

Community Development News

Where community members come together, to take collective action and create solutions to common challenges



WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER!

Our Community Development Team work alongside communities across Cambridge on all sorts of things, so we decided it was time to share with everyone what we get up to! The list of officers on the right introduces you to the whole team and what our general 'themes' or 'patches' are, so you can see the breadth of work that we're involved in. Along with our specialties we also adapt to what's happening out in the city, what people tell us is important to them and what we hear there's a need for.

We hope to bring you a newsletter every couple of months, telling you some of the things we've been involved in and what's coming up that you might be interested in. If you would like newsletters in the future to be delivered straight to your inbox just email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

We are all 'people people' and love to hear what everyone has to say, what your ideas for your communities are. If you'd like to get in touch you can email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk and your message will be forwarded to someone that can help. Alternatively you can follow us on Facebook by searching Cambridge Community Development and message us on there!

VOLUME 1

SEPTEMBER 2023

Meet the Team!

Vicky Haywood- Community Development Manager

Binnie Pickard- Tackling Poverty Lead

Jo Hunt- New Communities Lead

Caroline Gill- Children, Young People and Families Lead

Ariadne Henry- Equalities Lead

Andrea Butler- Community Development Officer North

Kelly Smith- Community Development Officer South

Suzanne Jackson- Community Development Officer West / New Communities

Carl Higgs- Community Development Officer East / Armed Forces and Veterans Lead

Adie Hawkshaw- Children and Young People Engagement Officer

Luthfa Khatun- Community Cohesion Officer

Patrick Brown- Community Development assistant

Jolene Chisholm- Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Engagement Worker

Dora Suberlak- Project Support Officer

What's Been Happening?

VETERAN LED COMMUNITY SHED



Supported by our Armed Forces and Veterans lead Carl, members of the Cambridge Veterans Club received a grant to help create a workshop based at Browns Field Community Centre.

The shed is a space primarily aimed at the armed forces community to meet, create and work on projects. They aspire to run a community skill-share project and once established, will open the shed membership to the wider community, teaching basic DIY skills, working on community projects, repair workshops and commissioned projects.

WORKSHOPS WITH COMMUNITY CENTRE STAFF, WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

With the aim of increasing the number of welcoming safe spaces for young people in the city, two workshops were held with community centre staff led by a partnership of our Children, Young Person and Families lead Caroline, our Community Safety Team and County Council colleagues.

The workshops came about as result of increased reports of ASB with young people at centres matched with a need to develop a consistent approach in the way young people access our facilities.

If you want to find out more about training or making your space more young people friendly contact communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk with the subject title 'Training'.



WORKING IN NEW COMMUNITIES



The Northwest and West Cambridge Community Forum brings residents, councils and developers together to discuss how local new developments are progressing. At the last meeting Suzanne, our Community Development Officer for New Communities presented an update of community activity in Darwin Green and Eddington including community walks, pop ups, support to access Community Chest funding and locally led groups including Teddingtons and Eddies Café.

Residents at the Ironworks development off Mill Road have also been supported by Patrick, our Assistant Community Development Officer, to create a residents group. This allows for a space where people can talk about their new community and address any issues, and also share ideas and plan for exciting new projects to encourage a vibrant and inclusive neighbourhood.

What's been happening?



Hello Summer!



Over the Summer Holidays the whole team worked closely with our partners, collaborating on events and opportunities for children, young people and families to access activities and ideas to help them enjoy summer in the city! Our partners included the Active Lifestyles Team, Cambridgeshire Libraries, Cambridge Sustainable Food, University of Cambridge Museums, Child and Family Centres and Cambridge City Events.



Activities included Community Picnics, Community Showcasing, Musical Theatre Workshops, Cooking Clubs, Coding Workshops, Active Families events, Holiday Lunches and Music in the Parks.

Plus the Hello Summer brochure featured lots of other free opportunities and ideas for families to spend time together in spaces across the city.

If you have any feedback for us about the summer programme, or would like to join us and collaborate on the programme next year, email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk with the subject title 'Summer'.

Community Picnics were a particular highlight of the summer, with support from so many partners it's hard to name them all! It was brilliant to see so many people attending and enjoying themselves and we met lots of local people as well as those that travelled across the city to get to them!



We trialed some free bookable activities over the summer, including Musical Theatre Workshops, Coding sessions, Come and Cook workshops and a magic show!

They were a great opportunity for young people to try something new, and Adie our Children and Young Peoples Engagement Officer told us...

"Mark had some anxiety in group settings, his mum explained to me and wasn't sure if the young person would cope with the session. With reassurance he took part and was the last person to leave. He met new people, like minded to him and engaged in all the activities"

A young person also told us...

"This is the best and most coolest day ever!"



What's Been Happening?

East Chesterton Great Yarmouth Seaside Trip

Andrea, our Community Development Officer for the north of the city, joined over 50 residents from East Chesterton on a trip to Great Yarmouth.

The trip was subsidised with money from Chesterton Community Association and everyone enjoyed travelling by coach and having healthy snacks along the way.

It was a beautifully sunny day and one resident who joined the trip shared "Getting out like this is so good for my mental health".



News from our friends



In July, Cambridgeshire South Care Partnership, Cambridge United Foundation and Diabetes UK hosted a 'Living With Diabetes Day' with local service providers to help people learn more about how best to manage their condition. The event drew a crowd of 65 people who attended talks from local healthcare professionals on medication, diet, keeping active, technology and emotional wellbeing.

Attendees shared overwhelmingly positive feedback and expressed their appreciation for the informative workshops and the support provided, with one participant remarking, "*More sessions like this please. Education and support make the management of this disease easier.*" The event's success has prompted discussions about establishing a regular Diabetes Support Group in Cambridge - if you or anyone with Type 2 diabetes are interested would like to join the group please contact david.robinson@diabetes.org.uk.

The Integrated Care Partnership are also gearing up for two important health and wellbeing events and are excited to invite you to join them. Cambridge Central Mosque and Cambridge United Foundation will be hosting two informative and engaging events, providing valuable resources and advice to support everyone in their journey towards healthier lifestyles.

- Women's Wellness Day on Saturday 2nd October 11am-3pm at Cambridge Central Mosque
- Men's Wellness Day on Saturday 11th November 11am-3pm at Abbey Stadium

No need to book, just turn up! For more information email Adam.Chiesa@nhs.net from South Cambridgeshire Care Partnership

What's Coming Up?

- ➔ We are working alongside Cambridge Sustainable Food and Cambridge City Foodbank on a Food Justice Conference coming up on the 4th October. For more information email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk with 'Food Justice' as the subject title. You can also visit www.eventbrite.co.uk and search 'Food Justice Cambridge' to book tickets.
- ➔ We are developing a Youth Advisory Board for the City with young people aged 11 and over. For more information or if you know of a young person that might want to be involved email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk with 'YAB' as the subject title.
- ➔ October is Black History Month, look out for events and activities celebrating black culture and heritage at venues across the City including the Clay Farm Centre, Cambridge Junction and the University of Cambridge. For more information follow Cambridge Black Heritage on Facebook www.facebook.com/CamBlackHeritage
- ➔ We are developing a strategy for children, young people and families to ensure we are working collaboratively and consistently in meeting the desired outcomes for families. The project will begin with a series of workshops with relevant stakeholders in October and November. For more information email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk with 'CHYP Strategy' as the subject title.
- ➔ The Preventative Health Discovery Project is an exciting collaboration between the City Council, The Integrated Care Service and Cambridgeshire County Council, bringing alongside the voluntary sector, community groups, social enterprise and business to look at innovative ways to address health challenges.

Preventative health will be focused at a community and neighbourhood level; not creating or funding clinical interventions. It will work across the whole system in an organic and collaborative way, initially exploring three topic areas to generate ideas and create meaningful connections. This will move the project forward to the funding stage for new ideas, initiatives or solutions to be tested, piloted and fast-tracked throughout 2023-24

Initial workshops and areas for exploration will be;

- Tuesday 26th September 10-2pm - Frailty
- Wednesday 27th September 10-2pm - Children and Young People's Mental Health
- Thursday 28th Sept 1-5pm - Frequent Service Users

If you are a professional from any sector that would like to book on to one or all of the workshops visit www.bookwhen/communitydevelopment You can also email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk with the subject title 'Health Workshops' for further information.

- ➔ Our events equipment hiring facility - the Community Cupboard - has launched at Browns Field Community Centre. City based groups and organisations can hire equipment, reducing the impact on the environment of buying 'new' things that may only be used for limited periods. Items include sports and camping equipment, circus skills kits, seaside items, and everything in between! Membership is free to local groups and organisations and charges are minimal. Find out more by visiting www.communitycupboard.cambridge.gov.uk and email communitycupboard@cambridge.gov.uk
- ➔ Look out for events and activities in neighbourhoods over October half term on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/cambcommdev

Don't forget, if you want to make sure you get the next newsletter straight to your inbox email communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk or message us through our facebook page www.facebook.com/cambcommdev