use the Salaam Centre as a location to take people and work with them on Friday nights between 7-9pm.



They are open to any one who would like to pop in for a game of pool, a brew, a lashing at Fifa, a chat, or any reason at all. We will be also offering advice and information on the following; education training and employment, housing and shelter, wellbeing and health and we are looking in to help for child access issues.

Hate Crime Reporting Centre

Danny and Michelle from Cleveland Police have been into the Centre and worked with staff their to help make the Salaam Centre become a third party hate crime reporting centre. One of the biggest issues surrounding hate crime is accessibility to reporting it. This is why the centre can now offer support in reporting these crimes anonymously, or help with finding the self report form in a residents native language to make the process easier. Lynnfield School will be connecting with the Hate Crime team for school families.



Youth Sessions

Jack Cummings currently hosts a small, funded, youth session in Community Hub Central on Tuesday evenings from 4-5pm. These are sessions that you have to book onto but allows children to use Hub facilities like the Fablab, computers and access other activities that they otherwise may not get to due to when the Hubs are open. Jack would love for this to be extended as this is just a trial period. Get in touch with Community Hub Central to find out more:

:Central.library@hartlepool.gov.uk

☎:01429 242909



Discussion Around Family Support

The group had a discussion around the close family support services which are currently available for people around the Ward. Everyone shared which services they knew about that currently exist.

Independent Visitor Service

The Independent Visitor Service is an initiative setup by Changing Futures North East, which assigns one 'Visitor', one child to grow a connection with. This will be a consistent person to talk to in the young persons life, who does activities that the young person wants to do. The role is voluntary and to register, you must be 21+ and signup through Changing Futures site.



Safe Families

Safe families is an initiative to help create stronger communities by having an

appointed family make connections with another, growing an organic relationship and helping them intergrate into the community or culture of the area.



Safe Families

Targeted Youth Support Service

Aimed at helping 13-19 (or to 25 with learning difficulties), the service aims to find root causes of issues individuals might have and spending 1-1 time in helping them to overcome these obstacles, the service can be in place for as long as the young person needs. This is a referral service, however people can self-refer through the Targeted Youth Support website.

Social Prescribing Service



This service supports young people in accessing activities in their local communities. Often one of the greatest barriers to entry to community activities for young people can be knowing of the group or having confidence/mental health issues. This service gives them a supportive friendly face to assist in getting them through the hardest step of

accessing services, the first. There is a waiting list for this service currently, but with the Young Person's Social Prescriber role funded for another year, they are hoping to get a second post opened soon.

Growing community resilience

The main aim of all of the aforementioned projects is to try and build a community that isn't fearful of accessing services or asking one another for help/assistance. This can be seen in other audiences which aren't young people, such as Age Concern, Fibroconnect and other befriending services. These are ways that we can address one of the main community needs: help going to appointments, whether help looking after children or the act of having someone to go with.



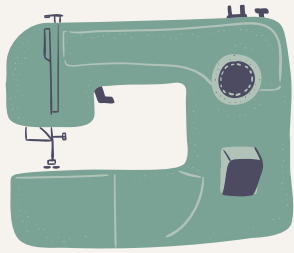
Church of the Nazarene

There was a conversation held with the pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, who shared that they have space that the community could use in their church on Murray Street.

Hartlepool Supporters Club

Members of the VWP met with the Supporters Club committee who are completely onboard with having more opportunities to reach out to the community. They are hoping to link in with locals to provide more community events both indoors and outdoors at their location.





Sewing group

An ex carer is hoping to use their skillset in setting up a sewing group for adults (possibly carer-centred). Ideally this would be something to do with sewing machines as this is a particular area of expertise for them. The Salaam Centre is going to suggest the idea to their groups.

Thirteen Group

Thirteen group have invited the VWP members to have a meeting in their new recycling facility in Billingham, a place where parts of old or renovated properties are being used to be given away, upgraded or changed for future projects and to other people. There is also an outside space and woodworking centre there. It has been suggested that dates are put forward to go down for a visit.

thirteen

Managing and building homes

Halloween trail

Active Hartlepool have launched their augmented reality trail around the town centre. Currently themed for Halloween, the trail encourages children to learn more about the town centre, navigational skills and literacy skills, through an interactive storyline and fun characters. Towards the beginning of December, this will then be replaced with a Christmas theme (out now!). When the trail is complete, the child will receive a digital prize pack.



Free Training for Volunteers

There is free training on offer for volunteers for family teaching roles. this would give you the skills and know-how of where and how to engage in play. Training is given in 3 hour sessions and will take place if there is interest between late afternoon and the early evening, courtesy of Active Hartlepool.

