# Bridgend Assets – Networking and Mapping Event 12th October 2018

Bridgend Assets Sub board has come together under the Public Services Board to deliver elements of the wellbeing plan related to Bridgend assets. From the first meeting of the sub board it was clear that there was a huge range of activity around assets in Bridgend. In order to identify what we wanted to do together we needed to identify what we are already doing that we can build on and which partners we are working with.

The purpose of the day was to explore together how we can maximise the benefit from Bridgend County’s natural, cultural and built assets through mapping current assets and identifying what we can do together to deliver the objectives in the Wellbeing Plan.

Invitations were made through partners and their networks and 61 participants came together at the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters.

Delegates were invited to

* Make connections in the Market Place and listen to 3 minute overviews by stall holders.
* Share ideas and make plans linked to Bridgend’s Wellbeing Plan.
* Express and write down ideas on the Table top mind maps.
* Join in the Speed Dating to discover new things about partners.
* Enjoy free space for networking

On arrival delegates were able to visit stalls set up by 17 organisations with displays, information and interactive material. Following a welcome from Huw Jakeway, Chief Fire Officer and chair of Bridgend Assets Sub Group, stall holders each gave a brief 3 minute introduction on what they do that makes a contribution to Bridgend assets. The agenda and delegate list is attached as appendix 1. Delegates identified who they wanted to work with going forward and these contacts will be passed to the organisations identified (appendix 4)

In the second part of the event, all delegates broke into 5 groups around themes. They discussed what assets they each had or contributed to relevant to that theme and recorded this on the tablecloths.. This information has been brought together in a report which sets out all the assets identified by organisation, by each theme. This information will be used to provide a baseline picture of assets through the network created by the event and will provide information and contacts for partners to use in the development of future activity.

Drawing on those discussions and the information provided by the stall holders delegates went on to propose how they could work together on each of the steps from the wellbeing plan. Each group moved around until everyone had had the opportunity to contribute to discussions around all of the wellbeing themes and all of the steps identified in the wellbeing plan.

The proposals made by delegates can be brought together into the following areas for each theme.

# One – Natural Assets

## How can we work together and with communities to improve and increase our natural assets?

* **Communities** – take a community led approach to develop a sense of ownership and pride in local assets
* **Skills** – provide training and increase skills for local management and maintenance of assets in communities
* **Working Together** – more events like this to get partners to meet to share knowledge and collaborate more
* **Increase Understanding** – provide training and advice to increase understanding of green and local assets across partners and in communities.
* **Information and Promotion** – provide more information about where assets are.
* **Action** – encourage other partners to contribute to current projects
* **Linking Areas** – create links between assets to increase knowledge of the package of opportunities locally from engagement and promotion and identify how assets can work together.
* **Transport/Access** – improve access and routes to assets
* **Resources** –enable communities (and partners?) to share facilities and equipment for maintenance and transferring ownership of land.

## How can we improve the public estate and green space in urban areas?

* **Community** – set up positive activity in communities and with schools such as bulb and seed planting and tree ambassadors
* **Increase understanding** – provide training and advice to promote benefits of local assets and increase awareness of how to manage and protect them
* **Transport –** improve access to green spaces and infrastructure
* **Safety -**  promote safe environments for all by tackling ASB and promoting responsible dog ownership
* **Resources** – expand funding options

# Two - Economic Assets

## How can we get more use from our waste and create a more ‘circular’ economy?

* **Recycle** – provide opportunities to collect and reuse such as materials that can be used for craft projects for schools and in communities, furniture, bicycles that can be redistributed to those who can benefit from them.
* **Energy** – explore solar, ethical investment, energy from waste
* **Procurement** – explore ethical procurement and develop a better understanding the supply chain
* **Lobby** – lobby WG or Westminster about non-recyclable packaging, use of plastics
* **Transport** – promote use of electric cars
* **Action** – hold a gas bottle amnesty

## How can we minimise waste and the use of resources and energy?

* **Energy** – look together at renewables, green energy and promote energy efficiency
* **Working together** – link projects and services to reuse waste
* **Information** – promote and increase awareness of options to reuse and recycle
* **Lobbying** – As a PSB, lobby Welsh government or Westminster about non-recyclable packaging, promote plastic free
* **Procurement** – Increase local and ethical procurement
* **Recycle** – provide local facilities to collect and reuse large items
* **Buildings** – reuse vacant buildings rather than new build
* **Transport** – promote car sharing, park and ride, borris bikes

# Three – Cultural Assets

## How can we understand and improve our historic and cultural assets?

* **Information** – increase awareness of what is available, use different methods to help interpretation and understanding
* **Working Together** – using networks increase awareness of impacts and opportunities for working together
* **Stories** - collecting local memories and stories

## How can we promote the use of Welsh Language when accessing our natural, cultural and historic assets?

* **Learning** – provide more access to opportunities to learn Welsh for staff and others
* **Translation** – work together to make translation more affordable
* **Stories** – use Welsh language to evoke memories of the past with dementia sufferers
* **Visability/names** – increase visability in signage and publicity material and encourage use of Welsh by staff,
* **Welsh culture** – hold events to bring different Welsh cultures together

# Four – Social Assets

## How can we use these assets to provide opportunities for GPs and others to direct people to activities that will help improve their health and wellbeing (social prescribing)?

* **Information and promotion** –work with GP cluster groups to provide information on local opportunities to use local assets to increase wellbeing.
* **Service planning** - seek sustainable funding for activities and establish a plan that recognises complex needs

## How can we help people to age well in Bridgend?

* **Local partners** – make use of local partners such as ABMU, PCSO’s
* **Projects** – build on existing projects such as Ynysawdre action plan for elderly residents

# Five – Community Assets

## How can we help people find out about and use cultural, natural and social assets to improve their wellbeing?

* **Digital** – make use of existing digital methods such as apps, partner sites and databases
* **Social Media** – use social media to increase awareness
* **Printed/ direct information** – use events, press, direct marketing material, community newsletters
* **Community** – community based events, networks and activities to raise awareness and promote ownership
* **Working together** - provide opportunities across partners to share opportunities for promoting the range of assets
* **Social prescribing** - use social prescribing to raise awareness of assets and promote their use
* **Linking assets** – work together to link assets and work together to get shared benefits e.g. love to walk linking assets.

# Evaluation

Delegates provided feedback on the event. Of the evaluation sheets returned:

* 97% agreed or strongly agreed that the event was a good use of their time
* 94% agreed or strongly agreed that the event was relevant to their work
* 88% agreed or strongly agreed that they had learned something that will make a difference to their area of work
* 97% agreed or strongly agreed that the event helped them to identify partners to work with in the future.

The full breakdown and comments made that will help to improve future events are attached as appendix 5.

# Next Steps

The sub board will meet on 11th January 2019 to decide what elements to take forward however, in the initial evaluation, some key areas came through strongly:

• Working together and linking up assets by using the delegates as the basis of a broader network to share learning, engage with communities and identify opportunities to collaborate across partners, and between local assets.

• Developing communication, including digital and social media to work together to share information and raise awareness of Bridgend assets.

• Build on existing work on social prescribing to enable GPs, practitioners and communities to promote the use of local assets as opportunities to improve wellbeing.

**Market Place & Asset Mapping Event**

**12th October 2018**

**South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters Fforest View, Business Park, Llantrisant, CF72 8LX**

| **Organisations Attending**  |
| --- |
| ABMU |
| Awen Cultural Trust |
| BAVO |
| BCBC |
| BCBC Active Travel |
| BCBC Conservation & Design |
| BCBC Development Planning Section |
| BCBC Economic & Natural Resources |
| BCBC/SE Wales Regional Engagement Team |
| Big Lottery Fund |
| Bridgend Business Improvement District |
| Bridgend College |
| Garw Valley Community Council |
| Community Cohesion Regional Coordinator |
| Community Furniture Aid |
| Community Safety Partnership |
| Glamorgan Gwent Archival Trust |
| Glamorgan Fungus Group |
| Halo Leisure |
| Job Centre Plus |
| NRW |
| STEER – The Enterprise Academy |
| SWFRS |
| SWP |
| V2C |
| Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales |