

North Yorkshire County Council**North Yorkshire Area Committee for Ryedale****Stronger Communities Progress Report
February 2018****1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 To update Ryedale Area Committee on the work of the Stronger Communities programme.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 Since the last Area Committee the Stronger Communities Delivery Manager (SCDM) has continued to work with community organisations interested in the Inspire and Achieve parts of the Stronger Communities Prospectus. Three Inspire grants have been awarded in Ryedale.

3 Community Library Programme

- 3.1 The SCDM continues to support community libraries across Ryedale to develop services and consolidate previous progress. The conference held in Harrogate in November 2017 was very successful and good feedback was received on the funding workshop delivered by the SCDM.
- 3.2 As part of a roadshow to showcase a selection of Stronger Communities projects, the SCDM helped to facilitate a visit to Norton Hive by Cllrs Helen Swiers, David Chance and Caroline Goodrick.

The visitors were shown around the refurbished building, met with resident tenant Ryedale Sight Support and chatted to families attending story time, and to the members of the Knit and Knatter group.

Cllr. Swiers was happy to praise the efforts of The Hive's trustees and volunteers, acknowledging all of their hard work.



4. Stronger Communities Projects

4.1 Inspire – In the last quarter, three new Inspire projects have been funded:

- Welburn Village Hall – funding of £1,000 provided to support the purchase of a PC and broadband installation to enhance digital skills in the community. The hall will host monthly social session when residents will be able to get help with IT skills, and be able to use broadband not available in all areas surrounding the village.
- Musical Memories Outreach - £600 to try a new slant on the popular Musical Memories sessions, basing the sessions in alternative venues such as the Beck Isle Museum.
- Thornton Le Dale Indoor Bowling Club – grant of £1,000 towards an automated bowls carpet dispensing system. This equipment will allow the existing volunteers and members to lay out the carpets which are too heavy for manual handling.

4.2 Achieve - a number of projects are currently being developed with a range of voluntary & community sector groups across the area. Some require a period of development and assistance prior to submission of a formal application for funding. They cover areas such as:

- * A mental health support provider network
- * A development project considering the RVS building in Pickering
- * A digital skills project with Age UK
- * Provision of Disability information, advice and guidance in Ryedale

5 Strategic Projects

- 5.1 The Stronger Programme is also currently undertaking a number of county wide strategic projects that will benefit the communities of Ryedale.

Supported Volunteering Development – the SCDM is working with the Hambleton SCDM to plan the evaluation of a project currently being delivered in the Northallerton area. Initial thoughts are that this could be a good model to scale up across the county if external funding could be found.

Review of Wellbeing and Prevention Contracts – the Stronger Communities team are working with HAS commissioners on revisions to the existing and historic low level prevention contracts, and has supported stakeholder consultation events.

Men's Sheds Conference – early stage development of a conference to raise awareness, county wide, of the success and beneficial outcomes of the Men's Shed movement.

7 Recommendation

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee notes the contents of this report.

Sarah Robinson
Stronger Communities Delivery Manager (Ryedale)
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