



BURNGREAVE

COMMUNITY ACTION FORUM

Its your Community Forum!

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BCAF Quarterly Forum - December 2008



This newsletter is a report on the BCAF Quarterly Forum Meeting (QFM) which took place on 6th December 2008 at the Burngreave Vestry Hall.

This was the fourth Quarterly Forum Meeting since BCAF regained a working staff. The popular consensus on the day was that it was the most successful QFM yet.

After introductions and welcome from BCAF Vice Chair Rebecca Cram, Rose Ardron started the day with a presentation on the history of BCAF and Burngreave. Forum Members were then invited to take part in building a timeline of community work in the area, and the achievements and challenges for BCAF and Burngreave along the way. The results of this are displayed in the centre pages. The production of the timeline at this meeting is the first step in an ongoing process documenting the history of community work in the area, so if you have anything to add please do contact us.

Members then divided into groups to discuss the future priorities for BCAF. Again, the results of these discussions are presented in the centre pages.

After a delicious Lunch provided by local caterers Caribbean Cuisine, Members attended workshops on four important topics: Burngreave after New Deal, the proposed Ellesmere Market, the future of Festivals and Events in Burngreave, and the plans for the Burngreave Chapel. The recommendations made in these workshops are presented on the back page.

BCAF is very grateful to everyone who was involved in the planning and running of this meeting, and to the organisations who took part: Jali Organic, Ellesmere Youth Project, Burngreave Health Matters, and Pitsmoor Adventure Playground.

The next Quarterly Forum Meeting will also be the Annual General Meeting and will take place on Saturday 7th March 2009, at the Burngreave Vestry Hall. BCAF would like to invite any members of the community who are interested in contributing to this meeting to attend our AGM planning group, which will meet for the first time at 10.30am on Friday 16th January 2009 at the BCAF Office. In the mean time, if you have any suggestions, comments or recommendations for us, please contact us, or call into our office on Spital Hill.

BCAF and Burngreave:

1970's

Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English (SAVTE) - Local area group forms in 1973



1980's

All Stars Fir Vale Youth Group – 1979-86
 Grimesthorpe Anti-Nuclear-Group – 1982
 Asian Youth Movement – March 1983
 Pakistani Youth and Community Association
 – 1983 Meeting at Vestry Hall



PITSTOP (Pitsmoor
 Pakistan Advice
 Green City Actio
 Pitsmoor Peopl
 Pitsmoor Credit
 Plans to close V
 Burngreave Fai
 Yemeni Commu
 Black Communi
 The Furnival
 Burngreave Cor
 Burngreave Cor
 Vestry Hall Gro
 SRB4 funding
 Burngreave Me

Achievements

Arts Festival – Pitsmoor Calling Come in Please
 Arts Group – Cemetery Chapels as an art centre
 Campaign against the Education Action Zone

Challenges

Education : Improving standards, provision and buildings
 Drugs and Crime, Dirty Streets



Asian Youth and

BCAF: Your suggestions for the future

- Work to ensure the sustainability of community groups and projects in Burngreave beyond the end of BNDfC, through mainstreaming funding and attracting additional funding from outside.
- Make Burngreave a more cohesive community, by bringing the different communities and groups in the area together, by creating an alliance of local community and faith organisations, and by working to represent and involve every member of the community.
- Particularly focus on improving youth provision – giving them a voice in decision making, developing their capabilities, and increasing the number of youth projects, events and activities. Improve and alter ways of working to attract and sustain youth involvement in community work.
- Empower members of the community to make the changes they want. Provide a central point for campaigning and lobbying over issues, such as demolitions, social housing and repossessions.
- Be proactive and not just reactive – make things happen! Have a vision for the future of the area and plan to make it a reality.
- Provide oversight of city-level decisions that may affect the area and ensure all individuals and groups are kept informed of how these decisions may impact on them. Act as a representative for the area at wider levels and stand up for Burngreave's interests.

BCAF Past, Present & Future

1990's

Door Campaign to stop the Poll Tax) – 1989-91
Centre – forms in Fir Vale 1989
on – 1992
e's Press – 1992
Union – Launched Summer 1995
Vestry Hall – 1995
th Communities launch Churches Together – 1995
unity Association
ity Forum – 1996
Community Action Forum - 1997
Community Action Trust – 1998
up -
essenger first published – July 1999

2000

Burngreave Ashram and New Roots – 2001
Burngreave New Deal for Communities – 2001
Burngreave Adult Learning Working Group – 2003

The Present

Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Migrants Working Group
Community of Asylum Seekers meet at Burngreave Ashram
Community Learning Campaign
Study Support –
Creative Burngreave
Advancing Together Program 2007/08-2010/11
Vestry Hall completed
Sorby House
Forum House

Good schools
Burngreave Chapel stage first plays in the area
First art exhibitions at chapel
Carwood Community Centre Activities

BCAF has strong links with local groups and statutory agencies
BCAF has affiliate organisations
BCAF has staff and office

Community Funding redirected – AYCA nowhere to meet (1996)

Fir Vale still needs lots of help
Getting people involved and keeping them involved
Future funding
After BNDfC, management of assets, future development, co-ordination

BCAF/BCAT Problems in representing all communities – ownership by local people

Demise of BCAT

Area divided by BNDfC
BNDfC duplication of working groups
Community Development Workers at SCC sacked - 1998

- Ensure the community is kept well informed and connected – work to improve communication and flows of information within Burngreave.
- Hold service providers, and community and other organisations to account, ensure they genuinely consult the community about decisions that affect them and are open and transparent in the work that they do.
- Take part in the planning and arrangements for the succession to Burngreave New Deal for Communities, ensuring that the process is open, democratic and accountable, that the maximum number of positive projects are retained, and that the assets left for the community are properly managed and sustained.

This timeline was created from suggestions of attendees at the BCAF Quarterly Forum Meeting on 6th December 2008.

If you have any corrections, additions or amendments, please contact us - we hope to display a regularly updated version in our office on Spital Hill.

We would also like to hear any comments you have on the suggested future priorities for BCAF.

Our contact details are listed on the back page.

Burngreave after New Deal

The Burngreave New Deal for Communities Programme will come to an end in 2011. The workshop looked at what role BCAF could and should play in ensuring that the Burngreave New Deal legacy that is left behind continues to benefit residents of Burngreave.

BCAF to be maintained as the Representative voice of Burngreave: BCAF's role to be maintained as a representative and voice of Burngreave as a unique and diverse area. BCAF should be taking voice of the community to the Community Assembly.

Encourage more local volunteering: In light of fewer funds, greater emphasis should be placed on encouraging local people to volunteer and empower them.

Strengthen strategic partnership: Encourage partners with influence such as schools to lobby for mainstreaming of successful BNDFC projects.

Encourage more community participation: Local people should be very vocal and be ever ready to speak out or act for our area. That is do not sit back and allow changes to happen without taking responsibilities and or control of activities in our community.

Democratic system for succession: Any succession system should be democratic, open, and involve the whole community.

Retaining police team and wardens: The police and wardens should be retained as part of the succession, to enable them to continue the good job they have started.

Exit strategies for 39 BNDFC projects: All the 39 BNDFC projects should have succession plans in place.

Educational needs within the area: We should keep focus on education.

Ellesmere Market

Ellesmere Green is one part of the proposed regeneration of Spital Hill. The workshop considered the latest reports on the progress of this scheme.

Toilet facilities: Sorby House's promise to allow people to use their toilets is not being honoured. There is therefore the need to put signs for alternative toilets up.

Want to keep the existing trees: People asked if older trees can be re-sited.

Staged development process: Revised plans have been produced giving a bare minimum option if less money is available. We should prioritise areas and put off some parts of work for when more money is available.

Strengthen existing local businesses: local businesses should be strengthened using existing infrastructure like the business forum structure and perhaps, some kind of loyalty scheme to strengthen the local economy.

Event (Theme) Markets: i.e. arts, French, continental, craft market - to draw people from outside Burngreave into the area.

Become part of Sheffield Markets: Traders to pay commission initially to test interest. Free short stay parking, with a machine giving times to make enforcement easier.

Improve bus services and improve lighting.

Engage in and encourage promotional and consultation work.

Festivals and Events in Burngreave:

Burngreave annually hosts a number of successful events, including the Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival. Due to concerns raised about future funding, it is clear that the future of Festivals in Burngreave is under threat. The Area Coordinator Andy Shallice led a discussion on how these popular community events can be sustained.

Workshop Recommendations:

- BCAF should write a letter to Green City Action (GCA) saying that the festival belongs to the community and it will go ahead whether or not they participate.
- BCAF should invite recommended organisations and individuals to a planning meeting in January. Suggested invites should include BCAF individual members and affiliates, TARA and churches, youth workers, schools, Guides and Scouts and other youth groups, Youth Council, Business Forum, The Messenger, BiG, Sheffield Homes, Health Matters, appeal for local musicians, Longley Park college, Area Panel members, Panni and Lee, Phillip Weiss, Big Al and Leroy.

Chapel Project

The Burngreave Chapel Project aims to develop a creative centre for the community - a focus for positive cross cultural interaction and a place for visitors to experience cultural activities.

For Burngreave to have an inspiring and engaging creative arts and business centre would raise the positive profile of the whole area and raise the esteem of all that live in the local area too.

What will the Chapel Project do?

- Provide space for Cultural food preparation.
- Dance rehearsal place: a home for Vincent Dance Theatre, international company wanting to base themselves at the Chapel.
- Involve young people that drop out of school: engaging creative projects at earlier age to decrease the possibility of school drop out as well as opportunities for running projects within the building.
- Obtain match funding.
- Friends of Burngreave Chapel and Cemetery to have their place in the building, to continue to provide family heritage research and assistance as well as develop heritage education programmes which will work with schools in the local area.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Burngreave Chapel Project please contact Cassie Limb at Creative Outpost Email: xandra@burngreave.net or telephone 07950 014 781.



For more information on BCAF please visit our new website at: www.bcaf.org.uk
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© Booklet Designed & Printed by www.intelligentdesignprint.com 07957 341 355

Written and published by Burngreave Community Action Forum