

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

Annual Report



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

Making a difference in the community since 1988

2013-2014

www.southernbrooks.org.uk

Trustees

Andy Thomas - Chair

Elaine Martin

Lucy Hamid

David Bell

Tom Aditya - Treasurer until Oct 13

Steve Wood until October 13

Stan Sims until October 13

Joanne Ward - Vice Chair until Oct 13

Sue Jaques from Oct 13 Treasurer from Nov 13

Sarah Buckle From Oct 13 Vice Chair from Nov 13

Melissa Jones from Oct 13

Martin Corbett from Oct 13

This year has been an exciting time of growth. We've secured a new three year grant from the Big Lottery for family support, enabling us to provide additional services, securing existing jobs and creating two new posts.

We've developed our partnership working particularly around work with young people.

In December we secured funding from the Cabinet Office from their Youth Social Action Journey Fund. Working in partnership with Creative Youth Network, Young Bristol and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College this new contract has the ultimate goal of encouraging more young people to be involved in the National Citizens Scheme. It's an exciting and ambitious project that will touch the lives of over 700 young people. As the lead partners we've recruited an excellent new staff team, ably led by Laura Colman. We are sure that this partnership work will lead to new contracts in the future.

Our Priority Neighbourhood work has continued in Patchway and Filton and we've been working closely with Staple Hill Regeneration Partnership to support the development of work with children and young people. They now have an established sub group, an action plan and we've been able to secure additional

funding to enable local people to be involved in the possible running of the unused wing of an Old Primary School as a youth centre. We've been keen to raise awareness of the difficulties our most vulnerable people are facing with welfare reform.

We've been very grateful for the ongoing support of Patchway Town Council for our youth and community work in the town. We now have a lease for Patchway Youth Centre and with the support of the town council and South Gloucestershire Council have been able to make significant improvements to the building. It is now used every day by a pre-school, the Judo club continues to grow and develop and Infinity meet there on a Sunday. Young people in Patchway have access to a good range of activities with provision by South Gloucestershire Council and Southern Brooks, as well as detached work in parks etc.

Our community café has benefited from the support of a strong team of volunteers, as well as dedicated and enthusiastic staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them. Over the year the café has begun to cover its costs with the team opening some evenings as "themed restaurant" nights. Hugely popular with local people and great fun!



Partnership work has continued to underpin the way we work, with existing partnerships with Merlin Housing Society and Sovereign continuing to fund work in their communities. We work closely with CVS South Gloucestershire and Chase and Kingsforest Community Project to provide support to voluntary and community groups to help them improve their governance, become more sustainable and to be involved in consultations. I've continued to sit on the Compact Implementation Group which has worked together with our statutory partners to make sure that cuts in funding don't disproportionately impact on the sector. We are grateful to South Gloucestershire Council and other statutory partners for the way they have worked with is in such a difficult financial climate.

Our work with older people to reduce social isolation has increased this year. Through the hard work and enthusiasm demonstrated by Eleanor for the Dementia work funding has been secured for a further 2 years. Our Precious Time work continues and will grow in the coming financial year with new funding from Lloyds TSB to set up a Community Connector scheme, aimed at training a team of volunteers to support people who are isolated in the community.

Training remains a priority area for us, particularly as unemployment in Patchway has increased at a faster rate than in other neighbourhoods.

The team have worked hard to put on courses that will help people build skills and confidence, and continued to provide professional and accredited training courses in Youth and Community Work. We sit on the West of England Community Learning Partnership and it's been really positive this year to see improved partnership working between organisations.

Finally this year we have been working hard to clarify our Theory of Change – what is the ultimate goal for our work, and how will we know that we are making the difference that we want to make. Trustees and the staff team finalised our ultimate goal as "Helping people and communities fulfil their potential". We will achieve this through the pathways of education and training, health and wellbeing and sustainable communities. This has led to improved cross team working, a clearer outcome framework and the commissioning of a new database to help us more effectively track and record progress.

I'd like to say a very big thank you to the staff team, volunteers and the Trustees for their support and commitment.

Julie Close



Chairs Report

Andy Thomas

I am proud to have been Chair of Southern Brooks Community Partnership this year and as we enter our 25th year to look back and reflect at our achievements.

Securing funding from the Youth Social Action Fund on the very last working day of December was a big boost and provided a happy (and busy) start to the New Year. We were one of only 14 successful applications to this Cabinet Office fund and the targets are ambitious. It was a good example of partnership working with Creative Youth Network, Young Bristol and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College. The project is a creative way of engaging young people in community activity and we look forward to the final evaluation later this year. The timescales have been challenging and we have recruited skilled new staff to manage and deliver the work.

The Trustees are very pleased that our Dementia work has had such an impact in Patchway and we are looking forward to seeing it develop across South Gloucestershire.

The new funding from the Big Lottery for a further three years will enable us to continue to grow our existing service and provide additional support for those families who face the biggest barriers to overcoming the issues that are impacting on their lives. We will be also be able to put in place a family buddying scheme to provide a volunteering structure

for people that want to use their skills and experience to support local families.

The café has made significant advancement towards becoming sustainable, as well as providing a much needed service to the community. We are confident that it will continue to develop.

I am pleased that the Board has worked together this year with the staff team to clarify and implement our Theory of Change. The Board always value the opportunity to understand the work of the team in greater details and our annual joint day is enjoyed by all. We are going to hold two joint sessions in future years, so that together we face the challenges and find the solutions to take the organisation into the future.

Undoubtedly we face a difficult period as the recession continues to impact on the amount of funding available through the local authority and increases competition for charitable trust funding. Over the past year we have actively pursued closer working with partner organisations. I welcome the opportunity to continue discussions and look for ways of ensuring that resources are able to reach the most disadvantaged people in our communities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Trustees, the staff and volunteers and our funders for making our work possible.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Jaques

I took on the role of Treasurer following the AGM in November 2013. The challenges facing the organisation are not insignificant and the Trustees are working with Avon Pension Fund to minimise the deficit on the Pension Fund and agree a repayment plan. In common with other VCS organisations, we face the difficulties of needing to make sure that our funding is used to provide high quality services and to maintain an adequate infrastructure so that we are able to function effectively.

We know that we need a more diverse income base. Over the coming year we will continue to build on the work that we've started this year to connect with businesses and raise our profile with people that want to invest in their local communities. We will look at new ways of earning income and whether we are able to develop a range of services that can underpin our core funding.

I would like to thank the project managers for the way they manage their budgets and our book keeper for the level of detail he is able to provide for the Board. Finally to our accountants Bishop Fleming for their audit report.



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 six 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”

Southern Brooks is the community lead organisation for Filton Priority Neighbourhood work, and is commissioned to deliver community engagement and development within the priority neighbourhood area of Filton. We have been working in the town for 6 years and have good networks with a range of agencies and an established relationship with the town council.

Key Achievements:

- Filton Flyer 555 bus service is now up and running and filling the gap of commercial routes in the area. Residents that live in the Conygre Ward now have access to local shops, the library, health care service and other bus routes.



Katie Donovan

- Three task and finish groups have been established and are currently working towards establishing a Credit Union, Mediation Service and Domestic Violence programme in Filton.
- A group of student volunteers have trained as Anti Hate Crime Ambassadors at Abbeywood Community School. They all have a better understanding of equality and diversity issues and they are equipped to support any student experiencing bullying as a result of a protected characteristic, as outlined in the Equalities Act 2010 i.e. ethnicity, age or sexuality.

“Filton Working Together”

Future Plans

An annual review meeting was held in March during which over 30 agencies and residents attended, three new projects for each PN theme was identified.

The Filton Working Together group will now focus on the following:

Safer and Stronger

- Explore the potential for a community mediation scheme.
- Improve reporting of Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences.
- Set up a shop watch scheme/Reduce bike crime on academic premises.

Employment and Personal Finance

- Set up a credit union.
- Target support through training with SGS College, Community learning service and SBCP training.
- Promote volunteering, apprenticeships and employment opportunities within academic and community based establishments.

Children and Young People

- Address the safety of primary school students and residents in the Filton Conygre Ward. Limited parking spaces and poor traffic management is a growing concern.
- Deliver workshops on safe Social Media use for parents and children. Cyber bullying and inappropriate use of social media is becoming a growing concern in schools and the wider community.

Health

- Organise a task and finish group to identify the issues that are affecting older people in Filton. Isolation and loneliness is an ever increasing concern with high levels of trips and falls.
- Increase knowledge of existing services on obesity. Increase outdoor activity for children and young people in the Filton Area.
- Set up a project to tackle drug and alcohol use in Filton. D&A use is having a detrimental effect on personal wellbeing and mental health in Filton.

Case Study

During the Filton Working Together ‘Drop in’ at Filton Library residents raised concerns about the lack of bus service in the Conygre Ward. This was limiting resident’s ability to access other parts of Filton and services such as the shop, fresh fruit and vegetables, visits to the library and much more. This data was taken to the ‘Filton Working Together’ steering group to explore a solution. We successfully bid for £50,000 from the Sustainable Travel grant to buy a community bus. After a very successful publicity campaign, every household received through door, a free pen with the route and timetable attached. The bus is now well and truly part of Filton’s daily fabric...



Patchway “A Good Place To Live”

Karen Cheal

Patchway PN work aims to listen to the needs of the community and work with other agencies to meet these needs, reduce the deprivation indicator and make Patchway a better place to live, giving people the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Key Achievements:

- Set up Patchway Drop-in Job Club as a result of feedback from residents
- Secured funding for six community groups
- Supported the setting up of home work club
- Supported setting up ADHD support group
- Ran International Women’s Day theme “Inspiring Change” with over 100 people attending
- Recruited new volunteers to support a number of different projects
- Held 3 events Health, Safer and stronger, Employment and personal finance and Children and Young People
- Ran Dreamscheme so young people gained a sense of respect for their community. 29 young people attending supported by 13 volunteers
- Family Fun Day focus supported by 2 Heath Champions promoting healthy lifestyles.



Case Study

Worked with a Patchway resident who has been unemployed all his life, who was looking for support to find work. He had very little IT skills, low level English and Maths, a lack of self-esteem and low level mental health issues. What we did:

- Supported him at Patchway Drop-in Job Club,
- Worked together on an action plan which included improving his IT skills, training and volunteering.
- Identified the type of work he wanted to do.
- Found him a volunteering opportunity with the local council where he attends one day a week, helping the ground staff.
- Identified additional training.
- Worked with him to improve his self-esteem.
- Supported the transition to come off of benefits.

Outcome

- Employed full time as a Groundsman for local council.
- College course starting September supported by employer.
- Independent from benefits for the first time.

Patchway Dementia Alliance

We are proud to have been commissioned by South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group to do pioneering work in Patchway to improve it as a place to live for people with dementia and their carers.

This work is to be used as a pilot which will be rolled out across South Gloucestershire. Dementia is an issue which will challenge all our communities, as the aging population rapidly increases the number of people living with dementia in their own homes. Our aim is to enable people living with dementia to remain in their community living fulfilling active lives for as long as possible.

To do this we are:

- Improving the understanding and support as they go out in their community
- Making local buildings and streets easier to use
- Improving people's understanding of the benefits of diagnosis and the support available.
- Creating new opportunities for people to get out and socialise, and 'live well' with dementia
- Creating volunteering opportunities for community members to get involved.

Key Achievements:

- The launch of Patchway Dementia Action Alliance – an alliance of local organisations that have pledged to offer a better service to people living with dementia. We had a high profile launch attended by over forty different organisations. Since then, we have signed up nearly 60 organisations, from the local fire service, to local hair dressers.
- Creating a new social group for people living with dementia – the Patchway Memory Café. This launched in November and is running monthly with a strong team of volunteers and 14 local people living

Eleanor Fairbrother

with dementia enjoying homemade cake, tea and talks from relevant services. People now have a social life line, a place to share experiences with people in similar situations and learn about the support and services that are available.

- Running dementia awareness sessions that have reached over 180 people, improving people's understanding of dementia and confidence to be supportive to people living with it.
- Working with Patchway Town Council to ensure the needs of people with dementia are considered in new developments in Patchway.

Case Study

A local woman, who was caring for her husband who had dementia, told us she felt there was a lack of support, indeed 'nothing for people with dementia in Patchway'. She agreed to join the steering group to represent local people and carers. Since then she has been part of setting up Patchway Memory Café, and her recent experience is invaluable in helping people access the right services. She has also been part of the team delivering dementia awareness sessions across Patchway, and the value of her first-hand experience has significantly added to the sessions. We nominated her for the South Gloucestershire Council Chair's Volunteer Awards and was delighted when she received an award.



Charlton Hayes, Patchway

Charlton Hayes is a new development that will have 2200 homes on completion. The development currently has over 400 homes that are occupied with many people moving from outside the area.

The main aims are to:

- Support residents to form community groups.
- To create opportunities for residents to interact.
- To provide residents with information by creating positive links with all stakeholders in Charlton Hayes.
- To work with residents and partner stakeholders to create a vibrant and inclusive community and reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour.

Key Achievements:

- A total of 3 neighbourhood watch groups currently set up, now involving 40 households in the new community, working with the local PCSOs.
- Residents receiving the quarterly newsletter, with feedback saying it's useful and informative.
- Partnership working with Sovereign Housing Association and the Travel West Team to deliver introduction workshops to new Sovereign residents.
- Worked in partnership with Four Towns Summer play scheme to deliver one morning activity on the green each week. Planning to increase this for summer 2014.
- 3 holiday sporting activities delivered at the temporary green, with up to 20 young people attending each event. This is aimed at young people over the age of 5 years.

Winsome Barrett-Muir

- The quarterly stakeholder steering group meeting is attended by all the partners who are operating or have an interest in Charlton Hayes.
- Local resident involved in the planning and delivery of an under 5's five picnic.
- Resident identified who wants to set up a youth project in the community – currently working with Dreamscheme South West to deliver this project.

Case Study

Some residents were having issues with strangers behaving in an antisocial manner near their homes which resulted in them being concerned.

They contacted me and I arranged a visit from the local PCSOs to reassure them of their safety.

Subsequently I approached them about setting up a neighbourhood watch group (NHW), these residents then invited me to their homes to discuss with all their neighbours the merits of NHW. A group was set up and now has 15 households in the group.



Dreamscheme is a project for young people aged 8-16 years who are supported to carry out projects in their community that will make positive changes. The project has been funded by Knightstone Housing Association.

The main aims of the project are:

- to build self-esteem and a sense of community pride
- to embed the practice of volunteering in young people, to develop their leadership skills and to recruit adult volunteers
- to have robust evaluation tools as well as create a sustainable working model for future Dreamscheme.

Key Achievements:

- Carried out 10 work projects which included building on previous community work projects.
- Inter-generational work with 2 local groups to deliver a conservation project making 20 bird boxes for the Three Brooks nature reserve in Bradley Stoke.
- Recruited 3 adult volunteers willing to take a more active role in delivering dreamscheme. They carried out over 60 hours of volunteering.
- Up to 21 young people recruited for each of the projects. In total the young people carried out more than 300 hours of work hours.
- A new framework for delivering Dreamscheme was devised, working with a multi-agency partnership including local schools, housing associations and businesses.
- Young people have expressed a greater sense of belonging and knowledge of their community. There is also increased appreciation of the voluntary sector and the positive impact that volunteering has on their community

Case Study

We had a younger sibling of 2 Dreamscheme young people join the project. This little boy has additional needs and his parents wanted to give him the opportunity to work on Dreamscheme along with his siblings. He took part in 2 projects on which he was accompanied by his mum. He took part in litter picking and garden planting and the reward activities. Initially he didn't interact with others, he was shy. However, he gained in confidence and by the first reward which was basketball he was happy and fully taking part. His mum sent a lovely email saying what she felt were the benefits of Dreamscheme for him:

- he feels that he is part of the group, and not being excluded.
- able to socialise with other children.
- gaining confidence in different settings and with different groups of children.
- able to take part in mainstream children's activities/projects.

The mum took part in training to prepare adult volunteers to lead future projects and is now one of 3 residents who are now able to set up and run their own Dreamscheme projects.



Training

Zoe Richards

Our Training Service aims to offer a range of provision to the local community to meet changing needs and provide people with access to appropriate courses.

We are often people's first re-engagement with learning and want them to realise that it can be fun! We offer opportunities to build skills, aspirations and confidence so people can be responsible for their own future - gaining employment, improving their family life or becoming more involved in community decision making, for example.

We aim to work closely with partners in the community to provide clear progression routes for learners so they can build on what they have learnt and develop their skills and confidence further.

Our accredited training offers qualifications in Youth Work and Community Development while our Professional training programme provides courses for those working within communities. We will tailor make courses according to the needs of the organisations. If you are interested in finding out what we can offer, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Successes

- Over 135 enrolments on courses.
- New courses including Supporting your Child to Learn, Hygiene in the Home, Bellydancing and Community Leadership.
- Partnerships developed with the Workers Educational Association, CVS South Gloucestershire, Creative Youth Network, 1625IP, Sovereign Housing Association, Merlin Housing Association, South Gloucestershire Council teams: Health Improvement, Environmental Health, Workforce Development and Job Centre.

"Fantastic support and empathy given"

Parenting: Child Development.

"Very capable and experienced tutor who made it enjoyable & was very knowledgeable"

Keep Calm & Count to 10

"It's the best course. She's a good tutor. I'm so happy to find this course"

Intro to Food Hygiene & Health & Safety at Work.

- Membership of the West of England Community Learning Partnership; working with partners to cross-promote and streamline course provision.
- Free computer sessions in our Training Room: 3 weekly IT drop-in's and 3 targeted sessions - Job Club, Homework Club and Home School Club.
- Positive learner progression routes including setting up an ADHD support group, going from Job Club to employment with Patchway Town Council, volunteering with the Dads' Group and progression onto other courses.



Case Study

A local resident volunteered with us several years ago on a Dreamscheme project in Little Stoke. Through his volunteering he was aware of the services we offer, so he knew where to turn for some parenting advice and attended our Parenting: Child Development course. He really valued the support from other learners and went on to attend our new Dads' Group. He has now gone back to volunteering with Southern Brooks at the Dads' Group, helping to promote the group, plan sessions and build up a support network for local dads.

Family Services

**Corrina Wood,
Family Services Manager**

**Team: Kim Morton, Yvonne Robson, Zasha Webb, Tendai Pawadyira,
Giles Spear, Cheryl Godsell, Ternaya Cummings, Lynette Jones, Zoe Richards**

The Family Services Team aims to provide a range of services to meet the needs of local families. In particular, the Team aims to:

- Strengthen family relationships
- Reduce aggressive behaviour in the home
- Improve parenting skills
- Provide opportunities for personal growth and learning
- Promote positive emotional and physical well-being
- Ensure families are listened to

We do this through a range of specially developed services including: One to one support, Parenting Courses, Therapeutic Group Work, Health Champions, Counselling, Domestic Violence support and Family Trips. Our work has been funded through The Big Lottery, South Gloucestershire Council, Bradley Stoke Town Council, Yate Town Council, Merlin, the Police & Crime Commissioner's Fund, Edge Church and Almondsbury Charities.

Throughout the year the team has also been joined by 6 students on Social Work placements who have supported us in delivering the work, but have also gained valuable experience from being part of our team.



Case Study

We worked with a single parent of 4 children. One child in the family presented with issues of anger and was often aggressive within the home. The family were referred by school regarding concerns about the safety at home due to aggressive outbursts from one of the children. There had also been a history of Domestic Violence.

We were asked to improve the safety within the home and support mum to deal with the impact the historical Domestic Violence had on the family. We were also asked to support the child with their issues of anger.

What we did:

- Encouraged mum to attend our Domestic Violence programme.
- Referred the child to 'Back on Track' a programme run by Survive for children who have experienced Domestic Violence.
- Provided sessions in school to enable the child to manage their emotions.
- Provided a knife safe box and door alarms.

The outcomes:

- The family have a safer home.
- Mum has increased knowledge and skills around the impact of Domestic Violence.

Key Achievements:

- Worked with 239 families
- Two new staff recruited; Lynette Jones as Intensive Support Worker and Zoe Richards as 'Volunteer Co-ordinator'
- Secured funding to work for one year in the Yate area
- Secured funding to continue working with Merlin residents for one year and worked with 28 referrals received through the service
- Secured funding to work with Sovereign residents for one year in the Charlton Hayes development
- Development and implementation of volunteer 'Buddy Scheme'
- Launch of Dad's group
- New service-user forum implementedImplementation of new database system
- Closer working with the South Glos Family Intervention Support Service
- Delivery of 4 parenting courses, including a course aimed at parents caring for a child with ADHD
- One year's funding secured for Bouncing Babies with around 15-20 parents attending every session
- Continuation of a free Counselling Service
- Development and delivery of a programme specifically aimed at supporting women experiencing Domestic Violence
- Over 30 families attending Family Trips with staff from all teams supporting
- Over 80 hampers distributed at Christmas
- Traded services extended to three schools, providing family support and drama therapy with a further three schools buying in additional therapeutic support when needed
- Provision of an Art Therapy group
- Provision of a monthly Home School club for families who have chosen to home school their children
- Co-ordination of a Health Champion project wrking with 8 volunteers attending events to Promote healthy lifestyle messages
- Active Family Club in Filton with 5 families attending various activities to encourage being more active
- Children's activities run in the cafe throughout the holidays
- Child is able to reflect and manage emotions better, especially anger
- A decrease in the number of aggressive outbursts in the home.

Aims

The team: Joanna Critchley-Peacock, Crispin Donovan, Chloe Watkins, Stevie Jones, Rhiannon Thomas, Andrew Baker

Our youth work aims to help children and young people reach their full potential. We do this by providing a team of trained and experienced youth workers and volunteers who work with young people through centre based youth provision, in parks and open spaces and through targeted small group work such as homework clubs. We took over the running of Patchway Youth Club from South Gloucestershire Council in April 2013 and benefitted from capital investment to improve the heating, insulation, kitchen and an overall facelift. In addition to our youth work South Gloucestershire Council runs 2 evenings a week. We had a grand re-opening in September.

Detached work aims to work with young people who may not attend formal youth provision, so we provide football and sports activities and worked with a small group to improve the skate park.

We've provided placement opportunities for students studying our Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work Practice. We've worked with the needs and interests of young people to design a programme of activities and since re-opening in September we've run 52 senior sessions in over 26 weeks. On average 20-24 juniors per week taking part in engaging in various arts, crafts and cooking activities. Our sessions have moved to the youth centre from Coniston Community Centre which

provides more space and helps with transition to attend senior nights.

Patchway Dreamscheme sessions started in February with the first project being to run crèche activities at International Women's Day. At the planning events each Saturday there have been an average of 9 children per session with 12 children in total. Dreamscheme was a key part of the delivery of this big event in March.

Key Achievements:

- Moved the Junior session to youth club and doubled regular attendees
- Art project
- Cooking for life project – healthy eating
- Music project
- Detached sessions
- Set up Patchway Dreamscheme

Case Study

“Music project: Group of young people started to attend the music project evenings. This included singers, musicians and a young person in music production.

With the help of one of the youth workers, who is an experienced musician, they formed a group and recorded tracks, which were arranged and produced by one of the young people, with support and started to make a YouTube video. The group also plan to perform at Patchway festival.



We work with voluntary and community groups in the Severnvalle 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 also support organisations to develop a sustainable funding plan to spread financial risk of the organisation around alternative sources of income generation. South Gloucestershire is one of 8 Beacon areas across the UK for the NCVO Sustainable Funding Programme.

Key Achievements:

- 71 VCS organisations were referred to us for support with sustainable funding, governance, financial planning and committee management. These VCS organisations are now better equipped with a stronger internal structure.
- Supported Voluntary Sector groups to raise in excess of £122,000 in grant funding.
- 15 VCS organisations have completed Health Checks focused on Financial Management, Governance and Sustainability.
- 11 VCS organisations have developed Sustainable Funding plans which has enabled a more strategic approach to funding, income diversity, marketing and communication.

Case Study

Infinity Dance Club - From BUST to BOOM

Rose Poore a parent and committee member tells all... 'We had just competed at the British Street Dance championship coming second place...The children were ecstatic.' Parents and children were pumped with energy, pride and enthusiasm and a great sense of unity and achievement had come over the entire group. This didn't last long as the day after the competition all members and parents received a message on Facebook and a text from the owner of the club saying that the school was no more as it just wasn't financially viable as a business any longer'. As parents we couldn't let it happen so we arranged an emergency meeting and invited all parents and children to discuss the future of the group.

All the parents agreed that they could not let the dance group finish and they needed to take control. We changed our name, elected a Committee and Chairman and trained hard, which paid off, because during our 1st competition as Infinity DC we brought home 17 trophies!!!

Infinity DC are not for profit! The club is completely reliant on the membership fees collected each month which pay for hall hire and a dance teacher. We are now working on Governance from constitutions to safeguarding policies as well as developing a sustainable funding plan so we can get fit for the future and dance!

Since we took over we have danced at the Harbour Festival, lots of community festivals, and now have a permanent new home at Patchway Youth Centre. It hasn't been easy and we are still working hard fundraising to enable us to go forward and progress.

Why the name Infinity? Because we are still here! To Infinity and beyond!!!

SAY Youth Project

Laura Colman

Social Action Youth (SAY) is a new programme, which supports young people to make positive changes in their communities. Funded by the Cabinet Office's Youth Social Action Journey Fund, SAY aims to support 720 young people to deliver youth-led social action projects in communities across Bristol and South Gloucestershire.

The project will see 240 young mentors, aged 15+, gain an NOCN Level 2 Award in Youth Work Practice. The mentors will then work with a further 480 young volunteers, aged between 10-14 years, to develop and deliver social action projects.

Southern Brooks will manage the project and lead on delivery in South Gloucestershire, with a focus on Priority Neighbourhoods. Our partners, Young Bristol and Creative Youth Network, will deliver the project in Bristol.

Following their participation in the SAY project, the National Citizen Service (NCS) provides a progression route for young mentors to continue their social action journey. Our partnerships with NCS providers, Young Bristol and South Gloucestershire & Stroud College, will facilitate that progression.

The SAY project provides great opportunities for young people, communities and project partners. For more information about the project, or to get involved, please contact us.



Brooks Cafe

Lee Hider - Cafe Manager

Since joining the Brooks Cafe team last year I have all been working hard to expand and create new ventures and opportunities for the business, staff and customers.

We are now a major part of the community and work very closely with local residents and businesses in the area to create a relaxing, safe and value for money cafe serving top quality homemade food and meals at a very affordable price.

Of course all this could not be made possible without our amazing and dedicated team of volunteers who always go above and beyond for the benefit of the community.

Key achievements are:

- Running themed restaurant evenings and Quiz nights
- Providing external buffets, including parties, weddings and funerals
- Providing food at Patchway Festival and Coniston Fun Day
- Late opening on Tuesday afternoons
- Providing hot dogs and burgers for young people who tidied and painted the skate ramp area at Scott Park
- Providing a two course lunch for WECIL once a month
- Hosting Four Towns Afternoon cream teas
- Hosting business breakfast network meetings
- Working with Merlin Housing Association and South Gloucestershire Council for buffets
- Providing activities for children during school holidays



- Free parties for children at Halloween, Christmas and Easter
- Providing community with Christmas lunches
- Helping the Family Support Team with emergency food parcels

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 2014

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Incoming Resources</u>				
Grants		677,275		387,916
Donations		9,964		3,505
Resources from Charitable Activities		157,368		149,868
Other Incoming Resources		4,134		
Investment Income		<u>349</u>		<u>669</u>
Total Incoming Resources		<u>849,090</u>		<u>541,958</u>
<u>Resources Expended</u>				
Charitable Expenses		751,918		540,097
Administration & Other Costs		<u>5,700</u>		<u>5,555</u>
Total Resources Expended		<u>757,618</u>		<u>545,652</u>
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension		23,000		-22,000
Net Movement in Funds for the Year		114,472		-25,694
Total Funds at 1st April 2013		<u>32,501</u>		<u>58,195</u>
Total Funds at 31st March 2014		146,973		32,501

Balance Sheet At 31st March 2014

	2014	2013
£	£	£
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		
Tangible assets	9,910	13,649
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Stock	200	200
Debtors	68,430	39,228
Cash at bank	243,507	122,571
	<u>312,137</u>	<u>161,999</u>
<u>Creditors</u>		
Creditors & Accruals	-80,074	25,147
Net Current Assets	232,063	136,852
Defined Benefit Pension Deficit **	-95,000	-118,000
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	<u>146,973</u>	<u>32,501</u>
Charity Funds		
Unrestricted Funds	36,693	4,304
Designated Funds		
Restricted Funds	205,280	146,197
Pension Fund Deficit	-95,000	-118,000
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>146,973</u>	<u>32,501</u>

Full Accounts available for inspection upon request

www.southernbrooks.org.uk



Brooks Café
07969 627104

**Community
Development**
01454 868570

Training
01454 868428

Bouncing Babies
01454 867076

Family Support
01454 867076

Youth Work & SAY
01454 868570



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