

Moving forward with Henfield Activity Plan (HAP) – next step for Henfield Community Partnership.

Background.

In support of the Henfield Community Partnership (HCP) and Henfield Parish Council (HPC), the Henfield Activity Plan (HAP) was launched over 3 years ago as part of the HCP Community Action Plan (CAP).

The initial aim was to find ways to help sustain the wide variety of opportunities by improving connectivity and communication, creating a common events' calendar and collaborating on the larger village-wide events (organisations remain independent in their organisation and management) and facilitating the maintenance of up to date contacts.

More than 100 clubs, societies and voluntary organisations in Henfield were identified and contacted (and with their consent) sorted into eight Community Clusters (each of which consists of organisations with common interests). Information and contact details are continually updated and made available via the BN5 website.

A small group (5) of HCP (Sue Willis, Kenneth McIntosh and Leo Jago) and HPC (Malcolm Eastwood and Ann Donoghue) colleagues met regularly to act as a conduit for clubs and organisations in Henfield to understand what they do and help them:

- connect with each other and relevant local and external organisations to either further their own activities eg Connector Plus and Horsham Age UK or village wide initiatives/events eg The Memorial Field Festival in September 2018 and the HDC Year of Culture 2019.
- highlight potential new funding streams eg new HDC lottery
- gain new membership/volunteers/resources eg by organising the Village Evening held April 2018 and creating local publicity articles to help attract new members.
- regular discussions with Alex Nevatt, Henfield Connector Plus and Nicky

Fuller, Outreach worker for Age UK Horsham with particular focus on 'loneliness and how membership of the various groups can help improve people's wellbeing.

The project element of HAP is now done and a 'map' of the organisations & key contacts within the community of Henfield exists. It is now proposed to share and embed this 'directory' to enable the priorities HCP plan for the foreseeable future.

Proposals of immediate next steps:

- Enlist representatives from each organisation to become formal 'members' of HCP. This would help with the information gathering and dissemination on key items and assist groups to connect with each other and relevant local and external organisations to either further their own activities or village wide initiatives/events.
- Communicate (either direct via email or create a HCP facebook page) to the organisations making them aware of funding opportunities, events that might interest them, new resources that have become available etc.
- Continue to work with each organisation to build more info about them that is available behind the on-line listing to explain more about the group. Write ups about the Library, the Self Help Group and the Henfield Club are currently available on BN5 .
- Collate a community online directory (?on HCP website) of resources owned by clubs available to loan to others (examples: PA system, A boards, marquee) either free or for a fee (fund raising opportunity).

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