

## CHORLTON HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY HUB MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2016

| Attendance  | Apologies   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Katherine Moulder (CHS School Business Manager)</li><li>• Christine Taggart (CHS Community &amp; Marketing Officer)</li><li>• Alison Broadhurst (Home Instead)</li><li>• Tanya Watts (Southway Housing)</li><li>• Mandie Shilton-Godwin (Local Councillor)</li><li>• Dave Bishop (Friends of Chorlton Meadows)</li><li>• John Agar (Friends of Chorlton Meadows)</li><li>• Costel Harnasz (Friends of the Fallowfield Loop)</li><li>• Tina Murphy (Southway Housing)</li><li>• Stacey Armitage (Irwell Valley)</li><li>• Eve Holt (Community Member)</li><li>• Dave King (St Clements Church)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Davy Iredale</li><li>• Kieron McGlasson (Sow the City)</li><li>• Laura Wood (Friends of Chorlton Meadows)</li></ul> |

### Community Hub Overview

Christine Taggart welcomed everyone to our second Community Hub meeting. She provided a background on where the Community Hub concept has come from. We became a Co-operative Academy in January 2013. A key part of being a Co-operative Academy is a commitment to the Co-operative Values and stakeholder engagement (staff, students, parents and the community). By becoming a Co-operative Academy we ensure that: our school serves the needs of our communities by staying locally run; there is a long term commitment to good values through a co-operative ethos; there is a long term strategic commitment to engage all our key stakeholders.

Feedback from the consultation we ran last year with community members was that they wanted to develop a better working relationship with school, wanted to discover more events and groups who work with the school and maintain a relationship with the school. We hope these Community Hub groups will help facilitate these and allow us to build strong local partnerships.

Christine then provided an update on the community projects we have taken part in since the last meeting including:

- Supporting Home Instead's 'Be a Santa to a Senior' project. Year 8 donated and wrapped over 250 presents and wrote 200 Christmas cards for vulnerable older people in our community
- Year 7 members of the Whole School Council helped plant hedgerows with Southway Housing on Weller Avenue
- We have raised £1,541.27 so far this year for a variety of charities
- The Year 7 School Council have started to work on a whole school litter campaign and poster competition to raise awareness of litter in school and in the local community. This was in response to litter being raised as an issue at the last Community Hub meeting
- We supported Friends of Chorlton Park with their Christmas event in Chorlton Park in December 2015. We will also be supporting their Easter event on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016.

We have lots of projects coming up this year including: Junior Digital Champion sessions with Southway Housing and visits to local retirement homes (Arden Court and Trafalgar Court) to help with gardening.

### Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves and provided some background on how they have worked with Chorlton High School already and how they would like to work with us in future:

- Stacey Armitage is from Irwell Valley and is interested in developing some intergenerational

projects with the school.

- Alison Broadhurst is from Home Instead and wants to develop the relationship already established with school and is keen to find out what is going on in the community. She is also keen to link with the school on a Dementia Friendly community initiative.
- Mandie Shilton-Godwin is a local Governor and wishes to maintain a link with the school.
- Eve Holt is a local resident and a Governor at Manely Park Primary School and is interested in working further with the school, in particular on the cycle funding.
- Tina Murphy is from Southway Housing and brings residents along to the annual community Christmas party. She is keen to keep a link with the school.
- Tanya Watts is from Southway Housing and wants to keep in the loop with the school and the local community.
- Dave King is from St Clements Church and wishes to re-establish links with the school, in particular music links, which have dropped off in recent years.
- John Agar is from Friends of Chorlton Meadows and wishes to engage younger audiences with their work and try and encourage young members to take an interest.
- Dave Bishop is from Friends of Chorlton Meadows and wishes to develop a link with the school and educate younger people on the environment. He has a lot of environmental links and contacts locally which might be of benefit to the students.
- Costel Harnasz from Friends of the Fallowfield Loop is interested in developing a link with school and promoting the Fallowfield cycle loop to students. He is keen to develop wildlife walks along the loop and look for opportunities in which to involve students.

#### **TFGM Cycle Funding**

We have recently received a grant of up to £100,000 from the TFGM Cycling Schools and Colleges Project to encourage and develop the cycling infrastructure at school. We will also be gifted 15 bikes as well as receive additional revenue for training. We were very grateful to everyone who sent in suggestions for the application. The support and engagement we were able to show from our Co-operative members added a real strength to our application.

Although there are more limited opportunities for impact on local infrastructure than previously anticipated we are still keen to involve the local community in the project and try to influence local decision making on cycling where possible. For example, the close proximity of Chorlton High School and Loreto High to the tram lines and crossings on Mauldeth Road is something we would be keen to look at in terms of improving safety for cyclists.

There will be an opportunity for community members to take part in a steering group which we will be setting up to help inform the development of the project.

Mandie stressed the importance of pushing the cycling agenda locally, particularly with making road surfaces more cycle friendly and that although the funding may not be able to be used for infrastructure it will provide an important opportunity to communicate with decision makers. Eve stressed the importance of reporting issues and feeding back to the Council regularly and that young people have a voice in this rather than just adult commuters. It is important that the Council are continually made aware of the issues with the roads for cyclists. There needs to be a central collection of voices in the local area.

It was suggested we could produce a Chorlton specific cycle map and better communicate the routes on our door step. There is a local map which has been produced by Chorlton Traders which apparently doesn't currently include cycle routes and access points. This is something which could be introduced when they do a re-print of the map. Eve suggested promoting safe ways to cycle to school which might help parents and students feel safer and more confident about cycling. It was also suggested that we could get a feature on cycling locally in the Community Index magazine.

Actions:

- Anyone interested in taking part in the steering group to contact Christine.
- Christine to consider suggestions for promoting safe local cycling routes during the project development.

- Christine to make contact with Chorlton Traders regarding future versions of the map and whether cycling can be included.

#### **Co-operative Trust AGM**

We will be holding the Annual General Meeting of our Co-operative Trust on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, 7pm at Chorlton High School. This will provide an overview of the activities and achievements of our Co-operative Trust covering both Chorlton High School and Newall Green High School. We will also provide an insight into the future developments for the Trust. It would be great to see lots of our community members at the meeting.

#### **AOB**

- Mandie asked if some upcoming litter picking dates could be promoted in school and locally. Chorlton Water Park, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 11am-1pm and Chorlton Park, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-12pm. As there are a lot of keen litter pickers in Year 7 Christine will pass on the details to the Head of Year and we will encourage students to take part.
- Alison is keen to link with the school with a local Dementia Friendly Chorlton campaign. We could run dementia workshops with students and involve them more in the campaign.
- It would be beneficial if contact details for those who attended the meeting could be circulated. Everyone was happy with this so Christine will ensure that this is actioned when the minutes are sent out
- John A suggested more digital education opportunities are provided for members of the community. Christine explained about the 'Junior Digital Champion' project which students are currently undertaking to teach Southway Housing residents digital skills. This is something we would be interested in rolling out more of so there may be scope to link with other organisations locally to run similar projects.

#### **Actions:**

- Christine to contact the Head of Year 7 to pass on details of the local litter picks
- Christine to arrange a meeting with Alison regarding the Dementia Friendly campaign
- Christine to ensure contact details for those who attended the meeting are circulated to everyone

**Date of the next meeting: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2pm, Chorlton High School**