



HAMBLETON

Strategic Partnership

NEW FOOTBALL TEAMS

Two new football teams have been set up in Stokesley as part of plans to tackle anti-social behaviour problems in the town.

And 'problem solving boxes' have been installed around the town centre to enable residents to leave their comments on crime and the fear of crime.

Stokesley Neighbourhood Action Group (SNAG) – which has joined forces with the Stokesley and Villages Community Regeneration Group – is looking at a range of proposals to deal with anti-social behaviour.

SNAG was set up in response

to two public meetings held last year when the public expressed their concerns about the high level of anti-social behaviour and irresponsible motoring by young people in the town.

The group is looking to create recreational and other interests for young people to make Stokesley a safer and cleaner place. It will also respond to complaints about specific problems through contact with the police and local authorities.

With support from NYCC's '4 Youth' Service Worker and a Stokesley Police Officer, the two football teams have been set up – for the under 14s and over 14s. Financial support has come from Broadacres Housing Association and Hambleton District Council.

The problem solving boxes have gone up as a result of a survey which indicated a fear of crime, especially among elderly residents.

For more information or to get involved contact; SNAG, c/o Stokesley Town Hall, TS9 5DG or Donna Westbrook on 079 719 5584 .stokesley@yahoo.com



SIGNS POINT THE WAY

New signs are pointing visitors and local people in the right direction in Northallerton.

A scheme of fingerposts around the town centre, as well as new entrance signs, have been installed through a unique partnership of businesses, local councils and community organisations.

The Northallerton and Villages Community Forum – an area based group of the Hambleton Strategic Partnership - oversaw the project which has seen six

fingerposts pointing out key facilities including the train station, visitor information point, hospital and the Hambleton Forum.

Cash for the £25,000 scheme has come from Hambleton District Council, North Yorkshire County Council and regional development agency, Yorkshire Forward. Northallerton Town Council is taking on maintenance of the signs.

"We have had a great deal of assistance from all the authorities to get this scheme off the ground," said Forum Chair, Sally Anderson.

"Local businesses were also keen to see the town promoted with businessman Simon Bailes providing money to create a new town logo – which is now prominent on the entrance signs."

Sally Anderson is pictured with District Councillors Tony Hall and David Blades, and Simon Bailes.



Eight hundred young people from Bedale are getting special identification!

The new bus passes will help them prove their age when using public transport.

Young people had told members of the Bedale

and Villages Community Plan Forum that they often experienced problems proving their age on public transport in order to receive concessionary fares.

The Forum has now secured a North Yorkshire County

Council Access to Services Small Grant to fund the passes which should be ready this month.

For more information contact Lisa Wilson, Community Link Officer on 01609 767212 lisa.wilson@hambleton.gov.uk

SPORTS AND ARTS HALL FOR EASINGWOLD

Work to create a £1million sport and arts venue in Easingwold is expected to begin this autumn – and be ready for its first customers by October 2008.

Planning permission for a new sports hall at the Galtres Centre in the town centre was granted this summer.

The four badminton court sized purpose built hall will be suitable for 5-a-side football, basketball, badminton, aerobics, volleyball, netball, karate and tennis. In the future that use may also be extended to cover

gymnastics. And the scheme will see it come fully equipped with cricket nets making it suitable for pre-season battling and bowling practice.

Galtres Centre Sports Committee Chairman, Peter Rees, said the plans are very exciting for the town.

"Securing planning permission takes us one step closer to creating great facilities for Easingwold," he said.

"Not only will we get a new sports hall but the existing leisure hall at the Galtres Centre will become a specialist arts facility - with tiered seating and specialist stage, sound and lighting equipment. It will be a great asset for the town."

The project is jointly led by Hambleton District Council and the Galtres Centre with support from the Hambleton Strategic Partnership.

For more information contact Dave Goodwin on 01609 767147.

FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

Thirsk festival hosted a range of sell out events – even though its main gala day was cancelled due to the poor weather.

And plans are already underway to re-establish the Thirsk Events Group for 2008 to co-ordinate an annual programme of events and the gala day.

The 'Strawberry Fields 60s Party Night' kicked off the 2007 festi-

val when 150 people danced the night away and raised £1,293 for MacMillan Nurses. Live bands also performed at the second Dog & Gun Beer Festival, there was a 'Picnic in the Park', a poetry evening with John Hegley, a model railway exhibition, American wrestling show and a jazz night.

Local organisations and groups that organise events throughout the year are now being asked to send their 2008 programmes to the Thirsk Regeneration Initiative (TRI) to collate into a possible calendar.

To find out more about the Thirsk Events Group & the proposed events diary contact Lisa Wilson Community Link Officer on 01609 767212 or lisa.wilson@hambleton.gov.uk

YOUTH VENUE FOR BEDALE

Potential sites for a youth venue for Bedale are being explored.

And young people are to be asked to help create a business plan to determine how the new facility would be used and managed.

The need for a place for them to gather has been a key priority of the Bedale and Villages Community Plan Forum since the Bedale and Villages Community Plan was produced five years ago.

Local organisations have tried to meet the need – but so far have not found a venue for their sole use.

So the Forum decided to talk to the young people themselves – working in partnership with Bedale High School and North Yorkshire County Council's '4 Youth' Service more than 300 young people took part in a survey.

Over 50% of them said they would use a youth venue in the town centre - two thirds saying they would be there once or twice a week while the remaining 33% said they would use it three or more times a week. They wanted it to provide music, pool, internet access, TV, refreshments, trips and activities. And they were interested in advice sessions on drugs, alcohol, crime, health and sexual health.

Bedale Recreation Association is now taking the lead to develop and manage the project – creating a steering group to look into potential sites and source funding.

For more information – or to get involved - contact Bob Pocklington on 01677 423229.

PASS TO CHEAPER FARES