



Newton Abbot Community Interest Company

2015/16 Annual Report

Introduction

Newton Abbot CIC has been involved with a wide variety of projects and activities during 2015/16, being based in Buckland but having a growing role across the town.

Buckland Community Centre

The CIC has continued to work with the BMCA Trustees during 2015/16 to support the management of the Community Centre. The Centre continues to provide a growing range of activities for local people which are sustained by the for events and parties. Following the closure of Haytor View Infants School, the CIC has successfully managed to provide a new home for the Children's Centre within the Community Centre. We are currently applying for funding to carry out much needed improvements to the Centre, including improved access to the Children's Centre space.



Buckland Media Coordinator

The CIC has been fortunate to secure funding from Teignbridge District Council to carry out community engagement work on the Buckland estate. We are approaching this work in a number of different ways – by providing a new website, strengthening the social media presence for Buckland and by developing the Community Centre as a local 'service hub' offering outreach services such as a Job Club and online training Centre. In February 2016 Steve Michaels joined the CIC team as the Buckland Media Coordinator to take responsibility for the community engagement work.

Buckland Activities Coordinator

The Buckland Activities Coordinator post was funded by the Health Lottery for two years. Through the Project we delivered a range of activities for those living in the Buckland area. The Coordinator left the CIC at the end of November and this Project ended at the end of March 2016. We are confident that some of the activities that were started with Health Lottery funding (such as the Buckland Short Mat Bowls Group) will continue for years to come.

Buckland Youth Club

The Buckland Youth Club continues to provide a safe and secure environment for up to 70 young people aged 5-11 on a Friday evening. We are currently exploring on-going funding for the Club, including whether we should provide an additional Club for 11-14 year olds. The Youth Club is managed by the Buckland & Milber Community Association and the CIC supports the management and administration of the Club.

Community Facilities

One of the CIC's key priorities over the last few months has been to ensure that new residential developments within the town are supported by adequate community facilities and infrastructure, and that facilities elsewhere in the town can support the town's growing population. We have had many discussions with partners and are keen to support the delivery of such facilities in any way we can.

Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Plan

The CIC has been delighted to play a significant part in developing the Newton Abbot Neighbourhood Plan which if approved at Referendum will become an important part of the planning framework for the future of the town.



The CIC has continued to work closely with the Town Council over the past twelve months as the Plan has progressed through the formal Examination process.

Golden Lion Square

As part of the Newton Abbot Community Trust the CIC has been proud of the successful completion of the Golden Lion Square project. As well as being jointly responsible, with Newton Abbot Town Council, for progress of the improvements, the CIC also had responsibility for the sponsorship campaign which raised individual donations of between £1 and £1,000.



Schools Council

The CIC has continued to support the Newton Abbot Schools Council.



The CIC organised visits to both Newton Abbot Town Council and Teignbridge District Council and have secured funding to enable the Schools Council to visit the Houses of Parliament in July 2016.

Priorities for the year ahead

The CIC's work continues to fall under three broad themes; delivery of projects, supporting other organisations and activities, and lobbying for action on issues around the town. Over the next 12 months we plan to continue our work on the Buckland estate and focus on the delivery of community facilities to meet the needs of Newton Abbot's growing population.

Postscript

Newton Abbot CIC relies on grant funding and income raised through consultancy work to fund our core costs. We are grateful to Newton Abbot Town Council for their on-going support of the CIC team and our work in the town.

The CIC Team are:

Emily Farrell – Business & Community Development Manager

Steve Michaels – Buckland Media Coordinator

Faith Cummins – Administrator

Newton Abbot CIC is led by a Board of Directors with a broad range of skills and experience. The current Directors are:

Chair - Lynn McElheron, local resident

Vice Chair - John Pike, local resident

Vice Chair - Daphne Watts, local resident

Paula Birbeck - Director of Services, Teign Housing

Councillor Carol Bunday, Newton Abbot Town Council representative

Louise Cooke, local resident

Councillor Judy Grainger, Teignbridge District Council representative

You can find out the latest news about our work by visiting our website.

 (01626) 206690

www.newtonabbotcic.org.uk

