

Bath City FC Community Impact working group

Tuesday 24th January 2017, Twerton Park

Attendees: Sally Harris, William Heath, Tracey Pike (Operation Manager for Youth Connect, B&NES), Ross Powell, Martin Powell, Cllr Rob Appleyard (representing the Community Foundation), Chris Coles, Steve Skinner, Jamie Luck (Mentoring Plus), Viv Talbot (Time Bank Plus), Carole Banwell

Apologies: Ken Loach, James Carlin

Current and historical schemes run with/via/at the Club:

- Time Bank Plus community events (e.g. Twerton's Got Talent)
- 'Healthy Living Week' – multi agency project that made use of the meeting rooms and ran every year for 3 or 4 years. Stopped about 8 years ago (funding dried up)
- Southside Youth project ran schemes and music events for 10/15 years with varying degrees of cooperation from the Club/Foundation.
- A work experience scheme existed once but Southside had a restructure and it fizzled out.

What can we do?

Venue/Meeting space:

- Proactively push the space- make charities aware **Once a GM is appointed this will go ahead**
- Annual community festival to showcase organisations – suggestion from James C
- Careers/work experience fair - address issues of unemployment/alienation in the immediate area.
Sally to follow up with Tracey
- Museum of Twerton –organized by the Museum of Bath at Work, arts charity 5x5x5, Twerton Juniors and Twerton Infants. Offer venue space & bring in elements of Club history? Link with the people who run the annual heritage day at Twerton Park? **Viv to send details for Twerton History Society (or similar) and Joe Scofield (proudoftwerton.com). Sally to follow up with Club.**

Working with/supporting the Foundation

- School holiday schemes much needed (Time Bank Plus consultation with community revealed strong demand for football in the park) - **Sally to follow up with Rob & Foundation**
- Focused schemes in socially deprived areas, i.e. schools close to Twerton Park
- Working with children from minority groups and with disabilities a priority development
- Closer links needed with Bath City Youth

Children/Schools

- Connect the first team football activity with the community side of the Club - keep young people engaged and inspired:
 - Better weekday access to the Club (seeing the pitch etc.)
 - Meeting players would be brilliant for local kids. Consider including community element in contracts? Coaching/school outreach is great for players' CVs **Sally to inquire about this**
 - Mentoring Plus –get mentors & mentees attending matches via tickets issued as reward scheme
 - Weekday educational visits to the club (Bob Chester) –pilot scheme with one local school and propose to St John's for funding?
- Bath City FC champions in schools: Ask Foundation to help set up?
- Work experience: opportunities for a couple of hours a week for 6 weeks. Grounds keeping/coaching/admin/marketing etc. Link with sponsors – connect businesses with students (Dave Medlock apparently keen)? Likely to become long term fans/volunteers. Long term – apprenticeship scheme? Sports diploma like Bristol City & Rovers do? Work with Bath College?
- Weekday match packages: simple wraparound offer for kids on weekday evening matches – meet and greet, chat to the manager/players, see match (could be welcomed by an off-duty player)

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Connectivity

- **Interagency links:** Send someone to BANES interagency meetings to stay up to date with community schemes and to make connections – [Sally to ask Viv to send details](#)
- **Regular meetings** between Bath City Youth, Bath City Supporters' Society, the Club itself and the Foundation – attempt to resolve the fragmentation
- **Involve Bath Rugby Foundation?** – benefit from their networks
- **Approach Sporting Family Change as potential partners**

Summary

Chris Coles provided a useful round-up: importance of relationship building and making the most of the great opportunity that we have to make a success of this. He noted that being a Community Club has the potential to open up new funding opportunities, and that we should begin by doing a few things well rather than attempting everything at once.