



Communities Co-ordinator report for C.O.P.S. March 2018



Sharon & Liz with Jess McFall from the Alzheimer's Society

Poynton Dementia Steering Group

The group met on the 8th March, at which Poynton Town Council's application 'working to become dementia friendly' was approved by the group. One action was for Councillors to receive 'Dementia Friends Information Sessions'. This is the first organisation to be awarded this status in Poynton. The group are updating their Dementia Action Alliance action plan to include work around technology and transport services supporting people living with dementia and their carers.

Communities Co-ordinator – the role and projects



Poynton with Worth
Town Council

Poynton Town Council's Communities Co-ordinator, Sharon Duke, is involved in all the Poynton projects detailed below. The role contributes to making Poynton a healthy town that has a resilient and connected community. For more information about any of the projects or groups below please contact Sharon at the Civic Hall on 01625 872238 or email sharon.duke@poyntontowncouncil.gov.uk

Connected Communities Centre

Poynton Civic Hall is now a Connected Communities Centre, the hub for community activity in Poynton. The centre's aim is to deliver services tailored for our community. We have a computer tablet connected to Cheshire East Council's Live.Wall community information website, so you can easily find information, advice, activities and services in the area. If you want to set up a group or are involved with a group which contributes to the health and wellbeing of the community, and would like support at the Civic Hall, please get in touch.

Poynton Area Community Partnership (PACP) - Poynton, Adlington, Disley, Mottram St Andrew, Prestbury, Kettleburgh, Pott Shingley

PACP are a group of volunteers and representatives from Poynton and the surrounding parishes who identify and help to address local priorities to make their areas places where people want to visit, live, work and spend their leisure time. The group has a vision to make residents and neighbourhoods more connected, to promote a strong sense of place by supporting civic pride projects, and to encourage socialising and health and well-being activity. The group were responsible for the booklet 'A guide to Poynton's interest, activity and hobby groups' that was circulated before Christmas, with a view to reducing loneliness.

Poynton Dementia Steering Group

The group was set up to ensure the co-ordination of new and existing community initiatives that support people living with dementia and their carers. Poynton has now been recognised by the Alzheimer's Society as 'working to become dementia friendly' and the group continues with raising awareness campaigns. For information about Dementia Friends Information sessions and businesses wanting to become dementia friendly, contact Sharon.



Civic Pride

Poynton Town Council is keen to support and promote Civic Pride projects. The Poynton Pick and Tidy Group, a group of volunteers pick litter and carry out light gardening activities in areas that need attention to improve the presentation of Poynton. Last year the corner of Burton Drive had some 'recycled' planting. In October, the 'growing groups' in Poynton came together for Crocus Focus when 6,000 purple crocus bulbs were planted along grass verges along the main routes through Poynton.



Wednesday Lunch Club

Following a local provider moving away from Poynton, Wednesday Lunch Club started in September 2016. This provided a weekly group for our older residents who are frail and/or living with dementia. The group continued until the end of February 2018 when a new service provider started in Poynton, ensuring continuity of a similar service.

Time Out Café

A small group of volunteers help provide a social café at the Civic Hall every Friday afternoon and make available a cup of tea and biscuits with a game of bingo or colouring activity and the opportunity to meet other people. Occasionally our local PCSO's drop-in to say hello, and it's an opportunity to find out about other services and groups in the area. All seniors are welcome.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Students from Poynton High School are litter picking as part of their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. The students are required to volunteer an hour each week over a six-month period.

Following on from a request from previous COPS meeting, information about projects that I have been involved with are now included in the community noticeboards.

End of First World War commemorations

The most recent PUN included a call-out for any groups/organisations who hope to commemorate the end of the First World War, who we aren't aware of, with a view of asking them to get in touch. I will then organise a meeting with interested groups and co-ordinate a meeting to pull together the commemoration programme for November 2018.

Poynton AED's

I am supporting the lead volunteer who has already been involved with raising funding for 24/7 AED's in Poynton. I will help to secure funding and support for their maintenance. The phone boxes that are in the process of being purchased by the town council will be used to house the units, and the units will become the responsibility of the town council once in place. The priority locations are in phone boxes by Poynton railway station, the Hockley Centre, Boars Head and Coppice Road. Liz continues to liaise with BT to secure an electrical supply to the phone box at the railway station.

Middlewood – Primary Care Home

'Middlewood' is a new approach to delivering health care in Bollington, Disley and Poynton. I am now attending the B.D.P. meetings with representatives from the surgeries in these areas and the transition team. I will now be the main link for ensuring that 'community-based health programmes' are intrinsically linked into the new Primary Health Care model.

Poynton Area Community Partnership

Cheshire East Council has provided the group with health and other data for Poynton. This has been collated from various sources and breaks information down into the Super Output Areas and indicates levels of children living in poverty, levels of unemployment, those who are financially stretched, pensioners living alone, death by stroke, etc. Given the geographical area that Middlewood covers, the group has agreed to approach Bollington with a view to them being represented on the group for health and wellbeing purposes.

Poynton Easy Access Scheme (P.E.A.S.)

I have organised the annual maintenance service for the mobility scooters and wheelchairs. We have equipment that is used infrequently and some that is more regularly hired out. I will work with Haf to look at the bookings made with a view to rationalising what equipment we have in future.

Youth Commission Conference and meeting

I will be attending an event at the end of March organised by The Youth Commission which will present the findings and recommendations of the Youth Commission based on over 2,000 conversations with young people across Cheshire.

Police & Crime Commissioner, David Keane is hosting the event and this year's topics have focused on the cross-cutting theme of vulnerability.

I am planning a meeting in the week commencing 16th April with Youth Support Services, local youth co-ordinators, the Police and Everybody Sport and Recreation to discuss the above recommendations and agree a way forward with partners for Poynton.

HayLo theatre – Over the Garden Fence

Poynton Dementia Steering Group invites you to ...

'Over the Garden Fence'

A much loved, dementia friendly play by HayLo Theatre.

Saturday 12th May 2018. 12 o'clock - 1 pm
Poynton Civic Hall, SK12 1RB (next to the library)

Light snacks and drinks available after the performance with the chance to meet people and groups providing local dementia and other support services. All welcome.

FREE event but booking is essential.
Contact Poynton Town Council on 01625 872238.

Over the Garden Fence has the power to change attitudes and behaviours about dementia and delivers a message of compassion and understanding in a highly entertaining way.

Plans are underway for the performance of Over the Garden Fence by HayLo Theatre on the 12th May. Some services who support people living with dementia and their carers have already agreed to attend for people to talk to afterwards including The Alzheimer's Society, Age UK Cheshire East and Admiral Nurses. The free performance is aimed at people living with dementia, carers and health professionals.



Following the postponement of the Spring Clean event due to the weather a new date has been decided. The local churches will be involved this time and there will be a focus on litter picking along the main routes in Poynton.

Incredible Edible Poynton

An inaugural meeting of interested residents met on Saturday 17th March along with myself, Cllr Sarah-Jane Gilmore and Phil Cunningham. The group had lots of ideas and discussed the possibility of incorporating growing vegetables and herbs in 'edible' hanging baskets along Park Lane, instead of all floral displays, and having a 'show bed' in front of the Vernon Building Society. The bed along London Road North owned by Cheshire East Council was mentioned too. It's very early stages with this project, but positive that local residents feel that it's something that they want to take forward.

Sharon Duke
Communities Co-ordinator