

Activity Report March 2016

Background to Well Doncaster

Well Doncaster is part of Well North, a collaborative programme between nine pathfinder sites, Public Health England and The University of Manchester. This is a three year project with objectives to reduce health inequalities, decrease worklessness and increase resilience.

The programme follows an asset-based approach that recognises local people as the solution; that doing things *with* rather than *to* people is the best recipe for success. Everybody wants a quality home, a good job and a healthy life to enjoy with family and friends. This will be achieved through vibrant and connected communities that improve lifestyles but also tackling debt, a lack of jobs and training, poor housing and loneliness.

The programme connects local people, health experts, public services, businesses, and voluntary and community groups eager to make a difference.

How Denaby Main was chosen

Over the summer of 2015, the process for determining the initial area was agreed in partnership with the CCG. The top ten areas were discussed with the Steering Group and ranked based on criteria including unplanned healthcare, crime and employment rates. Two clear areas were identified and checked with wider stakeholders including Elected Members and organisations working in the areas. Taking a holistic view, Denaby Main was selected as a starting point.

Appreciative Inquiry

In August 2015, 22 Community Explorers from 18 organisations and services contacted residents of Denaby Main to find out their thoughts and aspirations for the area. Following a gap analysis the working age population and young people we identified as underrepresented and a targeted consultation took place in December 2015.



The Appreciative Inquiry (AI) highlighted a number of strengths such as natural community networks and motivated local groups supporting the community, as well as buildings and services that provide a strong foundation on which to build. Following a series of workshops attended by residents and professionals, key themes were agreed and action plans created focusing on a cleaner, greener, safer Denaby, and building on the sense of community by establishing a community hub. Fortnightly community -ins have been used to implement the action plans.

Cleaner, Greener, Safer Denaby

Working with the DMBC Communities Team, land ownership has been researched and areas cleared and cutback. Harlington Court housing estate was raised as an area of concern for residents and rapid repairs have since been carried out – though further work is required. Feeling safe on the Craggs emerged as a strong theme, which will be a long term project led by Conisbrough Forward and Communities Team. The allotments, which back onto the Craggs, have been cleared to create more open space and are ready for renting in time for spring planting.

You said...
We would like the Craggs to feel safer

We did...
We are working with Conisbrough Forward to develop their plan to make the Craggs safer

You said...
We would like the allotments to be used

We did...
The allotments are being cleared and are available for renting

Community Spirit

Recently named through a community competition, the 'Denaby Community Library and Hub' at the Denaby Springwell Centre, has been re-opened as a meeting place and centre for information and advice. The Hub is co-located with the GP surgery and pharmacy and is well placed

to reach many in the community. Social media pages have been created for the Hub and key events feature in the community newsletter published by Craganour TARA and St Leger Homes.

To address the need for support into work, Doncaster West Development Trust operates from the Hub on a Thursday, providing support such as job searching and CV writing. Linking with Regeneration and Environment, other employment and training supports have been mapped and barriers to work for young people have been identified through focus groups with Transition Officers and Ambition Coaches. Business Engagement recently contacted 29 businesses in Denaby which led to an apprentice opportunity.

Citizens Advice Bureau are available in the Hub on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Over 130 people have used the service since December 2015, two thirds of whom are from Denaby. Around 50% have received welfare and benefits advice, 19% debt management advice and the remaining 31% a mix of employment, disability and housing support. A Denaby resident has recently completed CAB training and volunteers as their receptionist.

You said...
We would like a community space

We did...
The Denaby Community Library & Hub is open 3 days a week with more days planned

You said...
We would like support to find work

We did...
Doncaster West Development Trust are at the Hub every Thursday. Computers and free WiFi are available all week



Since January 2016, the People Focused Group has established a Bumping Space in the Hub to provide peer support, especially where people are socially isolated and vulnerable. The Bumping Space has grown organically through word of mouth, social media and footfall at the Springwell Centre. The Bumping Space is open every Wednesday where members play dominos, craft, socialise and are making a Denaby blanket and photo collage.

PFG	No of Attendees	New Attendees	Repeat Attendees
Jan 2016	67	43	24
Feb 2016	98	22	76

The closure of the library in 2012 was a real loss to the community. Re-Read have organised a number of pop-up book giveaways at the Hub in November and December, giving away 650 children's books, 150 books for adults and received around 50 book donations. In January Re-Read were contracted to recruit volunteers and re-establish the

library with support from Library Services. Shelves are up and filled with Re-Read books awaiting library stock and volunteer training sessions, which have been organised for the library to be fully open in late April.

There have been a number of events and activities to create opportunities for people to meet, develop skills and received information. These have included information days organised by Healthwatch Doncaster, the most recent celebrating International Women's Day, a slipper swap and craft sessions which are starting to be organised by a local volunteers. At Christmas a Grotto drew in 80 children and their families to see Santa. In January a Vintage Tea Party connected over 20 older people. In February an exhibition of Denaby photographs was held, organised through Council Heritage Services and the Conisbrough and Denaby Heritage Group, celebrating the history of Denaby.

You said...
We would like the library back

We did...
Re-Read have been in the Hub twice before Christmas and the library is due back into the Hub in April

You said...
We would like more community events

We did...
Craft activities, Santa's grotto, heritage exhibition and a slipper Swap have already taken place. Re-read held half term activities in the Autumn, a vintage Tea party was held at Tom Hill Youth Centre and PFG Bumping Space every Wednesday



Next Steps

Community micro-grant

A key principle of Well North is that local people participate and have a say in their local area. Well Doncaster is creating a community grant of £20,000 to benefit the community, decided by a panel of residents and Elected Members. The grant will:

- Support local projects that improve quality of life, meeting the objectives of Well Doncaster.
- Promote a sense of ownership not only of problems but of local opportunities and resources
- Start more neighbourhood groups and revitalise existing groups

The grants will result in;

- Communities being better able to help themselves and others
- Neighbourhood groups that can better express their needs and influence decisions about the community
- Neighbourhood groups than can better control resources.

Health and wellbeing training for residents and professionals

Healthy Chats training will be given to local professionals and residents, empowering them to support others to make healthier choices. PFG are delivering WRAP training (Wellness Recovery Action Planning) in April, a programme developed by people with lived experience of mental distress. WRAP supports people to manage and take control of their lives, providing a day-to-day guide to wellbeing and a plan if things begin to break down.

