

## ***Ambition for Ageing Bury – September 18***

### ***Progress towards a more Age-Friendly Bury***

#### **Who we are**



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#### **Who we are working with**

- Work continues with local organisations and partners and is being built upon. Great opportunities to meet and catch up with organisations and partners at the Veterans Breakfast and our Age Friendly ward meetings are linking us with local community focussed groups and organisations including Ramsbottom Anglers(based at The Lido at Clarence Park, Moorside), Barley Community Cafe in Prestwich and Radcliffe Borough Football Club in Radcliffe.
- We have linked with Bury Fire Station in developing their community garden and are working with community groups and organisations to develop this underused asset.
- Continued working with local businesses, we attended Bury Expo and Bury Business Academy and developed a Businesses and Communities workshop which we are developing further as groups link with businesses. We currently have a number of community groups benefitting from this workshop through links they have made in gaining discounted / free equipment, resources and volunteers.
- We hosted an LGBT awareness event which has resulted in the Bury LGBT Forum which meets monthly at present and are on their 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Work continues to create a more friendly LGBT community in Bury.

#### **Strategy and Partnership**

- We have had strategic meetings with Andrea Simpson and Julie Gonda as well as with Hayley Ashall and David Thomas to discuss how we demonstrate learning and what we

need to demonstrate for future commissioning. We are working on developing case studies which can be used to support this learning.

- As Bury council works towards becoming 'Friendly Bury' the work we are doing is linking well with the strategy and we are developing ways of working together to share information and ideas.
- As a partnership group we are sharing information and groups are meeting and working together to make a more Age Friendly Bury. Through sharing the learning gained from the investments the partnership group is aiming to take the learning and embed it into future commissioning.

## Where we are investing

Investments continue to be developed with more of a focus on co-design as well as sustainability and legacy. These include investments in groups for different hobbies including a Natter and Knit group, Reading, Music, Computers, Walking, Food and drink. Also 1 off events to be more inclusive and encourage the most socially isolated to join in such as Silver Service at Prestwich Carnival, Love Radcliffe event and the upcoming Let's Celebrate event in Moorside.

The Age Friendly ward groups mean that ideas are being discussed at a more local level and have resulted in the co-design of projects which in some cases mean things are happening in a different way. This will continue to develop.

1. LGBTQ+ - we held an initial meeting, attended Bury pride and held an event to bring people together and raise awareness. We now have a forum which is working to develop ideas to support all LGBT residents in Bury, at the moment with a focus on 50+. We are looking at offering LGBT training for carers which was highlighted as an issue we are keen to address. They are also looking at developing social events and activities and the best way to do this.
2. We are working with marginalised community groups and are developing projects to make sure all groups are included through small investment and through one off larger investments. We are developing ideas to ensure the best possible use for investments to ensure we get sustainable results not just one off events.
3. Multi-Cultural – we will be working on the Collabor8te event and creating a cultural awareness support to enable a greater understanding. We are hoping this will be completed by December.
4. We are developing a 'Changing Places, Changing Lives' project around people to highlight the impact that the project is making to individuals in their local areas.

## Evaluations and Case Studies

- More are coming in from groups previously invested in and from these we are identifying further work on them.
- I am working on case studies demonstrating longer term impacts such as gardening projects and how we can link them together, food projects and the Facebook group.
- Really want to highlight the Women of Worth project which resulted in some fantastic feedback and the positive impact that small amounts of funding can have on people's lives and what it means to them.
- Individual case studies will also be completed to demonstrate the impact of people within their communities.

## Project Highlights

- The Age Friendly Bury Group continues to have new members and more people are getting involved with the page, adding and sharing information as well as commenting on different projects and ideas. People have started to interact with each other on the page, even arranging to meet at groups so they know someone.



- Bury Expo and Businesses and Communities workshop - some great feedback which has been put together from the event and now looking at how businesses and groups are working together. Already had some successful link ups with The Woodies and Senior Waste Removal who are going to give The Woodies offcuts of wood rather than just getting rid of them.
- LGBT forum has been set up enabling the LGBT community in Bury to have a voice in Bury not only Manchester. Bury Pride – fantastic event to be part of!



- Being contacted to utilise and develop the community garden at the Fire station. Will be a great asset and lots of people keen to get involved so can really involve the whole community with a focus on marginalised groups. First proper planning meeting after today's meeting.
- Our Age Friendly Ward groups are developing well and residents have started to take ownership of them and are planning events to bring their communities together.
- The support, commitment and passion of the volunteers for the project is fantastic! Thanks everyone!
- Bury Veterans and The Mosses Centre applied for a defibrillator to be placed at The Mosses Centre where they meet. It was decided at the Critical Friends group that there were other means to apply for a defibrillator and although the Critical Friends group wanted to support it instead other options were provided to support this. The defibrillator was applied for via The Heart Foundation where they partially fund it leaving £600 to be raised independently. This money has been raised through the work of the volunteers at a cake stall and at Bury Pride as well as the Bury Veterans raising money through sponsorship. It has been great seeing people working together to make something happen.



## What we are doing next

- Continue to focus on marginalised groups to develop more community cohesion and small investments.
- Continue to evaluate existing projects and work on ways to develop them for legacy and sustainability. Bring projects together as complete evaluations - e.g highlight the impact of gardening type projects throughout all the wards
- Continue with the development of the Age Friendly ward groups.
- Focus on the 'Changing Places, Changing Lives' to highlight the importance of people both within the project and within the community. This will also have time set aside to work on.
- Continue to focus on the research paperwork, once administrator in place this will enable more research work to be completed and added to the database

## What do we need?

- Follow us and retweet us on Twitter there are regular updates and lots of pictures. It's a great way for us to get our message out and show what we are doing – <https://twitter.com/BuryA4A>
- Let us know about any community events we can attend and where possible attend with me, attend to support the project, tell others about the event and get them to attend
- Join our Age Friendly Bury group on Facebook and add your friends and colleagues and share any events you know of which would be suitable for people over 50. This is a great way to quickly get to people and we have had some really positive comments and responses on the page which we can use within our learning.
- Where possible attend community groups and events, people love seeing and meeting new people involved within the project and showing what they are doing.

## What we are proud of

- The excellent relationships and friendships that have been built throughout this project.
- The continued support from the fantastic volunteers and their key roles within the project.
- The fun, positive and motivating approach that continues in all aspects of the project.
- Sharing ideas, communities working together and supporting each other, a real sense of community spirit has developed.
- Seeing more people being pro - active about making their communities better not just waiting for things to happen.

