



the chase and kings forest
COMMUNITY PROJECT

Annual Report 2007-8

Chair's Report

I have pleasure in reporting a year of further growth. You may hear the term 'capacity building' used where volunteers are given guidance and training that helps the work of many small community groups around the district running organisations driven by a commitment to improve the wellbeing of their communities. We have continued this process engaging with the community through visiting groups, supporting voluntary organisations, keeping groups informed and organising training for volunteers. The report from Steph illustrates the many ways we engage with the community, reports an increase in membership and the number of organisations supported.

As an ongoing process, time has been given to setting out a development plan that has brought about improvement to the management of the project and has clearly set priorities. Discussion around the role of the management committee continues to highlight the need for more representatives to come forward to help influence and guide how we respond to the community needs. We are not alone with this problem. We hear of groups struggling, some disbanding through lack of members in the committee. It may be time to review and highlight how vulnerable some groups are to stall further threats to services within our communities?

Looking at ways of monitoring services included the introduction of member lunches and a newsletter questionnaire where the feedback has helped make improvements and raises topical concerns from members.

Whilst we strive to service the whole district it is important to acknowledge with a 18 hour post this does effect further development, an example would be the long awaited volunteer recruitment centre, and means we have to concentrate on priority areas. However what is most gratifying is to hear your sincere comments on working with Steph and appreciation of how members and groups are more confident working within their communities.

This report provides an opportunity to thank present committee members Kay Halley and Mary Hastings for their continued support throughout the year; Chris Thring, who has assisted in the preparation of the annual accounts; and to add my personal congratulations to Steph on what has been achieved this year.

The good news, securing another three year Service Level Agreement with South Gloucestershire Council, means we are on course in planning a sustainable future for the project. But we must not overlook the appeal for representative of members to come forward to join the management committee.

Michael Packer
Chair
July 2008

Community Development Worker's Report

This year has been a very positive one. We have been successful in securing core funding for another 3 years through a Service Level Agreement with South Gloucestershire Council, for 3 training courses and for producing another 4 issues of our newsletter. After listening to our members, we have also started work on our web site.

During the last financial year we organised 2 members' lunches to find out what services groups wanted us to provide and to enable organisations to celebrate achievements and network. The members' lunches were attended by representatives from 17 organisations. We plan to continue with these on a six-monthly basis.

We have continued to give advice and send out information to groups on request, whilst providing more in-depth support to a smaller number of organisations. During this financial year we have supported Hilltop Young Mums, Friends of Kingswood Park, Kingswood Heritage Museum and Our Place.

We ran 2 Management Committee Skills courses in 2 venues: The Park Centre Kingswood, and Our Place, Staple Hill. Each course comprised of 3x2 hour sessions. Thirteen



people attended the sessions, representing 9 organisations. We also ran a series of 5x3 hour Pyramid of Purpose workshops, with the aim that attendees would complete Development Plans for their groups. These workshops were very successful, with 12 people attending from 5 organisations.

During this financial year we have sent out 3 issues of our newsletter to 171 recipients, including 108 members and local groups, councillors, parish councils and statutory bodies. We have also started sending out Funding Updates in between newsletters to people on request. During the past year we have sent funding information out to Children's Playlink, BTCV, Project 97, Our Place, Hilltop Young Mums, The Clocktower Association, Kings Meadow Community Flat, Avon North Mencap society, Alzheimer's Society Bristol & South Glos, Sanctuary Church, Ten-Sing, Friends of Grimsbury Farm, The Jessie May Trust, Kingswood Furniture Project, and AEK-Boco.

Collaborative work continues with CVS South Glos, Volunteer Centres South Glos and South Glos Community Engagement Team. As part of the partnership working with the Community Engagement Team, I have been actively involved in a community consultation in Kingswood using the Planning For Real model.

We continue to provide representation at network meetings, including Kingswood Safer & Stronger group, the newly formed Boyd Valley & Bitton Safer & Stronger group, G.I.T.C.H. and the Children & Young People Kingswood Locality Hub Steering Group.

Thank you to all the people I have worked with over the last financial year, to my management committee, local residents and groups, Volunteer Centres South Glos, CVS South Glos, and the Community Engagement and Community Learning Teams at South Gloucestershire Council.

Stephanie Bengry-Howell
July 2008

Management Committee 2007-2008

Chair	Michael Packer
Treasurer	Kay Halley
Secretary	Emma Collier
Committee	Mary Hastings
Auditor	Chris Thring ACA
Bankers	Lloyds TSB PLC
Funders	South Glos Council (<i>Service Commissioning Contract</i>) South Glos Council (<i>Capital Grant Programme 2007-8</i>) South Glos Council (<i>Community Learning</i>)

The Chase and Kings Forest Community Project
Income & Expenditure account for year ending 31 March 2008

	2008	2007
Receipts		
Service Level Agreement	£12,425	£12,172
Newsletter	-	£1,378
Community Learning	£2,532	£1,217
Consultancy	£665	£637
Bank interest	£170	£100
Sundry	£256	£60
Other grant income	£830	-
Room hire	-	£2,276
Total	£16,878	£17,840
Operating costs		
Establishment expenses		
Rent and services	£2,217	£1,790
Light and heat		£87
Insurance		£165
Security		£200
Repairs and renewals	£14	-
Sub-total	£2,231	£2,242
General expenses		
Telephone	£76	£1,161
Equipment repairs and renewals	£863	£248
Printing, postage and stationery	£320	£128
Staff travel	£621	£93
Wages	£8,683	£8,835
Insurance	£98	£381
Subscriptions	£195	£132
Miscellaneous/Accountancy	£241	£391
Training	£200	£85
AGM/Members' Lunch	£264	
IT Services	£48	£556
Newsletter	£524	£768
Community Learning	£2,532	£738
Sub-total	£14,666	£13,516
Total	£16,897	£15,758
Operating surplus/(loss)	(£19)	£2,082
Balance brought forward	£8,126	£6,044
Balance carried forward	£8,107	£8,126

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year set out above. All of the activities of the company are classified as continuing.

Independent examination undertaken by Chris Thring ACA

The Chase & Kings Forest Community Project
First Floor, Mulberry House, Kingswood Foundation Estate, Britannia Road, Kingswood,
South Gloucestershire, BS15 8DB

☎: 01454 868726 • 📠: 01454 868727 • ✉: mail@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk