



Item 3

6th September 2023

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Calton Area Partnership

Report by Community Connector, Thriving Places

Parkhead, Dalharnock & Camlachie

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Progress report Thriving Places Parkhead, Dalharnock & Camlachie

Purpose of Report:

To update Area Partnership members on progress in relation to the PDC Thriving Places from the period of 1st April 2023 – 31st August 2023.

Introduction

Thriving Places PDC was introduced in the area in 2014, with a view to encourage greater community participation, increased community capacity and encourage an increase in community involvement in local decision-making. This report outlines the progress made by the Thriving Places team between 1st April 2023 and 31st August 2023, with a focus on: sharing information; effective partnership working; and supporting the strengthening of the community voice.

Sharing Information

Sharing information is key to encouraging community involvement and creating positive pathways for local people. It also supports better partnership working, that avoids duplication and highlights opportunities for collaborative work. Moreover, through mapping local services, support and activities, the team is able to identify gaps (based on community need) and work collaboratively to address them.

The Thriving Places team consistently gathers and shares information on services, support and activities in the local area. This is done through: posting on various social media pages; sending mass emails to partners and community contacts; and sharing through community-group WhatsApp chats. Additionally, flyers are shared at every community event that is attended or delivered by the team. Flyers are also put up on local notice boards and in partner venues. The team has also developed a method of gathering and collating local school holiday programmes, so that families in the area can find all of the information that they need in one place. Finally, the team is working on a master-leaflet which includes as much local information as possible (including information on local foodbanks and pantries, as well as GP surgeries). When completed, this will be available in local libraries and community centres and will be updated annually.

Between 1st April 2023 & 31st August 2023, the Thriving Places team were involved in planning, delivering or supporting various community events and groups that involved information sharing:

- The Celtic Foundation's 'Opportunities Evening' – 5th April
- St Anne's Primary School Fun Day event – 10th June
- Glasgow Life's Wellbeing Event – 20th July
- Weekly Rose Voucher drop-ins at Helenslea Hall, in Parkhead
- Pop-ins to Church House's Marah Group

As well as signposting and distributing information, Thriving Places (PDC) refers community members directly to services. For example:

- The Live Well programme (part of Glasgow Life),
- Glasgow Sport Access Cards, which gives them free use of Glasgow Sport facilities for 6 weeks, followed by a year of discounted membership)
- Celtic Foundation's 'You'll Never Talk Alone' programme to tackle loneliness and isolation.
- Digital, energy and money advice/support through Willowacre Trust
- Glasgow's Golden Generation Befriending Service
- FARE's Family Employment Support

Supporting Communities through Partnership Work

As well as signposting and referrals, the Thriving Places team also support the local community through partnership work (as mentioned above). Our on-going partnership projects continue to grow and develop, such as the *Rose Voucher Scheme* and the *Free Bike Repairs project*. We currently have **72 families** who receive the Rose Vouchers. Between 1st April and 31st August, approximately **£15,000** worth of vouchers have been given out.

In relation to the *Free Bike Repairs* project, the current volunteers will soon be assessed for their Silver Velotech awards, which will enable the project to become more self-sustaining. The volunteers, along with some other locals, are also being supported by Thriving Places to complete their cycle leader training, so that they may start up local cycling groups.

A key piece of recent partnership work that is in progress currently is the '*Youth Crime Committee*'. The Thriving Places team were contacted by a Police Scotland sergeant, to help bring together a planning committee to tackle youth crime/antisocial behaviour at the Parkhead Forge Shopping Centre. Many community members, as well as the shopping centre staff, had been making reports and the police teamed up with Thriving Places to help tackle this. Thriving Places planned the initial meeting and invited local youth providers and stakeholders along. From this, plans have begun to form to support the young people involved to put their energy into more positive practices. The next meeting will be planned for the end of August/September.

Every project and event that Thriving Places deliver is done in in collaboration with local partners. Community members are often a key part of the planning and delivery, also. An example of this is the *Barrowfield Festival 2023*, on which you will find more detail below. Some other key partnership events have been:

- Free Pipe Factory visit for community members – 10th May
- Cycle for Sustainability – 11th August

Community Voice

Supporting community involvement in decision-making is one of the main focuses for Thriving Places PDC. Some of the ways in which this is achieved is through:

- Informal consultations at Thriving Places (and partner) events
- Signposting community members to local community councils
- Referring community representatives to reviews of their area's Locality Plan
- *Map for the Future* - Networking/Community Planning events, which include discussions between local partners and community members on how to improve and develop plans and services
- Supporting partner consultations - for example the team were involved in the *Citizen Power* events, in partnership with *Glasgow City Council's Centre for Civic Innovation*

'The Barrowfield Festival 2023'

After many community members has expressed interest in having a local gala day in Barrowfield during the summer holidays, one particular community member came forward with a vision to make this happen. With the support of Thriving Places and The West of Scotland Housing Association, the planning team were able to make it a reality. This 3-day festival, beginning on Wednesday 9th August and ending on Friday 11th August, constated of 8 separate events with multitudes of activities on offer to participants. Some of the key themes of the festival were: wellbeing, physical activity, family fun and community connection. The festival was a complete success and will now be an annual occurrence.

'Map for the Future' – April 2023

In April 2023, the team planned and delivered a *Networking/Community Planning* event at The Parkhead School House. Many local service partners attended to take part in discussions and signpost to their services: We are With You; Glasgow Sport; Glasgow Life (Live Well); Glasgow City Council (Centre for Civic Innovation); The Celtic Foundation; FARE; Parkhead Housing Association; Parkhead Citizens Advice Bureau; SAMH; Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust; Willowacre Trust (Energy advice service); Scottish Sports Futures & HSCP. This event focused on the themes of wellbeing/self-care & the cost of living crisis. Participants were offered free massages/reiki, food, drinks and lots of local information, as well as a workshop on self-care and stressbusting. Lastly, community participants were consulted on how they could best be supported through the cost of living crisis. **22** partners and **8** community members attended this event and **26** signed up to be part of further discussions.

‘Park Life’ (Dechmont St Park Open Day)

Thriving Places collaborated with Glasgow City Council & Parkhead Housing Association to deliver a consultation event, with a family-fun theme, on the 15th of April. The purpose of this was to consult with local people on the development of the Dechmont Street play park. Adults and young people got to share their views and preferences on what is needed from this space. Approximately **300** people were in attendance.

Spending

Between 1st April 2023 and 31st August 2023, the total (approximate) spend was **£3835.44**

Spending includes:

- Catering
 - For weekly groups, such as the Women’s Group and the Bike Repairs volunteers = **£213**
 - Lead Cycles and Mountain biking groups: **£115**
 - For Events
 - the *Park Life* event - **£320**
 - Cycle for Sustainability - **£500**
- Venue hire - **£1540**
- Community Gardener - **£98**
- Face painter (**Park Life**) - **£60**
- Partner lunch – **£14.44**
- Barrowfield Festival/Cycling for Sustainability activities and materials - **£975**

**some spend is approximate due to awaiting invoices*

Conclusion

This information details just some of the work done by the Thriving Places team to support positive change in the area. We strive to create long-term positive impacts in the Parkhead, Dalmarnock and Camlachie area, and to work towards achieving Locality Plan Outcomes. As a team we reflect and review our work consistently – always learning and improving our practice. We feel strongly that the best work is done together, which is why we include community members and partners in everything that we do.