

Woodstock Community and Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2019

Community Led Social Action Update September 2019

September 2019

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Aims of this update

The aim of this update is to document the discussions, formation of working groups and a steering group, as well as agreed actions from the two public 'community-led social action' events facilitated by CFO on behalf of Woodstock residents on September 9 and 10 2019.

The events, which were part of the social infrastructure consultation within the wider Woodstock Community and Infrastructure Delivery Plan, drew upon the evidence gathered since March 2019 from engagement with community groups, organisations and businesses. This sought to identify strengths, concerns and ideas regarding the consolidation and development of existing and new community organizations and activities. The outcomes of the initial engagement process are documented in the 'Community Groups, Organisations and Business Consultation report July 2019' (see link below).

This update should be considered in conjunction with the evidence gathered from Woodstock residents of all ages via the community survey and social infrastructure consultation. The following reports are key reference documents in this regard:

- **Woodstock Community Survey Report, July 2019:** <https://www.communityfirstoxon.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Woodstock-CIDP-Community-Survey-Report-July-2019.pdf>
- **Community groups, Organisations, Businesses report, July 2019:** <https://www.communityfirstoxon.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Community-Groups-etc-Consultation-Report-July-2019.pdf>

Since March 2019, CFO has spoken or met with 50+ community groups and organisations, representing a range of different age groups and interest groups, to ask key questions, gather evidence of what is working well, concerns and ideas for strengthening and sustaining provision, as well as identifying needs.

Aims of the community-led social action events, September 2019

The aim of these 'community led social action' meetings was to:

- build on all the community evidence about social and community infrastructure that has been gathered since March through the consultation, via interviews, community survey and events
- invite Woodstock residents to set up a community-led steering group to create an Action Plan for project work
- identify working groups and leaders to take forward emerging projects in the agreed Action Plan e.g. volunteering, children, families and young people
- receive updates from working groups e.g. Woodstock Safer Routes working group
- identify resources, including CFO expertise and other sources, needed to support further community led social action

This next phase of prioritizing social action can be considered in relation to how far suggested ideas both reflect and contribute towards a sustainable community, whose characteristics can be defined as:

- a sense of community and belonging
- tolerance, respect and engagement with people from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs
- friendly, co-operative and helpful behaviour in neighbourhoods
- opportunities for cultural, leisure, community, sport and other activities, including for children and young people
- low levels of crime, drugs and antisocial behavior with visible, effective and community friendly policing
- social inclusion and good life chances for all
- having due regard for the needs of future generations in current decisions and actions

Event summary

Dates and locations:

- Woodstock Community Centre: 9 September, 7.30pm to 8.45pm
- The Marlborough School library: 10 September, 3.30pm to 4.45pm

Attendees:

- 55 people of all ages, including young leaders from The Marlborough School

Presentations and discussion:

1. **CFO** outlined the ideas and suggestions for community-led development that been identified by Woodstock residents in the community survey and infrastructure mapping within the following five community development themes: *health and social care; community facilities; community groups; environment; traffic, parking and transport*. The reference documents for this presentation were:
 - Woodstock Community Survey Report, July 2019
 - Community Groups, Organisations and Businesses report, July 2019
2. **Sustainable Woodstock** presented an update of the Woodstock Safer Routes working group, looking at walk and cycleways across Woodstock as well as the link with Wootton, which was well received.
3. **Discussion groups:** participants sat in themed groups as set out above to 1- discuss ideas related to these themes which have arisen from the consultation, 2- to feedback emerging priorities and 3- to identify a working group for their theme.
4. **Setting up a steering group:** CFO explained the need for an overall steering group and invited participants to become part of it. 14 people, including young leaders, volunteered.
5. **Young Leaders 'Together We Can' community led social action project:** CFO explained that that Young Leaders engagement will be supported as an integral aspect of community-led social action in partnership with the Marlborough School. The aim is that Young Leaders can co-lead on social action projects that arise from steering group prioritisation. It is hoped that one or more of the young leaders will sit on the steering group.

Agreed next steps

1. **CFO to host a community meeting to support setting up the steering group – date to be confirmed**
2. **Steering Group to communicate with Woodstock residents and Woodstock Town Council**