

Victoria Ward Notes



Notes of VWP meeting
@ Salaam Centre,
Murray Street – 13th
December 2022

Next Victoria Ward
Partnership meeting –
9.30 (-11, latest)
Tuesday 31st January
@ Salaam Centre,
Murray Street



What is the Victoria Ward Partnership?

The Victoria Ward partnership is a collective effort to try and bring residents and organisations together to create a community within the Victoria Ward. This is seen through collaborative work to create community events and address issues that local people have.

Contents

Page 2: Engagement Team, Mothers Group, Supporters Club, Sustrans, Hartlepool Huskies

Page 3: Social Work Team, Youth Work, Salaam Centre Updates

Page 4: Know Your Neighbourhood Fund, Shared Families, Hate Crime Reporting Centre

Page 5: Play Out Hartlepool, Christians Against Poverty, Stay Safe and Warm

Attendees: Juli Simons (Facilitator), Sarah McCluskey (HBC Youth Service), Rachael Wanley (Changing Futures), Stephanie Bailey-Minton (Changing Futures), Fiona Cook (The Big League CIC), Penny Thompson (HBC), Jan Hollis (Hartlepool Carers), Sarah Parker (Play Out Hartlepool), Gary Allen (Councillor Victoria Ward)

Engagement Team

There will be 2 events going on between the Salaam Centre and Community Hub Central. 8 New families are touted to be coming along.

There will be a Christmas party hosted by the Centre and Poolie Time.

On the 20th December Liz Million will be hosting a session for families in the ward. The events will be held at Community Hub Central with the first between 11-12 with families invited to the dance studio for food. The Partnership has also funded the second event to be held between 1pm-2pm the same day, this is open to all, but tickets are £1.



Mothers Group

The group meet at Community Hub Central between 7-9pm every Wednesday evening. These typically consist of guest speakers, trips and parties. They have been given a grant to help with operational costs for the next year and are looking for new members from the new year. This is an evening activity, not a family activity. They reopen on the 18th January.



Supporters Club

Difficulties in the Supporters Club having an active member of staff in to allow access to community activities during inactive hours, contact with the Nursery has been suggested by Jan to see if they could offer anything.



Sustrans

The Community Engagement Team has met with Sustrans who are hoping to work in the Victoria Ward following the New Year, this would include mapping walks, helping set up cycle routes and giving bike advice to residents. They would also be keen to collaborate with other groups and organisations that work in the area.



Hartlepool Huskies

The Huskies have recently won the Sports Council award for the 'Outstanding Club of the Year'!



Social Work Team

The lead from the social work team is stepping back in their role temporarily. The Social Work team are hoping to relist the position in the new year, but social work should continue as before. However, it has been suggested to keep base with families through schemes like breakfast clubs.



Youth Work

Sarah has found workers for one-off youth sessions, the resources to provide these have been identified, but need to nail down locations and times of which the Salaam Centre and Hartlepool Carers have been suggested. They hope to get 13-19 year olds to attend, in an open access format, taking feedback on what young people want in their town.

Paula has also been given funding to help combat anti-social behaviour and crime by working with the Youth Justice Service and Hartlepool Huskies from Tryin' HQ's Skatepark and Millhouse Leisure Centre. The groups are hoping to work alongside Hartlepool Now staff to combat the lack of shared information between services and their users, this has also prompted the teams to look into getting an app, but this is in its early stages. The young people are hoping to find creatives to help assist in making a mural London-underground style map which can show what's on in the area with QR codes.

Salaam Centre Updates



The Salaam Centre is looking to expand in the new year with Hannah joining the team, alongside a volunteer from Poolie Time. The Centre is looking at making its open hours more flexible. The Girls Group that's running from the Centre is going to expand its age range due to demand. The women's only swimming sessions had a lot of interest expressed but no feedback has been received. The team are looking for a sessional worker for young people, which would help them reach out and help more people. Finally, the Centre has been funded to create a toy library.

Know your Neighbourhood Fund

This is top-up funding for organisations that have previously been funded by the National Lottery Foundation. Community engagement, support and outreach could all benefit. The Voluntary Community Sector across the town are going to consult and collaborate on possible applications, with the bid process finishing up at the end of January. This is being organised by the Hartlepool Organisational Partnership (HOP) working group.



Shared Families

We had a conversation about an adult social care scheme from Australia and being piloted in Stoke, Shared Families is similar in concept to fostering but with two families coming together to support one another through relationships. The scheme is being trialled in Stoke, with Juli having the initial conversation with their representatives about the successes and failures of the scheme.

Signs for safety is a philosophy that the social care teams already use which seem to have a similar way of functioning, which demonstrates a community responsibility to help families.



Hate Crime Reporting Centre

The Salaam Centre, since becoming a 3rd party Hate Crime Reporting Centre, which since launching has had a large uptake. PCSO Grahame talked to the group and helped to show how to report incidents. Following this it has been identified that, despite the great strides made to make reporting accessible, finding how to use the online reporters accessible functions can be an issue, otherwise other accessibility features have been well-received. Digital hate crime reporting resources are to be shared following the meeting. Gary raised that he receives lots of information on crime and hotspot areas in the ward, in part brought about by only having 1 PCSO for the area. He has also asked to share that people should call 101 to report hate crimes when they happen.





Play Out Hartlepool

It's been great to see so many families coming out to play out, especially in the cold weather. However this comes with an extra layer of caution to attendees to wrap up warm and be careful on the ice!

The Play Streets scheme now has social media to spread the word to more families in the area. They have also received funding to continue the scheme for 6 months at the beginning of February/March.

The scheme involves residents shutting down a street for a couple of hours on a weekend to allow safe play for children outdoors, if your street would be interested in running a session, please get in touch with Sarah: playouthartlepool@hotmail.com



Christians Against Poverty

Sarah would also like to showcase the good work that Christians Against Poverty do to help get people out of debt. The service is personalised to the user, where they provide a custom plan to help them get out of debt sustainably alongside a volunteer to help share the persons journey. This service is offered to all and has no religious affiliations. Grace Road Methodist Church is one point of referral.

Stay Safe and Warm

Stay Safe and Warm is a completely FREE service from Cleveland Fire Brigade UK, which offers access to heaters and other warmth equipment (following a free home assessment).

The award winning scheme is completely free and open to anyone living in Cleveland, no age restrictions apply. So whether its a short-term issue such as a boiler breakdown or an ongoing heating issue they can help.



Hartlepool Carers

Jan from Hartlepool Carers let the partnership know that there will be carers in all the attendees' fields of work, she's organised to meet up with Rachel and Stephanie to see how we can work together to engage carers in the Victoria Ward. Jan is happy to visit any community setting and share the work of carers - get in touch with her via jan.hollis@hartlepoolcarers.org.uk

