

Project updates from the Communities Officer

23rd May 2022

Over 65's sports:

- The vendor said they don't have capacity to do this so we will need to rethink on this
- The money is allocated so if we wanted to put something else on, we could use that funding (around £2,200)

Oral health project:

- We purchased 600 oral health packs (353 for the schools plus extras for scout groups and food banks) to distribute to the local area
- Each pack contains a toothbrush, toothpaste, 2 minute timer, information sheet and 'bag of smiles' paper bag
- Schools have been very positive about the idea
- Community Dental Services (CDS – local community dentistry) have been supporting us with it
- We started distributing on 18th May 2022
- Between ESC and CDS, we have put together a survey for families and a survey for school staff to complete
- This will be sent to schools in mid-June after the young people have had packs for a month – the survey is available in paper copy and electronic form
- The packs cost £1,023 with a small added cost for printing of paper surveys
- CDS have offered their staff time to go into the schools and train staff if this is identified as being useful in the survey
 - This would come at an additional cost and can be explored as an add-on in future if the survey feedback suggests this would be helpful

Slipper swap:

- Now being promoted

Halesworth youth research:

- Access Community Trust selected to be the delivery partner
- Will be working with stakeholders to do the research and engagement
- This will be a mix of school engagement and holiday engagement

- Youth Action Halesworth-Rural group (YAH-R) set up with different partners to coordinate and raise awareness of the work

Rural proofing:

- After a brief delay, the rural proofing document will be sent out to the CP shortly
- This has presented an idea of the challenges and opportunities we have in the villages
- As a result of the rural proofing, we have been able to put articles in parish magazines and newsletters to promote the Community Partnership and what it does

Community Partnership event:

- Originally scheduled for February; took place on 21st May 2022
- Event was an opportunity for groups and residents to find out more about the Community Partnership
- 20-25 attended over 2 hours and the event cost £80 (venue hire)
- Organisations there such as:
 - ESC Funding team
 - Pear Tree Centre
 - Police
 - Three Rivers Talking Newspaper
- Hearts and Minds (Access Community Trust) gave a presentation about their project
- Swell Music CIC did a singing demonstration
- Some good networking was done including with the local Co-op
- Attendance from some members of the public, some CP members, Peter Aldous MP and Cllr Letitia Smith, Cabinet Member for Communities

Community Partnership refresher event:

- Held on 28th April 2022
- 2 attended – both from parish councils already on the CP but one was a new rep and the other was from a PC where they needed a new rep
- Interest from 3 people from 2 parish councils currently not on the CP – they couldn't attend on the evening but remain interested