

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

Annual Report



**Southern Brooks
Community Partnership**
Coniston Community Centre,
The Parade, Coniston
Road, Patchway, South
Gloucestershire BS34 5JP

Making a difference in the community since 1988

2012-2013

www.southernbrooks.org.uk

Trustees

Elaine Martin

Chair (until December 12)

Andrew Thomas

Chair (from December 12)

Lucy Hamid

Stan Sims

Vice Chair (until December 12)

David Bell

Steven Woods

Treasurer (until December 12)

Tom Aditya

Treasurer (from December 12)

Joanne Ward

appointed May 12

(Vice Chair from December 2012)



Director's report

This year has been one of change for Southern Brooks Community Partnership, with new challenges and also new opportunities.

The "Transformation review" that South Gloucestershire Council undertook into the delivery of services for children, families and young people offered opportunities for new partnerships and consortia to develop. We took an active role in bringing together voluntary sector partners to respond to potential for the sector to take on a greater role in service delivery. The review was comprehensive and took place when elected members were changing from running as a cabinet with lead members, back to a committee structure.

At a time when considerable savings had to be made, Councillors decided to focus resources into priority neighbourhoods with targeted provision at vulnerable people across the authority. After a good deal of consultation and debate, Councillors decided to keep most provision in-house and to review this again after 12 months. However they were keen to outsource the management of some buildings and this provided an opportunity for us to put in a proposal to manage Patchway Youth Centre. We wanted to help safeguard provision for Patchway

Julie Close

young people. We were successful in our proposal and subsequently secured funding through the Council's Positive Activity Fund.

We look forward to working with South Gloucestershire Council over the coming year to ensure there is a comprehensive range of support in place for young people. Over the next year we will build our youth work team and continue to focus on helping young people have a strong voice in community issues. Patchway Town Council generously fund both detached youth work and our junior youth provision, and have confirmed funding for the next two years. We are very grateful to the town council for this and their continued contribution to our organisational costs.

A new area of work this year has been with older people. We've worked within the community to set up initiatives for older people and were pleased to be commissioned by the NHS South Gloucestershire to set up a Dementia Awareness Alliance for Patchway over the next 18 months. We also applied successfully to Community Care and Housing (CCH) to run a "Precious Time" initiative that aims to work with local people to provide opportunities for active older people to become more involved in their communities.

We worked with the CCH team and other partners on an initiative that is developing an action plan to reduce social isolation within South Gloucestershire.

Our work in the Priority Neighbourhoods of Filton and Patchway has continued. The initial partnership work to develop and agree action plans that took place last year is well established. This year and next, we will focus on practical delivery of the plans, and continue to build networks and partnerships that respond to local need.

Another change this year has been the election of Sue Mountstevens as the new Police and Crime Commissioner. We were very pleased to welcome Sue when she visited Southern Brooks shortly after being elected. We then helped organise a consultation event on priorities for her plan, which was really well attended by local people and pupils from Patchway Community College.

Partnership working has continued to be a fundamental principle of the way we work. Merlin Housing Society continues to fund a family support post which enables them to refer families who need additional support to maintain their tenancies. We have worked closely with developers of the new community at Charlton Hayes and Bovis, Barratt and Sovereign Housing Association have jointly funded a community development post.

Our work with Survive has continued to run a local Freedom programme for women experiencing domestic abuse. Our partnership with CVS South Gloucestershire and the Chase and Kingsforest Community Project has continued through the investment of the local strategic partnership in developing a strong and thriving voluntary and community sector. We've worked closely with both our local Volunteer Centre and the partnership of Volunteer Centres across South Gloucestershire.

We've contributed in the South Gloucestershire leader's board, which brings together key organisations across South Gloucestershire to work together on issues that affect us. Over the coming year we look forward to developing our leadership skills together. Southern Brooks are the voluntary sector rep on South Gloucestershire Compact. Our Compact group were thrilled to win the national partnership award this year.

We represent the Priority Neighbourhood work on the Safer and Stronger Community Partnership. We have been able to raise awareness of the potential impact of welfare reform on the most vulnerable communities.

Together the Partnership is committed to working across sectors to ensure South Gloucestershire continues to remain a good place to live.

This year we have represented the sector on the West of England Learning Partnership pilot, which aimed to bring together community learning providers across sectors from the West of England to plan together, to ensure best use of resources and to learn from each other. While the pilot is now over and we await the evaluation, the partnership will continue to meet.

We have invested in our role as a training provider, funding a development worker from reserves. This has helped us to offer an enhanced programme of training, from first steps and engagement learning funded through South Gloucestershire Community Learning Service to a professional training programme, some of which had been funded through Learning Curve.





Training will remain a priority for us as an important way of helping local people improve their lives and also as a social enterprise that helps contribute to the running costs of the organisation. We have an internal team of qualified trainers and will continue to invest in staff development. One particular area of development this year has been in equalities training and we have two members of staff trained and passionate about delivering this work.

A further area of focus this year has been our family support work. Our Early Intervention work previously funded through the Youth Justice Board, received a significant cut in funding last year and unfortunately it was terminated this year. We funded a post from reserves so that we were

able to continue to support vulnerable children. We were hopeful that this would continue through Children in Need funding. We were very disappointed that our application was unsuccessful. We continue to be able to work with children aged 8 – 12 through our junior youth provision and some of our primary schools are supporting work with individuals.

As part of evaluating our current three year funding from the Big Lottery, we worked with families and the professionals who referred to our service. Families took part in an event at Avon Valley Country Park. With additional funding for evaluation from the Big Lottery, we were able to make a DVD which incorporated feedback from families and professionals.

We held a conference in May and were pleased to have the following key note speakers; Neil Cleeveley, Director of Policy & Communications at NAVCA and Tracy Allison, Head of Integrated Services for South Gloucestershire Council. This conference helped form the basis of another three year application to the Big Lottery, which I am pleased to say was successful. I would like to thank all of the partners who helped us with the application.

This year we were successful in attaining PQASSO Level 1, a quality award for which we have been working for a number of years. The Award has

helped us improve our record keeping and accountability and we were pleased to be the first organisation in South Gloucestershire to gain it. We are now working on level 2 which we hope to achieve by June 2014.

We worked with New Philanthropic Capital on clarifying our theory of change. This will help us be clearer about our impact in the community and social value. The staff team and Board are currently finalising this which will lead to significant changes in the way we work in the future.

As all organisations when funding is tighter we are beginning to diversify the way in which we fundraise, and think about income generation. In the coming year we will be setting up a philanthropic friends group and a volunteer led funding and support group. We are grateful for the support that Stephen Melanophy, a "Business Connector" for BITC has secured and we look forward to working closely with him over the coming year.

I'd like to finish by thanking the staff and the Board for their continued enthusiasm and hard work.

Julie Close

Chair's report

This year the Trustees decided to invest from reserves to protect core services. This decision was not made lightly, but taken to make sure that we retained skills within the organisation while South Gloucestershire Council reviewed its delivery of work with children, young people and families.

We are committed to working with vulnerable people within our communities and it is important to us that we were able to continue to deliver quality services and support at a time of uncertainty and economic downturn. Our investment meant that we have been able to successfully tender to take on running Patchway Youth Centre from April. We secured investment from the Social Investment Business which meant that we could review our business plan and make sure taking on the building was a sensible decision. Following an allocation of capital investment from South Gloucestershire Council to make sure that the building is fit for purpose, we will be able to provide a centre of excellence for young people.

We've also secured additional funding for youth work delivery, and will work alongside the Council youth team to provide a range of opportunities for young people across the week.

The Trustees took the decision to invest in two social enterprises. We saw the potential for income generation from responding to increased needs in the community

Andy Thomas

for locally delivered training. Investing in a training development co-ordinator has increased our income from both professional training courses and first step learning. This is an area that will develop further over the coming year.

The other enterprise is the community café. While in the first whole year of operation we saw a loss, the café is now generating a very small surplus and we are sure that with the dedicated team in place this will grow. The café is important in serving a social purpose, reducing isolation and providing a hub for the community. People of all ages meet in the café; we provide low cost, high quality food and look for every opportunity to promote healthy living and healthy lifestyles. We couldn't do this without the many volunteers who generously and regularly devote their time, and the skills and passion of the staff team.

We are grateful to be able to use Fareshare food – providing very high quality surplus stock from supermarkets which reduces their waste and provides us with an ever changing supply of ingredients. Running a community fruit and veg scheme has also been important in bringing fresh produce into the heart of this community.

As an organisation we have begun to adopt a more businesslike approach to generating income, including looking at where there are gaps in services and in how we can extend our

range of services, with people that can afford to pay for them contributing, helping us to reduce running costs and be more sustainable in the future.

The Trustees look forward in the coming year to working together with the staff team on implementing our Theory of Change.



Priority Neighbourhood Work

Southern Brooks is the community lead group for Priority Neighbourhood work in Filton and Patchway. This means we co-ordinate local action plans and meetings working with a range of partners.

There are 6 priority neighbourhoods across South Gloucestershire, identified through the Indices of Deprivation as areas in which some people don't achieve as much as in other areas of the authority.

The main themes are:

- Improving health
- Helping children and young people succeed
- Improving employment and personal finance
- Building a safer and stronger community
- Celebrating the towns as good places to live

"Filton Working Together"

Katie Donovan

In Filton, the Priority Neighbourhood work is branded as "Filton Working Together" to recognise the benefit of partnership working. Successes this year include:

✓ Older Peoples Network Meetings

This quarterly Network aims to identify gaps in provision for older people, improve current services, encourage best practise to meet today's challenging times. This year we've run sessions on completing successful grant applications, Safeguarding vulnerable adults, Community Advertising and Marketing, Sustainability and being fit for the future, Health Priority Plan Consultation.

Filton Success Story Conygre House – Saved!

After 4 years of campaigning and fundraising the 'Friends of Conygre House' have finally saved this 17th century building. Southern Brooks has worked with this group at various intervals throughout the 4 years helping them formalise as a group, implement a constitution, identifying funding and providing specialist knowledge and support at community events.

The Friends of Conygre House have recently campaigned successfully for Network Counselling to buy the building at a reduced cost. This will preserve the building and still allow for use of the grounds and parts of the building for community use.



✓ **Unsung Heroes Event** - celebrated work of volunteers in the Filton community otherwise not honoured for their efforts in encouraging community cohesion. Filton's Unsung Hero's event 2012 was an amazing success with over 50 nominations in four categories - under 18's, over 18's, Community group and Project. The Filton Working Together group intends to deliver this event bi-annually.

- ✓ **Get Hired** - our new employability event based in Filton was an opportunity to access new job vacancies, local businesses, organisations and employment agencies support as well as apprenticeships and volunteering opportunities. Welfare advisers were on hand to answer questions about how working may impact on benefits, tax credits, child care and other entitlements. Employability Skills Workshops delivered included CV building, apprentice schemes, confidence building, assertiveness and interview techniques.

In honour of International Women's day we held a Speakers Corner at this event. Inspirational female speakers shared their journey with other aspiring women throughout the day.

- ✓ **IMEX** - aimed to inspire and ignite the passions in women to try something different and venture into territory not otherwise explored. IMEX (Inspire, Motivate and Exchange) open mic session was held in celebration of International Women's Day to honour pioneering women throughout South Gloucestershire. Successful women came to share their journey and contribution to local community and commerce.
- ✓ **Filton Library – 'Drop In'** was started to ensure we were hearing and responding to community need. Taking place on Tuesday mornings, we consulted with residents on the 4 Priority Neighbourhood themes with a view to identify people who would like to be part of a regular peoples network. Over 50 consultations have been conducted so far this year.
- ✓ **Training** – This year Southern Brooks have put community learning on the map in Filton. Courses such as 'Employability', 'Parenting', 'Healthy Living' and 'Cookery' have been delivered with a diverse group of residence attending each course. These courses developed skills and confidence with a view to improve quality of life. Furthermore a learning survey was carried out in Filton which helped identify residents

learning needs. This data will help inform future training programmes delivered in Filton.

- ✓ **Viewpoint After School Play Sessions** - Have been running successfully for 3 years with the support of Southern Brooks administrative expertise, improving local community provision. Children and young people living in Filton flats can attend after school play art, craft, cooking or games sessions with a professional play ranger and the support of several resident volunteers. Viewpoint Action group recently saw the fruits of their labour realised when lottery funding was granted of up to £45,000 to build a play park. The children attending the play session helped consult on the plans and were a part of the development process.
- ✓ **Dreamscheme** – Following a grant from SGC, Dreamscheme in Filton took place in March and April 2012. A mural print was created by 18 local children and young people over a four week period. Along with the design work the young people developed skills to enable them to transfer the art onto the leisure centre wall over two days. Once the work was complete in true Dreamscheme style the young people got to go on a trip to Weston Super Mare for the day.



- ✓ **Filton Faith Fair** - In November a Filton Faith Fair Event was held at Filton Hill primary school. This involved a diverse group of parents who helped organise the event for parents, children and young people attending Filton Hill Primary school and the wider community. This presented an opportunity to continue the consultation on the Priority Neighbourhood work.
- ✓ **C&YP Network** – The first well attended C&YP network took place in January. At which time C&YP services in Filton did not know the outcome of the financial review. Six community interests groups were present and left better informed about the financial review and benefits of collaborative and partnership working.
- ✓ **'Come and Try Cycle Speed Way' event** - SBCP have supported the set up of a 'Come and Try Cycle Speed Way' event at Filton Elm Park. A recent consultation carried out at Filton festival revealed residents want clearer cycle paths and cycle routes throughout Filton. Sustrans attended the 'Come and Try Cycling Speed way' event where the community consultation continued.
- ✓ **Filton Festival** - During Filton festival the Filton Working Together group conducted a community consultation asking residents to 'tell us your priority' in four areas. Firstly 'Helping children and young people succeed', secondly 'Improving health', thirdly 'Building a safer and stronger community' and fourthly 'Employment and personal finance'. 45 residents from all different backgrounds and ages took the time to give us their opinion. This information is currently being added to current data and evaluated.
- ✓ **Family Trips** – In partnership with Merlin Housing Association, Southern Brooks were able to put on family summer trips to various locations for our vulnerable families. This year this opportunity included Filton residents. Families got to experience activities at the Forest of Dean, Bristol's M Shed and St Fagan's that they ordinarily would not have had the means, transport or inclination to enjoy.
- ✓ **Swim Run** - The 'Swim Run' concept for Filton was born at a Priority Neighborhood 'Health' themed meeting. An exciting project designed to provide a fantastic opportunity for local people to get fit. Swim run takes a holistic approach to improving health by increased agility and self esteem while allowing the body to move freely in the water. Filton Leisure centre inherited the equipment once the pilot finished and continue to run afternoon sessions.
- ✓ **What's On** - A pilot 'What's on' booklet was designed and produced for young people and families in Filton. This booklet lists all known activities taking place for children and parents in the Filton locality. Copies were handed out at Filton festival and hard copies were available locally. Families were better informed about up and coming activities taking place throughout the holidays.
- ✓ **Southern Brooks AGM** – Filton Hill Primary School hosted our AGM in 2012. The AGM was very well attended with Filton Priority Neighbourhood Partners manning stalls and sharing information on services. Southern Brooks staff worked with Filton residents to consult on the Filton Community plan. This event helped raise our presence in Filton and gave local residents better insight into our organisation.



Patchway “A Good Place To Live”

Karen Cheal

In Patchway, the Priority Neighbourhood work is branded as “Patchway – A good place to live” to recognise that the majority of people really like living here.

Successes

- Dreamscheme works with young people to improve their community. Southern Brooks joined forces with McDonalds, encouraging younger members of the community to look after their local environment.

The tidy team embarked on a litter picking challenge covering the whole of the Patchway area. A 50 strong team collected 60 bags of litter. A regeneration talk held by McDonalds and Southern Brooks at Coniston Community Centre also encouraged the community to take responsibility for keeping their neighbourhood litter-free.

Mike Guerin, local McDonald's Franchisee said:

“It was inspiring to see the local community pulling together to take action on litter that damages our environment. Litter is everyone's responsibility and through these events we wanted to generate awareness of the issue and encourage them to be more responsible.

I'd like to thank the young members of the community, Southern Brooks and Patchway Town Council and my staff for their hard work and for setting a good example of what can be achieved if people pull together.”



- Encouraged active involvement of local people in the Safer and Stronger meetings.
- Set up a drop-in job club for 18-25 years run at Coniston Community Centre giving support on CV building, job search and overcoming barriers to finding a job. Three local people are now volunteering; gaining new skills and confidence.
- Support of LGBT group to develop networks with key members and promote an understanding of the needs of the group. Outcome: the group now meet once a month.
- Continue to support local allotment group with a new community building gained support from Airbus to landscape area around the new building.
- Supported 2 local groups in securing £6000 from South Gloucestershire Capital Grant Programme. The outcome is that the Older People's centre now has new equipment which has enabled a new IT drop-in to be started, attended by 10 people each week.
- Cooking sessions with SGC: Cooking on a budget, How Healthy are you and Far Away Friday with 12 people attending, improving their understanding and knowledge of healthy eating and budgeting. Outcome: additional funding gained £1471 for cooking equipment to start a Let's Get Patchway cooking project.

- Story telling with older people at the monthly Sunday Tea Party. The event was attended by 40 people, supported by Patchway Community College with funding gained through the Arts Council. Outcome: 2 young people now volunteer from the school at the tea party.

£500 was raised to provide a Christmas party for the older people that attend the tea party. Supported the volunteers over the last 15 months plus helping them manage finances. Outcome: Tea party is self-funding and continues to run every month with between 30-40 people attending; reducing isolation and loneliness in older people.

- Events have taken place to improve community cohesion and engagement including a family fun day at Coniston Parade, Jubilee Celebrations, Coniston Christmas Fair, Family Trips, Coniston open day, and Patchway Festival.
- Improved the information available to the local people through a joint newsletter with Coniston Community Centre groups and regular articles in Patchway People.
- People from Patchway attended the "Get Hired" event in Filton
- Worked with City of Bristol College to set up a Job Club at Patchway Library. Outcome: more opportunities for unemployed people to gain support around job searches. The job club has been running for 18 months with a 10 week rolling program with between 8-10 people attending each session.
- Worked with Library to find an IT volunteer to support the work club at Patchway on a Friday. To help clients set up email addresses and compile CVs. Outcome: the group is better supported and the tutor is able give more support. A number of people have now found work as a result of attending the course.

- 20 people from the BME community are better informed about health issues following attendance at a "Round the World" food event organised in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council and Unity Community Group.

- Worked with South Gloucestershire Council to run a focus group meeting on the theme of children and young people and health to find out how to improve services locally. The Local school attended with 10 young people along with 18-25 Independent People and local families giving them feedback on what was important to them. Feedback included: more help with home work after school, more computers and homework club. We have now gained funding for laptops and a resource centre to start a homework club.

- Improved working with staff from a housing association following attendance at Hate Crime meetings. There is now a better understanding between agencies of anti-social behaviour and partners working better together.

- Identified and sourced training for 3 community groups on financial management of groups and generating income for your group.



Charlton Hayes, Patchway

Charlton Hayes is a new development – currently there are over 300 occupied dwellings in the development and on completion there will be 2200 homes. A new community development post started in January 2013.

The main aim for the Community Development Worker (CDW) is to engage with local residents, to create opportunities for residents to meet their neighbours and to enable residents to set up their own local projects and so foster a sense of belonging and community identity. An additional aim is to enable residents from Charlton Hayes to engage in the community life of established Patchway.

Successes

- ✓ Over 60% of the residents have had a doorstep visit from the CDW and a welcome information letter and pack about Southern Brooks and service provision in Patchway. As a direct result of this work, a few children attended the Patchway Dreamscheme project in February 2013.
- ✓ A Charlton Hayes community newsletter was produced and distributed to all residents with local information and an update on developments on-site. This came about as a direct result of feedback from doing door step visits. The feedback so far has been good with residents asking for the next one!
- ✓ In March a barbeque was organised with Sovereign for new residents as a meet and greet activity. Over 20 local residents attended this event. An organising group, with one local resident was formed to plan a Charlton Hayes Fun Day in July as part of the Patchway Festival.
- ✓ Working in partnership with Patchway Library, I have set up a monthly coffee morning to provide a means of engaging with Charlton Hayes residents to provide information.

Winsome Barrett-Muir

- ✓ A new Neighbourhood Watch group has been set up with the support of the CDW. The benefit of this group is that it can be a means of residents getting to interact with each other and so build social capital. I am currently in the process of supporting the formation of a further watch group.

Charlton Hayes is more culturally diverse demographically than the established areas of Patchway. This along with social and economic diversity is a real strength that will make this community a joy.

However, as a new development there are issues that need addressing in order to reduce the risk of alienation and distrust. Building social infrastructure using a community development model is one way that has been shown in many countries to be successful.



Bradley Stoke Community Development work

Winsome Barrett-Muir

We received 4 funding grants from Bradley Stoke Town Council to carry out specific community development work.

Toddler Group Support: To build sustainability in the leadership of the 7 toddler groups in the town. 4 groups were able to remain open and 3 of these had change of leadership at least once, with one group having 3 leadership changes in a year - so we recruited new leaders. A network meeting for all groups in Bradley Stoke looked at funding opportunities, starting a leaders support group and introduce them to the infrastructure worker who will offer them support in the future.

Community Group Support for 20 groups: Fifteen groups were sent a basic health checks that asked them to look at various aspects of group life such as their funding, membership, venue suitability, constitution and publicity for their groups. The aim was to identify strengths and weaknesses. We were able to provide funding advice and signposting to relevant training and met with groups that we hadn't worked with before. Conflict resolution was a big issue this year for several groups with the real possibility of some groups closing down and leaders leaving. As a result, one group needed extended support to rewrite their constitution.

Dreamscheme: We carried out 2 large Dreamscheme projects during the August and October school holidays. We were supported by various partners including Meadowbrook Primary School and Bradley Stoke Community School. Further funding to deliver the project was provided by Knightstone Housing.

The young people chose to do a community art project. We hired a graffiti artist who supported the young people to design and spray-painted their own art projects – the results of which can be seen at the skate park and in Jordan Walk. For both projects we recruited and worked with over 32 young people over a 10 day period- that is over 28 local families.



Case study: Under 5 provision
The imminent closure of the Sure Start Centre resulted in a resident needing support to bring a case to a government minister. We supported this by carrying out a community consultation to review Under 5 provisions in the town. We partnered with various stakeholders and residents to carry this out. Over 20 local stakeholders attended the event. As a result we were able to:

1. Map under 5 provisions in the town
2. Provide an information leaflet listing all services for the under 5's
3. Create a toddler tool kit for leaders

Several of the parents got involved with the Dreamscheme project as volunteers. Feedback from one young person was that they were proud that they have made the town nicer with their own work! The rewards chosen were water-sports and laser quest!! This year the young people worked hard, grew in confidence and learnt the positive benefits of volunteering!

Community Consultation: aimed to gauge needs and areas for future community development work in the town. To be statistically valid we needed over 300 respondents. A steering group of active local residents helped design the survey. We used Survey Monkey and paper copies and over 380 Bradley Stoke residents completed the survey including over 40 paper questionnaires from the over 60 age group.

One outstanding concern was regarding the Three Brooks Nature Reserve foot path which many residents felt needed repairs, and also the issue around dogs fouling on the cycle path. Many residents also felt that more was needed for older teens and older adults. The results were presented to the Town Council with the hope that they would be able to engage with residents on the issues raised.

Training

Helen Humphries

Southern Brooks has seen a good year for training with an increased number of courses, partnerships and some great learner journeys. Our aim is to provide:

- Adult learning courses to build local skills, aspirations and confidence
- Courses that are wanted and needed by the local community
- A Professional training programme for those working within communities
- An income, as a Social Enterprise, where any profits generated help us provide additional services for the benefit of the local community

Successes

- ✓ Raised £14,000 for new community IT room with a training programme for volunteers to be able to provide free, open access IT, drop-in sessions
- ✓ Our highest enrolment levels yet with over 150 enrolments on courses
- ✓ Many new courses including: Employability (Filton), Facilitation Skills, Advice & Guidance, Dealing with ADHD, ESOL for Tenants
- ✓ Two Diploma in Youth Work courses with a range of new partners
- ✓ Being asked to represent the South Gloucestershire Voluntary and Community Sector on the West of England Learning Partnership to build the potential of adult learning locally
- ✓ New training partnerships with Creative Youth Network, 1625IP, Sovereign Housing Association, Merlin Housing Association, SGC Health Improvement, SGC Environmental Health, SGC Workforce Development, Job Centre.

"Enjoyed the course a great deal. It's helped me educate my kids in trying more foods. Wish it went on for longer"
Cookery & Healthy Eating



- ✓ Success of the Health Champions course last year has now been recognised with the recruitment of a Health Champions Volunteer Co-ordinator, to work with the Champions to increase health awareness in Patchway
- ✓ Successful tendering for funding from the SGC Community Learning Service and Learning Curve
- ✓ Great learner progression routes including: setting up own child-minding business, starting a weekly community craft group, finding jobs after being unemployed for over 3 years, volunteering at community café and attending more courses!

Employability course success!

One learner gained his first job since a car crash a year earlier and having to teach himself to walk and talk again.

Originally a referral from the Job Centre, he completed his CV and covering letter on the course and was invited to 3 interviews as a result!

By the end of the course, he had started his full-time role in a printers!



Infrastructure Development Work

Kate O'Brien

We work with voluntary and community groups in Severn Vale Locality to strengthen and be fit for the future; become actively engaged in the development of policy and strategy; and to become financially sustainable.

We work in partnership with CVS South Gloucestershire, The Chase and Kings Forest Community Project and South Gloucestershire Volunteer Centres, with funding from the Local Strategic Partnership to build a strong Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in South Gloucestershire.

Using the disciplines of the NCVO Sustainable Funding Programme we support organisations to develop a Sustainable Funding Plan to diversify their income streams, reduce costs and find ways to collaborate with similar organisations. This year we started to develop methods to ensure sustainability of the service, to step away from a reliance on grant funding and move towards traded income.

Successes

- ✓ 65 groups have been supported
- ✓ 39 groups have attended network meetings
- ✓ Over 100 groups filled in the CVS survey that helped identify future support needs
- ✓ 478 groups received and read 8 e-bulletins



Case Study: YKnot European Scout

Working together, we have developed a sustainable funding plan to generate income to fund equipment to enable their regular outdoor activities programme and ensure subscriptions and membership fees cover costs. Income generation to date has been through: contributions through HSBC corporate social responsibility (due to a HSBC employee involved in the group as a volunteer parent); recent grant funding success has been through Lottery Awards for All and are now seeking other opportunities identified in their grant funding plan.

A diverse approach to income generation is also being explored across the gift economy through: corporate sponsorship; community fundraising events, such as auction of promises, pamper and race nights; and sponsored outdoor pursuits events; online fundraising through www.easyfundraising.co.uk. Potential trade opportunities are also being explored such as: corporate away days; equipment hire; and life skills coaching.

We identified the social benefit of the group's activities on people's lives they are involved to help funders and investors to see the value of their contribution; linked their work to the National Play Strategy to provide a context for their work; raised the profile of the group through publicity and marketing of its achievements; investigated Charity registration to allow access to grant funding opportunities and registering for GiftAid will also bring 25% more income.

Group leaders have said it has 'made them think about the financial stability of the organisation, what we do is secure, but we need to think about our organisation in a broader sense' and that work with the group has been a 'massive help for groups like ours, who need guidance in the area of fundraising'.

Family Services

**Corrina Wood,
Family Services Manager**

**Team: Kim Morton, Yvonne Robson, Zasha Webb, Tendai Pawadyira,
Katie Donovan, Giles Spear, Cheryl Godsell, Ternaya Cummings**



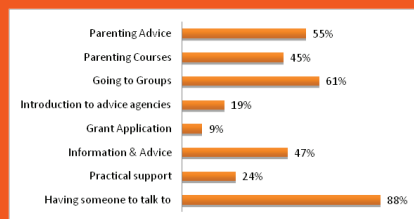
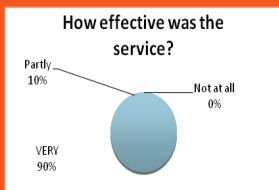
It has been a challenging and exciting year for the Family Services Team. This year saw the final year for the Big Lottery funding and with some additional funding we were able to take 40 families to Avon Valley Country Park to evaluate the service. Every one enjoyed the day and we received some great feedback which will help us to develop the service further. We also produced a DVD to promote the work and held an event entitled 'The Gilded Cage' which aimed to look at the impact a consumerist society has on 'family'.

Giles continued his work with Merlin tenants across South Gloucestershire, building strong links with Merlin staff and holding drop-ins at one of the hostels. Staff also attended the Merlin Family Fun Day held at Cattle Country providing a fun craft activity for children.

Giles has also continued his work with local schools, including St. Michaels Primary School and Charborough Road Primary School, providing support to families with pupils attending the school. Through this work he has been able to support with Parenting Courses and provide drop in sessions and coffee mornings. We have also provided a Dramatherapy service to Filton Hill Primary School, which has been very positive and our therapist has been able to offer therapeutic sessions to 8 children.

We have made new links with Knightstone Housing who alongside Bradley Stoke Town Council, has very kindly supported our Bouncing Babies group this year. Cheryl continues to support the group and is in contact with around 50 families throughout the area. We ran four family trips throughout the summer again this year, visiting The Forest of Dean, Barry Island, Weston super Mare and Noah's Ark. The trips were thoroughly enjoyed by those attending.

The team has also been involved in providing a pilot group 'Cook Out!' aimed at supporting fathers to become more involved in parenting and family life. Funded by Almondsbury Charities this work has enabled us to further develop our work with men.



Katie Donovan joined our South Gloucestershire Family Intervention Team and proved to be a great asset to the team. The economic climate has had a dramatic impact on the families we support with a 20% increase in those in need of financial support. Many have benefited from our link with DHL and the Foodbank and have received food parcels and vouchers throughout the year.

Ternaya provided one to one support for 19 young people over the year and worked with Winterbourne Academy to provide group work for 6 young people. The group was aimed at supporting young people with managing their emotions and friendships.

We continue to make strong links with local churches, schools and communities with amazing results at Christmas through our annual Hamper Appeal. This year we worked in partnership with The Edge Church, who provided us with the space and volunteers to enable us to deliver parcels to more families than ever before.

Successes for the year

- Family Support, funded through the Big Lottery, supporting 100 families throughout the year. Key issues; Parental Well-Being, Behaviour and family relationships
- Early Intervention Advisers, funded through South Gloucestershire Council, supporting 69 families throughout the year. Key issues; Behaviour, Parenting Skills & Child Health and Well-Being
- 19 Young People receiving one-to-one mentoring support
- 11 men attending 'Cook Out!' sessions
- Merlin Support Adviser, working with 12 families throughout the year. Key issue; Behaviour & Parenting Skills
- St. Michaels Parent Support Adviser, working with 13 families throughout the year. Key issues; Behaviour & Parenting Skills and supported the deliver of 3 courses for parents.
- Provision of a counselling service with 25 families receiving additional therapeutic support throughout the year
- 18 Families attending trips throughout the summer
- Bouncing Babies group for parents and carers with under 1's, funded by Bradley Stoke Town Council, in contact with 109 families throughout the year
- 89 Families received Christmas Hampers and 25 families received Food Parcels throughout the year in partnership with local churches, DHL and the Foodbank.
- 2 Social Work Students on placement with the team from Bristol University

Feedback

"Without the support of our family worker I do not know where our family would be today."

"Just knowing I have someone to turn to if I need it – support is very important"

"Always nice to have someone to talk to about no matter what by phone, text or in person. Has made a big difference to my family"



Plans for the future

- To continue to provide support for families based on their individual needs
- Continue to develop the service further
- To develop a volunteer buddy system to build capacity within the team and provide low level ongoing support needs to families
- To develop a step parenting course
- To provide group support to fathers
- To focus on providing families the on-going skills they need to maintain change

Patchway Detached Youth Provision

Aims

Over the past year Patchway Detached youth provision has aimed to:

- ✓ **Engage with young people in Patchway aged 11 +, who are not taking part in positive activities**
- ✓ **Enable young people to take part in projects which are led by their needs and aspirations**
- ✓ **Provide young people with appropriate information and advice.**
- ✓ **Encourage their participation in local projects, youth centre and fora e.g. Youth Forum and Safer and Stronger Communities**

Successful Project work

- We have met these aims mainly through two youth sessions a week: Monday evening On The Ball project at Scott Park and Thursday evening youth café at Coniston Community Centre.
- Each of these sessions have attracted up to 25 young people, mainly the 14 to 17 age group. Both projects have involved addressing personal, social and health needs through the safe and 'neutral' activities of football and cooking. This approach has allowed for some specific group work on issues such as drugs and alcohol.
- After three years of effort, we have succeeded in forming a football team and started playing well organized matches, such as against the Police at Filton WISE sports complex in December.
- Our annual evaluation has shown how much young people value our work and have changed positively.

Mark Seed, Children's Services Manager

Most young people said the projects had helped them:

- ✓ become healthier, including in mind as well as body (81%)
- ✓ stay away from unhealthy behaviour, like smoking, abusing alcohol or trouble (60%)
- ✓ become a more equal and fair person (75%)
- ✓ get to know young people with different abilities and from different cultures and communities (69%).

- We have also undertaken case studies as part of qualitative evaluation. This is a comment from one of our young people in most need:

"I'm not getting into trouble any more since I started working with youth workers. They helped me know what was right and got me talking. Before I got into trouble for my mouth and a bit of fighting. Instead of shouting at you like everyone else, youth workers talk to you like you're a real person. Youth work has had a big impact because I've had somewhere to hang out and someone to talk to."

Staff recordings and feedback from young people show that young people have gained skills in:

- healthy cooking and eating
- sports, recreation and getting fit
- developing positive relationships with their family and in and out of school
- staying occupied in a healthy way
- learning about / reducing use of drugs and alcohol
- preparing for work and engaging in apprenticeships.



Street work:

- ✓ The Thursday evening youth café has been followed by detached work on the street in 'hot spots' around Patchway where young people gather, such as Rodway Rd, Gorse Covert, Scott Park and the Parade. This has been a crucial way of getting disaffected young people involved in project work.
- ✓ The street work has also provided young people with much needed information and advice on a range of issues, such as education and training, sex and relationships, drugs and alcohol, employment and housing.

Participation:

- ✓ The youth projects have been set up and led by young people themselves, according to what they have said they need and want. Most of the young people involved have been vulnerable and at risk of offending and exclusion. Many of them have not taken part in any other provision.
- ✓ By building relationships carefully over time, our dedicated youth staff have empowered young people not only to get involved in project work, but also to stand up in front of town and county councillors and ensure support and funding for their activities.
- ✓ Working with young people we have also built a new Facebook page, which has been essential for many young people to find out about activities and have a say.

We are very grateful to
Patchway Town Council for
their continued support

Consultation:

- Young people were well prepared to speak out at the South Gloucestershire Area Forum thanks to the consultation programme we successfully carried out in March 2013.

Through a series of activities run with our Community Development team, on the street and in Patchway youth centre, we consulted 48 children and young people about what youth provision they need. This important piece of work has helped to set the scene for youth work in Patchway, both at Patchway Youth Centre and in open settings. It was made possible thanks to good partnership with the local Police, who funded some extra sessions.

- We have also worked in partnership with Merlin Housing to empower Patchway young people to say what they want for the forthcoming developments at The Parade.

Above target!

- ✓ **Patchway Detached supported 214 young people in 2012/13, up from 178 the previous year.**
- ✓ **These young people attended our provision a total of 1211 times, well above our annual target.**

We have a good working relationship with most of these young people, so that they attend projects for weeks at a time.

Junior Youth Work

Ternaya Cummings

We continue to develop services that support children and young people in Patchway to help engage with children early enough to prevent them becoming involved in anti-social behaviour.

Our aims this year were:

- To run two centre based sessions for young people with a core group of 24 young people aged 8-12: 84 sessions have run at Coniston Community Centre and Patchway Common Pavillion since June 2012 with over 125 different young people attending. Average attendance has been approximately 25-30 on a Wednesday and lower on a Saturday with a broad age range and even split of males/females.
 - For young people to develop skills such as negotiation, team work, communication and conflict resolution - short workshops are run weekly on a number of themes. The purpose of these workshops are to enable young people to make positive choices, share their feelings, have an input into sessions and deal with any conflict. Team activities are run on a regular basis to help young people to develop their negotiation skills, team work and communication. The young people are able to cook their tea every week which is teaching them life skills for the future.
 - For young people to be better informed on a range of social education such as relationships, equalities and making positive choices - the youth groups workshops are having a positive impact on the young people attending. Open to all, we are working towards equality by catering for some young people who have varied diets and/or have restrictions due to their religion.
- For young people attending the groups to have an opportunity for accreditation - 20 young people have completed at least 1 unit of the South Gloucestershire Award. Unfortunately South Gloucestershire council no longer offer this service free of charge.
 - To provide an opportunity for young people to be able to volunteer and make a positive contribution - four young people are volunteering at the youth groups - a sixth form student at Patchway Community College, an A Level student from SGS College, a local young man who has recently turned 18 but is currently unemployed and is hoping to undertake Intro to Youth Work course in October 2013 and a 15 year old student who attends Patchway Community College. We have two adult volunteers who help on a regular basis.
 - We regularly ask the young people for their feedback from the sessions and their parents. Over 95% say they enjoy coming to meet new friends, learn to cook and being involved in activities. One parent recently stated that having this group really helped her spend quality time with her younger son as her 10 year old is on the Autistic spectrum and demands a lot of her time. This particular mum also commented about her 10-year-olds feeling safe in the group.

Southern Brooks is committed to making sure that young people in Patchway have opportunities to get involved in a range of activities and be supported to reach their full potential. Thank you to Patchway Town Council for funding this work.



Precious Time Project

Kate O'Brien

The aim of this project is to reduce isolation and loneliness for the over 50's in particularly in the Patchway area. Isolation and loneliness is often associated with later life. A bereavement, illness, loss of friends, lack of transport, redundancy or retirement are just a few of the many contributing factors that can cause isolation and loneliness. The effect can be enormous in terms of social, emotional and physical well being.

Successes...

- Patchway Day Centre now hosts two new regular morning activities, 'Men in Sheds' (now operating from Scots Park) and 'Computer Surfers' and is due to host another 'All Sewn Up' group.
- Support is also being offered to the existing Luncheon Club to ensure financial sustainability through volunteer support.
- **Men in Sheds** – Project to bring retired gentlemen together 'shoulder to shoulder' through practical wood work activities, in a 'shed' environment, reducing social isolation amongst the retired Patchway population and diverting wood from landfill.
- **Computer Surfers** – enable access to computers for people who may not have used a computer before, in an informal club environment, learning at the individuals own pace, with an aim to develop a self-supporting social group.
- **All Sewn Up** – A group where non or experienced sewers can join other likeminded people to share ideas and get creative with fabric. Sewing machines and donated resources are available for individuals looking to take part in a fun and social activity.
- **Patchway Older People network** - Network for organisations working with older people to provide support, governance advice and workshops on relevant issues. Working towards a strong Day Centre management committee. This network is also planned to engage groups with strategic development such



as the: Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy; and the Disability Equality Network. Continually sharing good practice amongst groups supporting older people – work is with Severn Vale Infrastructure Development worker to establish. Existing group provision across Patchway has been mapped; working on promotion enabling groups to be more welcoming and lead to more people getting involved.

Plans for next phase of project

- Increase number of participants to new groups through publicity, especially under-represented groups in Patchway
- 'New to retirement' event planned with project partners to promote group activities to newly retired individuals. Patchway event planned as part of Discover Festival September 2013.
- Quarterly Patchway Older People network meeting – to bring together community organisations to strengthen and support more individuals.
- Establish management committee at Casson Activity Centre through group participants ensuring their governance; policies; finances; funding plan; further programme of activities for the centre
- Precious Time website – Contribute further case studies: Coniston Tea Party, Last of Summer Wine group; Singing; and LGBT group.
- Precious Time project and steering group meeting contributions
- Intergenerational projects – Some people have said that they do not feel safe in the area. We are planning intergenerational projects, through Dreamscheme and involving more young people in the Sunday Tea Party, to break down the barriers between ages.
- Promote and ensure local groups are on 'Well Aware' database

Brooks Cafe

Corrina Buchanan



This year we have recruited a new chef, Lee Hider, to join our team of staff and volunteers. Lee is an experienced chef who loves the challenge of creating new recipes.

Working with Sue, the team have organised many special events including a Mexican evening, Curry night and Caribbean Barbecue.

A range of new groups and activities meet in the cafe every day and we run holiday activities for parents and children. We have also gained a Breastfeeding Friendly Award.

The cafe and staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for people of all ages to meet – whether you want a three course meal or a cup of tea where you know you will always have someone to talk to, Brooks Café is the place to be.

We provide catering for parties and meetings that take place at Coniston Community Centre and can also cater for events.

We have a dedicated team of volunteers and we couldn't run the café without them. We are able to provide training in Basic Food Hygiene and hope to run a greater range of courses next year.

This year we have set up a community fruit and veg scheme and have recently started an allotment swap shop – bring in your overproduced vegetables and we'll trade them with you for a hot drink or bowl of soup.

Brooks Cafe

**Coniston Community Centre,
The Parade Patchway**



**Open Monday–Friday
8.30am —2.30pm**

**Healthy Options and
Delicious Homemade Treats**



Food made fresh to take away or eat in



Soft play area for children

**Activities throughout the week
and during school holidays**

**Great food at fantastic
prices!**

Making a difference
In the community since 1988
Charity No. 1086485



**Southern
Brooks**



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Financial Statement

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

Abbreviated Income & Expenditure Account

For year ended 31st March 2013

	2013	2012
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Grants	387,916	460,835
Donations	3,505	20,049
Resources from Charitable Activities	149,868	176,213
Investment Income	669	50
	<u>541,958</u>	<u>657,147</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Charitable Expenses	540,097	791,426
Administration & Other Costs	5,555	12,244
	<u>545,652</u>	<u>803,670</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR	-3,694	-146,523
Total Funds at 1 April 2012	58,195	204,718
Total Funds at 31 March 2013	<u>54,501</u>	<u>58,195</u>

Balance Sheet At 31st March 2013

	2013 £	2012 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	13,649	19,384
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock	200	-
Debtors	39,228	26,495
Cash at bank	122,571	156,785
	<u>161,999</u>	<u>183,280</u>
CREDITORS		
Creditors & accruals	25,147	48,469
NET CURRENT ASSETS	136,852	134,811
Defined Benefit Pension Deficit **	-118,000	-96,000
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities	<u>32,501</u>	<u>58,195</u>
CHARITY FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	4,304	96,272
Designated Funds		28,496
Restricted Funds	146,197	29,427
Pension Fund Deficit	-118,000	-96,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>32,501</u>	<u>58,195</u>

Full Accounts available for inspection upon request

www.southernbrooks.org.uk



Brooks Café
07969 627104

Community Development
01454 868570

Training
01454 868570

Bouncing Babies
01454 867076

Family Support
01454 867076

Youth Work
01454 868570

Support for Groups
01454 868570



With Thanks to:



Almondsbury Charity



The **co-operative** membership
Community Fund



Rolls-Royce



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