

The Tudor Trust

LCFC Supporters Trust, Community Development Project

End of Project Report July 2014

Background Information

In July 2010 Lincoln City Supporters Trust in partnership with LCDP (now trading as developmentplus) secured 2 years funding from Tudor Trust and a further 2 years continuation in July 2012. The funding was granted to enable developmentplus to employ a Community Development Worker with the aim of developing a community hub at Lincoln City Football Club (LCFC) and to work towards the following project outcomes:

1. To **promote regeneration** in the deprived area affected by high levels of unemployment through training and volunteering opportunities at LCFC
2. To develop the Identified space at LCFC, **the Red Imp Bar** area, into a community hall in partnership with the local community and a range of partners.
3. To **tackle specific social problems** through the development and delivery of social and recreational activities i.e. youth related incidents of ASB and Crime, Community safety, isolation in older people, unemployment and lack of social inclusion and cohesion.
4. To **promote social inclusion and community cohesion** by providing opportunities for local people of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities to come together.
5. To support the positive **development of links** with local people and the Football club as well as a range of partner organisations and service providers in meeting the needs of local people.

Progress Achieved July 2012 to July 2014

1. To Promote Regeneration

CDW continued to work alongside the Sincil Community Forum and partners to encourage and promote community leadership, developing and delivering a range of community initiatives, and successfully securing funding and accessing training required:

On going social and recreational activities based at LCFC include:

- The Community Development Worker established a robust volunteering recruitment, induction and support programme and over the period of the programme supported 46 volunteers to work across a wide range of projects. The volunteer programme included local people and volunteers from the University of Lincoln, which strengthened relationships between the University and the Community.

In the last 6 months we commissioned a DVD to evidence this.

Please view the attached DVD.

Gemma McFaul,
Community Development Worker
July 2014

- The Sincil Youth Club, run by local volunteers from the community and University Students seeking work experience has been running now for 3 years years. It is partially funded through a small charge (50p) for attendees and subsidised by funding from various small grants secured by the Development Worker and Forum members. The Development worker has been working towards hand over to Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services and the Lincoln City Sport and Education Trust to take on overall management of the youth club. Both organisations are committed to working with the volunteers in the same way as developmentplus did. This will ensure the sustainability of the work beyond July 2014.
- The Sincil Community Café has been running for 1 year now, run by volunteers and funded by grants secured by Development Worker and Forum members. RVS (Royal Voluntary Service) have now taken over the management of the Community Café supporting volunteers to further develop and sustain the programme beyond July 2014.
- The Football Fun Youth Programme has been running for 3 years now, run by volunteers and financially sustained through a small charge of 50p for attendees and subsidised by a grant secured from The Park Ward Community First fund. Lincoln City Sport and Education Trust have now taken on the management of the programme working alongside and supporting volunteers to sustain the programme in the long term.
- The Over 50's Gym and Fitness Club, run by volunteers and a paid trained fitness instructor, funded initially by Awards for All until May 2013, with further funding secured from Park Ward Community First Fund in 2014. Lincoln City Sport and Education Trust have now taken on the management of the programme supporting volunteers to sustain and further develop the programme into the future.

2. Development of the Community Hall in the Red Imp Bar

The Community Development Worker successfully secured funding totalling over £29,000 to enable improvement work to be undertaken in developing the Red Imp Bar area into a Community Hall. Improvements include:

- Updating the heating system to a more energy efficient and effective system
- A new kitchenette area has been installed
- The ceiling tiles have been replaced with more durable ones
- Metal guards fitted to the light units to protect them during ball games and indoor sports sessions
- A large storage space has been installed
- The toilets have been fitted with sensors to reduce water usage and to make them more energy efficient.
- New flooring has been put down in the toilets areas
- Signage erected outside the hall to promote use and to inform the community of the activities taking place there.

The LCFC Board of Directors and community reps agreed to name the facility '**The Alexander Butcher Community Hall**'

Additional Funding Secured between July 2012 - July 2014

As the Tudor Trust funding covers staff costs only it has been necessary throughout the term of the project to secure additional funding to establish and deliver various programmes and initiatives at the Stadium site. This was achieved by the Community Development Worker successfully securing funding, or supporting other organisations and community groups through grant application processes. Additional funding secured July 2012-July 2014 is listed below.

Park Neighbourhood Ward Budget - **£1900**

Community First Funding: £2495, £1600, £1800, £1200, £390, £850 -Total **£8,335**

Cory Environmental Trust - **£14,995**

Bernard Sunley Charitable Trust - **£2000**

Police Property Act Fund - **£450**

Church in Society Grants - **£1450**

Total £29,130

3. Tacking Specific Social Problems

The project has worked in partnership with many organisations over the 4 years, notably the Police, Children's Services and many voluntary groups to identify and address the social issues and barriers to local people accessing services.

Projects have included:

- Sincil Youth Club, the Police have recorded lower anti-social behaviour since it started
- Slovakian Hockey, the young people played their games inside instead of on the street
- Older people feeling isolated and alone, initially a once a month Coffee Morning address this need, this grew by demand into a weekly lunch club.
- Low skills and low employment in the area, 9 of the Volunteers have secured paid employment through their involvement in the programme

4. Promote Social Inclusion and Community Cohesion

The Sincil area is a maze of small terraced housing and a transient population. Older residents have a perception of crime and are worried about leaving their homes, younger people had no facilities or activities in the area – the project has address both of these issues.

Approximately a third of the children and young people who attend the youth club are from Eastern Europe, by providing a facility where the children can take part in activities and get to know one another friendships have formed and cohesion is enhanced.

5. Development of links

Sustainability has been a key issue for the development worker, we know that groups often falter or fold when 'paid staff' move on, so it has been imperative to develop strong links with the appropriate agencies to carry on the work seamlessly.

The development worker identified at an early stage 'who' the best organisations would be to be able to support the volunteers and continue to run the services / activities developed over the 4 years. The organisations needed to understand that all the activities were actually 'volunteer' led and that their role would be to support them, give legal back up and where necessary to be responsible for the funds and booking rooms etc.

The key agencies involved in the sustainability of the work are:

- RVS
- Lincoln City Football Club Support and Education Trust
- Lincolnshire County Council Children's Services
- City of Lincoln Council Neighbourhood Team

Outcomes July 2013 - July 2014

- Continued to facilitate and support the Sincil Community Forum consisting of local people with a vested interest in their community to become independent through representation on at the Strategic Neighbourhood Board and other Community based committees to ensure their input into the wider plan for developing and meeting the priorities for the local area.
- Continued to work with partner organisations to seek their support in the future sustainability of the project outcomes beyond the development workers funded role in July 2014.
- Further developed the volunteering programme, supporting LCFC to recruit and manage volunteers and supporting local people to develop and manage community programmes and initiatives, access relevant training as well as applying for and securing funding.
- Widely publicised the project through the main LCFC and the LCFC Supporters Trust websites, developmentplus website, local media, community notice boards, schools, libraries and local businesses to continuously promote and raise an awareness of the project amongst local people and service providers.
- Continued to encourage community cohesion through the delivery of social and recreational activities based at LCFC. (approximately a third of all children and young people engaging in activities come from Eastern European backgrounds, and

relationships and respect amongst local children and young people has improved as a result).

- Supported LCFC to plan and host Annual community events, involving local people in the process
- Worked in partnership with LCFC to further develop the Community Hall project at Sincil Bank, securing additional funding to further improve the facility, and to promote use of the Community Hall.

Outcomes 2010 to 2014

- Over **600 local people** of all ages and backgrounds accessed a wide range of community activities and programmes based at Lincoln City FC.
- **46 people engaged in volunteering** opportunities via the project, participating in work experience, training and personal development opportunities
- **12 volunteers will continue** to deliver community led projects beyond July 2014
- **9 volunteers successfully secured employment** through their involvement with the project
- An **average of 90 children and young people regularly attend** the weekly youth activities developed through the project
- An average of **30 older people regularly attend the weekly activities** developed through the project
- The project **secured over £48,000 of match funding over the 4 years** to establish the Alexander Butcher Community Hall and to resource the development and delivery of a range of community based programmes and activities