

Tariff Community Involvement Programme

January 2015 - December 2015

Community Action: MK's Community Involvement Programme aims to create strong and sustainable communities in MK's expansion areas. We support residents to take a more active role in their neighbourhoods, and encourage community action in whatever shape - be it volunteering, attending and running activities or feeding in community views and opinions. This report highlights some of the key activities from 2015.

Engagement Activities

We supported 283 community or agency-led activities which were attended by around 3300 people. Attendance levels are similar to those of 2014, but the number of activities nearly doubled! Events included Big Lunch, school holiday activities, and sessions for particular groups of people; for example, families with extra needs.



734

conversations
recorded



Sector-Wide Support

Engagement in Tattenhoe Park and at the WEA Exhibition

22 group visits **272** attendees at WEA Exhibition **42** ppl on walking tours

We continued to share expansion area news via our monthly e-bulletin, Growth Gossip which had 486 subscribers.

We ran a public Exhibition about the WEA, attended by 272 people, as well as walking tours of the site which were attended by 42 people. We also worked with MKC to begin the process of installing 2 temporary community facilities, due for completion in late 2016/early 2017.

We also continued to support community groups to engage with growth and explore the potential impacts for their users. We completed 22 group visits, and also attended local community events, such as Stony Apple Day, to talk to people about plans for the expansion areas.

Volunteering

Volunteering is a great way to build the skills and confidence of new residents. We recorded 74 active volunteers for projects we support, but there are countless more who will 'help out' informally in their community. These are particularly hard to track as there are no records of these informal 'acts of kindness'.

We celebrated the hard work of volunteers through our Community Gems event, where residents were asked to nominate those people who 'go above and beyond' for their community. Hopefully an annual event!

We also saw 14 people attend our CAP pilot, 8 of which completed the programme in full. We are looking at ways to roll this project out to other areas.



Volunteers at the Community Gems event



Volunteers at CAP workshop

New Communities Fund

£17,766 awarded to **13** community projects



Groups and residents continued to access the New Communities Fund for small grants to start or grow community activity.

Recipients include:

- Arts for Health for a community arts project to improve well-being based at Kingston Library
- Poppy Avenue Residents Association for community days including the Big Lunch
- Walton Church Partnership for holiday activities and support to provide activities for people with special needs
- MK Gallery for 'Start the Art' project
- Funding for a youth worker for Aspects Youth Club
- Film screenings run by Independent Cinema MK

**COMMUNITY
ACTION: MK**