Item 6

30th August 2022

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
Baillieston Area Partnership

Report by Community Connector, Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark

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Progress report Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark

Purpose of Report:

To update Area Partnership members on progress in relation to the Springboig/Barlanark Thriving Place.

Recommendations:

The Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report and support the above local initiatives where appropriate.

1. Introduction

The thriving Places area covers Springboig, Barlanark, Queenslie, Wellhouse, Budhill, Greenfield and Easthall, but is referred to as Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark. Thriving Places was introduced in these neighbourhoods in 2017 to help improve the quality of life of people who live and work here. Local community members are encouraged to take an active part in decision-making and driving forward the agenda for Thriving Places. This report presents the progress on the work of Thriving Places Springoig Barlanark since January 2022.

2. Keeping the community informed

2.1. Community members were invited to join the 'Information subgroup' and agreed on actions that would help improve access to information. The priority was to design and publish a booklet collating information on community activities taking place in the Thriving Places area. The booklet was co-designed with community members and published online. 300 copies were printed and distributed in community centres and shops. An updated version is due to be published in August 2022.

3. Thriving Places Survey Report

3.1. Thriving Places Survey was conducted in March 2022. Survey findings are presented in the attached appendix ‘Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark Survey Findings’. 146 individual responses were recorded from TP Springboig Barlanark area with just under a third of responses coming from the neighbourhoods in Baillieston ward (Wellhouse, Easthall and Queenslie).

3.2. The key themes that emerged through analysis of the survey are:

- the importance of community, belonging and neighbourliness and high satisfaction levels of community members with regards to community spirit;
- difficulties with access to information about what is happening in the local area;
- desire to be more involved in local decision-making;
- the importance of greenspaces being cared for and appreciated;
- the need for better street infrastructure with responses highlighting issues around flooding, lighting and potholes.
- the need for activities for young people and kids
- the importance of feeling safe in own neighbourhoods, with many respondents suggesting more police presence.

3.3. The findings from the survey informed Community Connector’s work plan for the 2022/23 year.

4. Seed fund

4.1. Between January 2022 and April 2022 the following spent was recorded under the seed fund: £425 to East End Flat Pack Meals (training and board members recruitment), £406.50 to Greyfriars Youth Project (benches), £600 to Calvay Volunteer Group (mobility scooters), £500 to Budhill and Springboig Allotments (community event costs and promotional materials), £1994.60 (purchase of community noticeboards), £200 to Connect Community Trust (green group community-led project), £500 to Springboig and Barlanark Community Council (printing and marketing costs), £71.89 (workshop materials), £300 (Thriving Places Survey Prizes), £500 (Community Activities brochure printing costs), £500 to Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces (group set up costs, printing, stationery), £500 to Easterhouse Baptist Church (ESOL class materials), £270 to Connect Community Trust (litter-picking equipment).

4.2. Seed fund for the year 2022/23 comes to a total of £4,900. To date £500 has been awarded to Friends of Barlanark and Springboig Greenspaces for noticeboard installation costs and £42 was spent on interpreting costs for a community meeting, leaving a total of £4,358 available.

4.3. Local groups are invited to apply for small pots of seed funding for new community projects and activities.

4.4. Seed fund grants are awarded on a rolling basis and to be eligible the groups/initiatives need to either be based in the area covered by Thriving Places and/or benefit the residents of the Thriving Places Springboig Barlanark neighbourhoods. An average seed fund award is £300 and new unconstituted groups are prioritised to help them with start-up costs as they may struggle to access funds elsewhere.

4.5. New groups can also be supported through a variety of bespoke capacity building, support with arranging meetings (online and in-person), becoming constituted, and accessing training and other resources.

5. Recommendations

The Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report and support the above local initiatives where appropriate, including the promotion of the seed fund.