

WORMLEY & TURNFORD BIG LOCAL



IMPACT REPORT

22-24





WHAT IS BIG LOCAL?

Big Local is a resident led community development project.

150 areas around the country were selected by the National Lottery to take part in the Big Local programme and in 2012 Wormley and Turnford were lucky enough to be chosen. Each Big Local area received a grant of £1 million from the National Lottery Community Fund to spend over 10+ years on things that local people felt will benefit the community.

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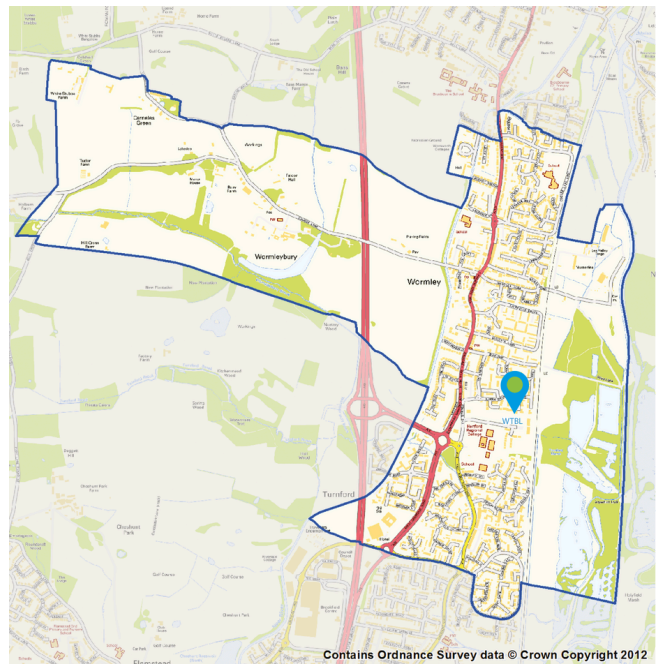


WELCOME

We are delighted to share with you our impact report for the final 2 years of the Wormley & Turnford Big Local (WTBL) project.

This report will highlight our journey and some of our successes, as well as provide an overview of our approach: from assessing the need in the community and how we responded, through to how we know if we have truly made a difference.

It will also explain how meticulously documenting the impact on the community and the record-keeping was intended to pave the way for future funding opportunities, ensuring that the legacy charity Broxbourne Big Local (BBL) can carry forward a plan based on the valuable work WTBL has undertaken.



SOME BACKGROUND

The overarching mission of WTBL/BBL is to leave behind a sustainable, empowered, and self-reliant community and to improve the area's reputation. Therefore, by saving Wormley Community Centre (WCC) from demolition and securing a 999-year lease, the intention was not only to continue supporting the established local businesses that use the centre but also to refurbish and utilise the community centre as a hub for developing community initiatives in a safe and inviting space for all.

WTBL's overall plan focused on the following priority thematic areas drawn out of early extensive consultation with the wider local community. The project and its activities aimed to contribute to the achievement of these priorities:

 <p>Empowering Cohesive & Involved Communities</p>	<p>Providing inclusive projects and events that empower local communities, enabling opportunities to improve welfare and wellbeing for those affected by the area's issues and the current cost of living crisis.</p>
 <p>Awareness of Countryside & Open Space</p>	<p>Encouraging communities to get involved and care about the environment and green spaces available to them, through education and outdoor projects.</p>
 <p>Access to Services for Older People & People with Disabilities</p>	<p>Providing diverse, inclusive, and accessible activities for all. Building connections with charities and organisations to increase the services and support available.</p>
 <p>Transforming Community Facilities</p>	<p>Refurbishment of Wormley Community Centre, providing opportunities for communities and businesses to access the centre. Exploring opportunities for other venues to utilise in the area.</p>
 <p>Flourishing Children, Young People & Families</p>	<p>Building opportunities for families by connecting them through events and projects, including access to developing community friendships, and delivering support available to them by partnering with other local authorities and charities.</p>

RE-ESTABLISHING OUR PRIORITIES

In 2022 we wanted to focus on developing an impact reporting framework that ensured we were connecting the priority themes from Wormley & Turnford Big Local's (WTBL) current plan (2021 – 2024) to activities, projects and approaches that aim to bring about positive change in the community.

We also needed to prioritise the sustainability of Wormley Community Centre as a valuable community asset, not only used for private functions but as a facility to offer support for our local community, particularly in light of the recent economic crisis.

SETTING THE SCENE

The Wormley and Turnford community encompasses a wide spectrum of landscapes, from council estates to high-end stately homes. We have residents from all walks of life, with varying levels of income and financial backgrounds.

This means that our community is not one-size-fits-all; rather, we must be flexible and adaptive in our approach. This has been an important fact to address when creating our project plans, and for the community to understand when addressing deprivation and what that looks like in our community.



MEASURING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS SO FAR

As part of our commitment to evaluating the impact of our initiatives, we began by focusing on our well-established groups. The Social Walking Group, Sewing Bee, and Community Allotment have become successful, sustainable and long-standing, reaching approximately [100 beneficiaries](#).

The findings of this first report would shed light on crucial aspects that demonstrate how we approached the strategic planning for the final years of WTBL. They would also provide us with a strong foundation from which to build our new long term strategy for the legacy charity, Broxbourne Big Local.

ESTABLISHED GROUPS



SEWING BEE & OTHER CRAFTS



The Sewing Bee started as a sewing club led by WTBL Partnership Member Seema Rajani. This project demonstrated a way to bring together the local community, where people of similar interests in Wormley and Turnford, meet at WCC to be creative, share ideas and learn new skills with craft materials and fabric. These include crochet, sewing, and knitting, cross-stitch, tapestry, and has also expanded to include other crafts such as card making, drawing and painting.

SOCIAL WALKING GROUP



This initiative was founded with the primary objective of enhancing the health and well-being, both mentally and physically, of the Wormley & Turnford Big Local (WTBL) community. Through regular group walks, participants are provided with an opportunity to engage in physical activity, enjoy the outdoors, and connect with others in a supportive and inclusive environment.

This well-established group led by WTBL's Partnership Member Breda Higgins, has flourished into a community social group beyond its original purpose:

By having access to the community centre the group are able to socialise after their walks with refreshments supplied by Tesco Community Champions; and through the hard work of the volunteer team, regular meals and excursions are organised at affordable prices.





COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT



Over the years, the Wormley Community Allotment led by WTBL's Partnership Member Peter Cassell has benefited from a pool of devoted volunteers who played a significant role in transforming the allotment from a deserted plot to a thriving and inclusive place to learn, grow and socialise.

The project serves multiple purposes, catering to the diverse interests and needs of the community. It will go on to create volunteer roles to accommodate a variety of projects associated with the new design and equipment. This not only fosters community involvement but also allows individuals to contribute based on their abilities, interests and expertise.

Quotes from these project/groups attendees demonstrate the significance of community support and engagement in various aspects of individuals' lives:

“We’ve all had such wonderful times together, we appreciate the memories and friendships we’ve gained from this group”



“If I didn’t have this group I would be still in bed depressed”

“This group allows me to have some ‘Me’ time”

“It gets me out of bed and keeps me motivated for the day”

“This group keeps me fit and healthy”

“This group has literally saved my life”

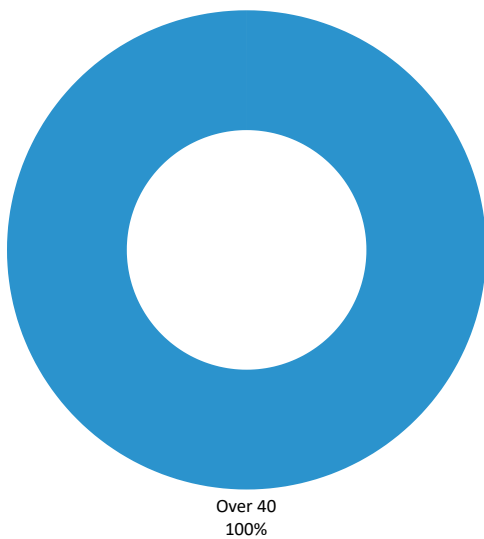
“This has been the best thing for me. Since my husband died, it has got me back outside and opened up a whole new social life for me”

FIRST REPORT FINDINGS

The first report summary helped us understand WTBL's influence and community engagement. The report emphasised the importance of gathering basic participant information such as age, postcode and the means through which they learned about WTBL and its projects. This data would go on to prompt a deeper exploration into how individuals discover WTBL and its initiatives. Understanding these aspects would prove crucial in motivating improvements and expansions in communication strategies to enhance outreach efforts.

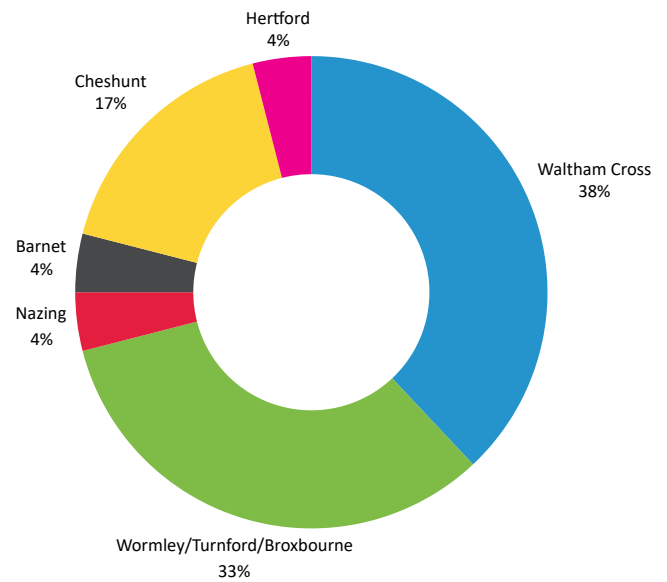
Age Group Demographics:

A significant demographic trend emerged, indicating that the well-established groups primarily attract individuals aged 40 years and above.



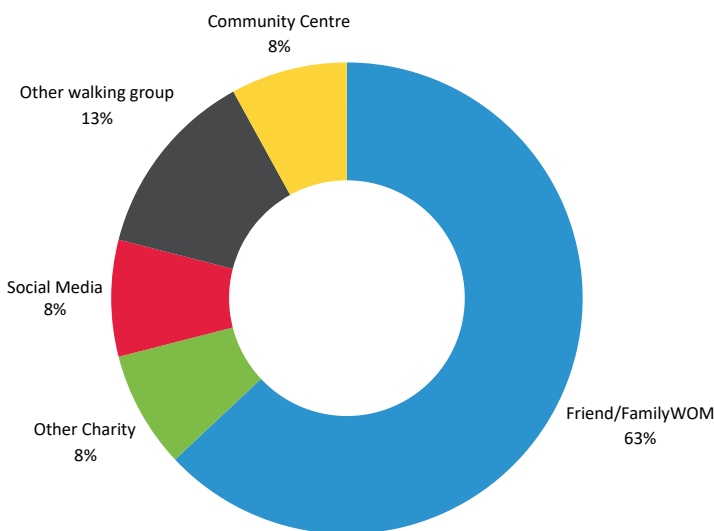
Geographical Reach:

Our analysis revealed a higher percentage of attendees were from the Cheshunt and Waltham Cross areas.



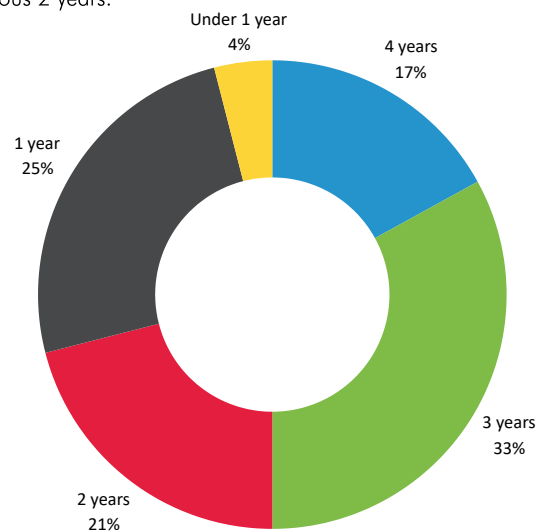
Communication Channels:

A majority of 63%, reported learning about the projects through 'Word of Mouth'



Engagement Trends:

An observation of the data highlighted a concerning trend: a notable decline in the number of newcomers to our groups in the previous 2 years.



With this information the team was able to identify not only the demographics they were reaching and supporting, but also those they were not. This highlighted the need to expand outreach to underserved communities.

FORGING PARTNERSHIPS

As a result of the first report findings, the team formed partnerships with organisations and charities supporting the unreached communities, sharing data and communications to enhance collaboration. These partnerships ensured that project plans addressed relevant issues and contributed to successful outcomes.

Over the years the team have developed partnerships and worked with numerous local charities and organisations.



Including Community Alliance for Broxbourne and East Herts, Hertfordshire County Council, Broxbourne Council, Services for Young People, Herts Youth Council, Mental Health & Suicide prevention charities, Council's Public Health sector, Communities 1st, Family's First, NHS Social Prescribers, Step 2 Skills, Wormley and Broxbourne Churches and faith groups, B3 Living, Family Support Groups - One YMCA, HABS, CHEX, Citizens Advice Bureau, Local Primary and Secondary School, 1st Wormley Scouts, Lowewood Museum, Tesco, CostCutter and more.

This gathered information helped the team stay informed about the effects of the current economic crisis, identify areas of deprivation and share project information within partnership groups to reach additional communities.

These organisations remain dedicated to addressing critical issues such as mental health, physical health, financial crisis, food poverty and isolation.

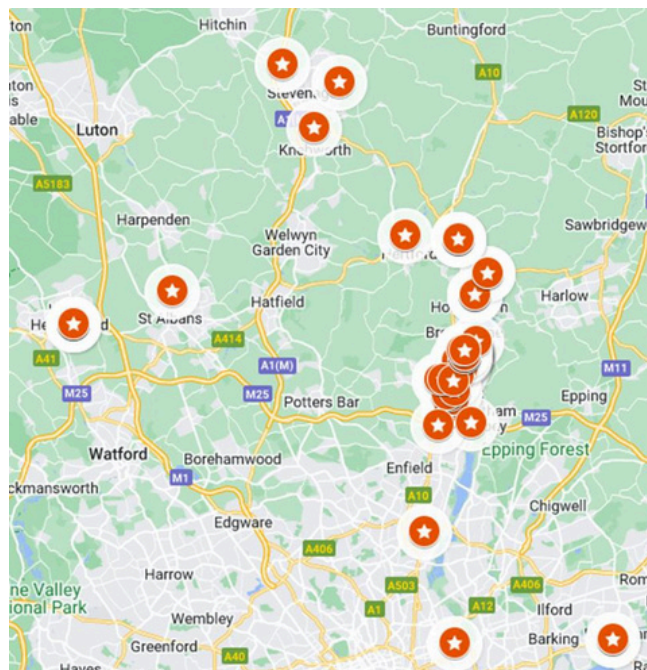
Given that the issues mentioned were not new to us, we recognised the need to directly engage with our community to gain a deeper understanding of how we can better support Wormley and Turnford residents.

COMMUNITY PARTIES



Some initial feedback from residents highlighted the desire to be able to come together in the evenings as a family at the community centre. From this we decided to host some free community family parties as a starting point. This simple idea would enable us to strengthen our relationships with local residents in a relaxed and enjoyable setting, while also offering the opportunity to gaining more detailed insight into their needs.

The 10 Family Community Parties organised by WTBL were a resounding success, serving as inclusive, engaging events that bring together diverse crowds and promote community involvement and local businesses. With meticulous thematic planning, these parties attracted an average of 200 attendees per event, drawing not only residents from our key target area of Wormley and Turnford but also reaching communities as far as East London, Hemel Hempstead, and Stevenage.



The carefully selected themes for each party, including celebrations such as Black History Month, Wormley & Turnford's Got Talent, Rock n Roll, Summer party, Christmas and Halloween events, have contributed to their widespread appeal across various demographics.

These events have fostered inclusivity and unity within the community, providing platforms for residents to come together, celebrate and showcase their talents.

They played a crucial role in uniting residents from Wormley, Turnford and nearby areas, creating a strong sense of community and belonging. As a result, WCC also gained visibility and recognition as a central hub for community engagement, leading to increased participation and reinforcing its role as a catalyst for positive social connections and interactions within the community.

“What a wonderful night, I’ve not seen my husband smile so much! Bringing communities and families together, that is what life is all about!”



“I actually sat and had a long conversation with my next door neighbour at your party last night. We’ve lived next door to each other for many years and this is the first time we’ve had a chat and a laugh together!”



“Me and my family have had the best evening, what a great atmosphere watching people enjoy our food, we felt like we had our own restaurant. People ask me in the street ‘please, when are you going to do it all again?’”



As well as continuing to gather data such as age groups and postcodes, these parties have also proven to be a great way to gain valuable feedback less formally. Instead of using questionnaires, the parties have fostered a much more relaxed approach, allowing the team to connect and develop relationships with the community. This, in turn, has enabled us to gather feedback in a more natural setting achieving deeper conversations with individuals when asked, ‘What would you like to see happen at the community centre?’ and ‘What’s important to you in the community and why?’ We also learned preferred methods for receiving information about Wormley & Turnford Big Local plans.

COMMUNICATION OUTCOMES AND IMPROVEMENTS

By combining this proactive approach, along with data sharing among partnership groups and organisations, we have not only enhanced our communication strategies but also tailored projects to meet our community’s specific needs.

Through encouraging attendees to join our FB group and email list, we have observed a growth of 37.5% and 53.8% respectively in our digital communication channels.

We also established dedicated WhatsApp groups for each project and introduced the WTBL Friendship WhatsApp group. These WhatsApp groups hold over 200 active project attendees and have served as valuable channels for real-time updates, discussions and mutual support among members. This has

contributed to enhanced connectivity and collaboration among the WCC staff, partners and local residents.

This approach has not only amplified our outreach but also strengthened the bonds within the Wormley and Turnford community, facilitating greater collaboration and positive outcomes for all involved.



INTRODUCTION OF NEW CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Through the feedback received at our community parties and by asking the questions 'What would you like to see happen at the community centre?' and 'What's important to you in the community?' The community specifically highlighted a significant need for supporting families during challenging times and emphasised the importance of enhancing children's social and mental well-being. They expressed a desire for the provision of a safe and inclusive environment, offering a variety of affordable and diverse clubs that are also assessable to children with special educational needs (SEN).

At the time, the community centre lacked affordable clubs or activities specifically catered to school children. We sought to fill the void and provide a range of options for children to explore and engage in activities that align with their interests

Over the past 2 years, WTBL has introduced **8 new clubs involving 7 local small businesses** to Wormley Community Centre allowing us to achieve our missions.

These include Family Walks, Self Defence classes, Jewellery Making Workshops, Roller Skating lessons, Rock n Roll dance lessons, Art Workshops, Preschool activity sessions and Fishing lessons.

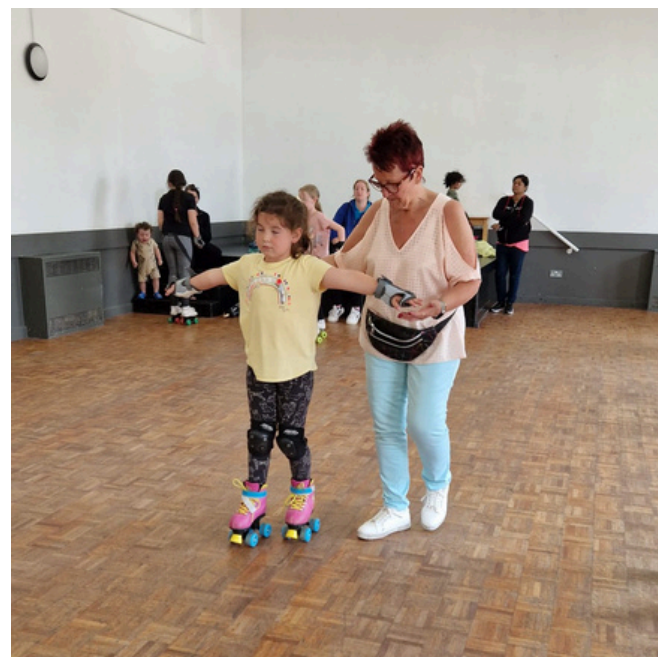
ROLLER SKATING



The desire for this club emerged from feedback from our younger residents as a popular interest to learn. By offering roller skating as a club, we allowed children to discover a physical activity that appeals to them. This initiative aligns with WTBL's commitment to fostering a supportive community, enhancing children's well-being, and promoting diversity and affordability.

The Roller Skating club proved to be immensely popular, with consistent attendance of up to **25 children** at each session. As well as filling a gap in the community centre's programming, we also hoped to positively impact the lives of children and families, providing them with a learned skill activity that can be used outside of a club and promotes their social and mental well-being.

By combining the elements of fun, skill-building, and social interaction, this class offered a well-rounded experience for children. It provided them with a foundation in skating and ignited their passion for the sport.



"I've been able to spend quality time with my daughter by coming here and helping her learn to roller skate. Our lives are very busy but from the bus journey here and back to helping her learn to skate has given us time to be together and talk and have fun" Quote from parent

100% regular attendees learned how to skate!

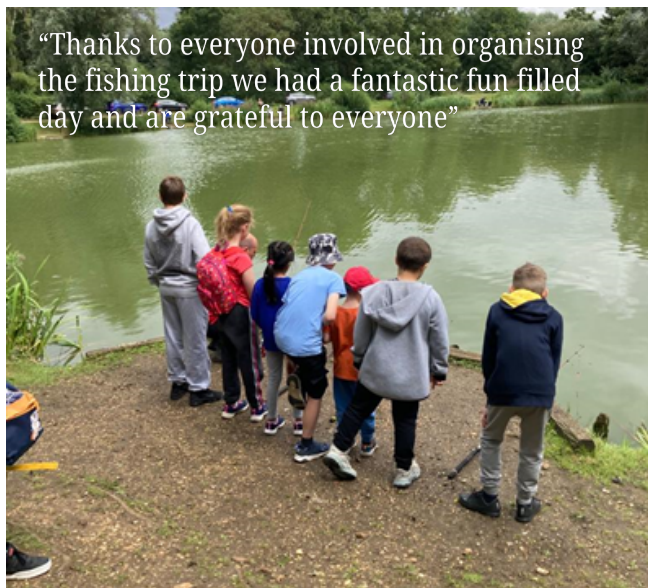
FISHING LESSONS



This initiative was founded in response to feedback from parents indicating a lack of available projects assessable to children with Special Educational Needs. This project aimed to address this gap by offering parent/carer and child pairs the opportunity to learn the basics of fishing.

Delivered by the well established local provider Fishing Adventures, these fishing lessons were designed to not only teach fishing skills but also instil important values related to wildlife, the environment, and personal development.

The primary benefit of participating in these fishing lessons was the opportunity for families to come together in a peaceful natural environment and learn a new skill. By also providing transport to and from the lakes, we were able to provide free [16 parent/carer and child pairs](#) this opportunity.



“Thanks to everyone involved in organising the fishing trip we had a fantastic fun filled day and are grateful to everyone”

“My Grandson had the most wonderful time, everybody he met was so friendly and patient. Having ADHD means he struggles a lot in these situations but not once did he find it hard in any way - he gained so much confidence from catching a fish, such a simple thing but it meant the world to him. Providing transport was a lifesaver and meant he could attend something usually out of reach. He learned new skills and came away with a self-confident smile and a sense of achievement”



These lessons catered to individuals who struggle in traditional classroom settings. This includes young people who have difficulty learning in a conventional educational environment, students lacking confidence and self-esteem and individuals with complex learning difficulties or experiencing anxiety and depression. They proved to be a therapeutic and calming experience, offering a unique learning environment for these individuals. It also gave the children the opportunity to earn an Angling Trust CAST award certificate, recognising their achievement and progress in fishing skills.



“It was lovely to be able to try something new with my son, he had always wanted to have a go, but I had no idea how to arrange it”

SELF-DEFENCE LESSONS



The introduction of self-defence lessons to the community was suggested to offer individuals the chance to enhance their mental and physical well-being through the practice of martial arts. By engaging in these activities, participants can cultivate qualities such as self-control and perseverance, which are essential for personal development. Martial arts also encourage a proactive mindset and helps people establish personal boundaries.

Attendees were left feeling capable of defending themselves, thus enhancing confidence and self-esteem, physical fitness, mental focus, and emotional resilience.

Both children and adults were able to benefit from these lessons together, with an average of **10 – 15 attendees** per session.



PRESCHOOL WORKSHOPS



Partnership charities had highlighted the knock-on effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on preschool children's social skills and raised concerns, particularly regarding the lack of in-person collaboration and group play, which hampers the development of teamwork and cooperation skills in preschool children. WCC staff also observed an

increase in feedback from a growing number of families seeking support for affordable preschool activities.

We discovered a local group called FLOW with Stories, a specialised workshop series that caters to families with preschool children, offering a unique blend of arts, crafts, and storytelling. The primary goal of these workshops is to provide an engaging and interactive experience for both children and their parents or guardians. Through a curated selection of stories and folk tales from various cultures, FLOW with Stories aims to facilitate emotional exploration, foster resilience, and promote creativity in young children.

The workshops have helped on average **8 children and their parents** per session make meaningful connections, fall in love with books and stories and equip them with new life skills, helping them to cultivate positive attitudes and look towards a better future in school and at home.



“It has been an amazing experience delivering our Flow with Stories Stay and Play sessions with families and their children under five. We are connecting families and providing fun filled learning activities that are great for children's development.

Our families have enjoyed coming back week after week and encourage their little ones to explore and learn new skills through our activities. Its great observing everyone, adults included getting in the FLOW”

Quote from FLOW Teacher

OUTPUTS FROM NEW CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

All these projects, which were initiated based on feedback from the local community and our partnership charities, have helped WTBL achieve many of its goals.

The community of Wormley and Turnford has been empowered by:



Bringing families together

Learning new skills



Improved mental and physical wellbeing



Reduction in social isolation and loneliness

Meeting new people with like-minded interests



Enhanced ways to explore local volunteer opportunities with the Big Local

A notable outcome stemming from all these clubs is the profound connections forged between parents/carers and their children. Through these shared experiences and activities, families have discovered the opportunities it's brought about to deepen their relationships and strengthen bonds with their children.

PARTNERSHIP EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

Continuing our mission of community engagement and empowerment through partnership initiatives, we hosted six partnership events with other charities and organisations. These collaborations aimed at enhancing community well-being by addressing various initiatives. Through these partnerships, we've leveraged diverse expertise, resources, and networks to tackle key challenges and create meaningful opportunities for positive change.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Partnership events such as those with [Lowewood Museum](#) during [Black History Month](#) stand out as poignant celebrations of culture and heritage and collaborative efforts with a local business like [Khaya Kitchen](#) - a local African Caribbean catering business - exemplify the fusion of culinary delights with historical narratives, enriching the local experience of around [200 attendees](#).



The goal was to unite the community, build friendships, encourage public discussions about mental health and suicide, provide support from professionals and offer signposting to available services.

The event provided access to mental health professionals, including representatives from [Herts Mind](#), [Change Grow Live](#), and the producer of 'Roman Kemp: Our Silent Emergency,' a Suicide Prevention Documentary. Following this event, one of the attendees discovered his potential for public speaking and continues the mission of effecting change in communities' approach to suicide awareness and support for those impacted by it.

Through this event, connections were made with local resident [Kerrie Fru-Asanji](#), leading her to establish her own [mental health support program](#) for vulnerable women at [Wormley Community Centre](#).



SUICIDE AWARENESS



This fundraising event aimed to establish a local initiative for preventing suicide and promoting positive mental health in [Wormley and Turnford](#).

DOG'S TRUST



The [Dogs Trust's Cost of Living Support](#) presence at the WCC Foyer, provided valuable services to both animals and their human companions. They aim to increase accessibility and awareness of services that promote responsible dog ownership and help keep the community and dogs safe as well as keep owners and dogs together during difficult times. Dogs Trust provided a regular pop-up stand in the WCC Foyer, where dog owners could come and receive advice and support from their Community Engagement Team. The support provided included training and behaviour support, information on dog welfare and well-being, microchip checks and advice, free and low-cost training services, subsidised veterinary care and access to animal food banks.



OPAL



Programs like [Older Persons Adult Learning \(OPAL\)](#) offered tailored advice sessions at Wormley Community Centre to meet the specific needs of older community members. At these sessions, locals aged 55 and above gained access to advice from various emergency service representatives, including Herts Fire Service, Trading Standards, Red Cross, Herts Police, Age UK, Samaritans, and Citizens Advice Bureau.

A total of [56 local residents](#) attended the event, and feedback revealed significant positive outcomes: [57%](#) now feel equipped to manage their health and well-being, [68%](#) are confident in their ability to keep themselves safer, [55%](#) report feeling more connected to others, and an overwhelming [89%](#) are now aware of the support available to them.

ALLOTMENT DAY



An Allotment Open Day in collaboration with [Broxbourne Council](#) promoted environmental sustainability by offering composting and permaculture workshops aiming to inspire eco-friendly practices among residents. During the event, community members had the opportunity to actively participate in harvesting vegetables and exchange recipe ideas that utilised the produce grown on our community allotment. This hands-on experience encouraged newcomers to the project and shared learning within the community.



Working together, these initiatives demonstrate dedication to community enrichment and empowerment by providing access to valuable services and raising awareness on issues that matter in our community.

EAT & MEET, LUNCH & LEARN



To enable us to offer valuable educational and social opportunities to the residents of Wormley & Turnford, we introduced our Eat & Meet, Lunch & Learn sessions. These were designed to empower the community by delivering practical skills and knowledge from professionals or organisations, whilst also providing a meal to all participants helping to foster social connections. All sessions were carefully orchestrated to align with our mission to equip individuals with the tools they need to empower and enhance their lives and share with others.

FIRST AID TRAINING



A crucial component in empowering communities by providing life-saving skills to local residents. We held 2 sessions, one to train adults and the other to train children, including **12 children** aged 8 – 11 years and **24 adults**. We used a local First Aid Trainer and all attendees received their First Aid Certificates.



“I’ve got to know new people”



“I have the confidence to know what to do in a critical situation”

“Thank you so much for today, it was a huge stepping stone for me, to be able to do a course. I haven't done a course since before I left school. So it was so fantastic to be able to prove this to myself, and overcome barriers of sheer anxiety. Thank you.”

QUIZ NIGHT



Once again using partnership connections to leverage diverse expertise, we teamed up with [Citizens Advice Broxbourne' Scamming Awareness](#) initiative to host a community Quiz Night. This event provided invaluable resources, equipping residents with scamming awareness advice and essential life skills and support networks. **90 attendees** took part in this fundraising event and a total of **£683** was raised for CAB scamming awareness project in Broxbourne.



“This has given me the confidence to be able to overcome anxiety from meeting new people and to put past my own fears of trying new things.”



WALK THE BEAT FROM YOUR SEAT



Chris, a qualified member of Camden Tour Guides Association, aimed to entertain attendees with stories of his time as a police officer. Chris presented an illustrated talk around the old Dickensian back streets and alleyways of Kings Cross. He followed the same path where he was a Bobby on The Beat fifty years ago and told stories that 'would make your hair curl.'

This event particularly benefited our residents that would find it difficult to attend one of Chris' live tours in London due to disability and/or mental health barriers. By providing a warm space and a hot meal, our older local residents could come together and meet in an entertaining, fun and safe environment.



100%
said they felt these sessions were important to them



50%
said they had met new people or made new connections

WTBL recognises these Eat & Meet, Lunch & learn sessions, particularly for older people, can be vital to supporting our resident's mental and physical health, especially during the cost of living crisis. By delivering these sessions, we were able to provide a warm space and a hot meal for 40 older residents per session, to come together and meet in an entertaining, fun and safe environment.

These sessions linked our older generations to our neighbouring towns, allowing the opportunity to meet new locals, make friends and learn about other groups, projects and events that Wormley Community Centre has to offer.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS



Over the last 2 years, we've hosted and celebrated 3 National Events with our community including The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the King's Coronation and Black History Month.



These events have served as powerful catalysts for community cohesion, allowing us the opportunity to bring together communities in a spirit of unity and support to showcase and promote our local businesses, schools, churches, activity clubs and the community centre. We also had participation from Broxbourne Primary School, Wormley Free Church, Sea Cadets, local councillors, Deputy High Sheriff and MP for Broxbourne.

At the Queens Platinum Jubilee, Wormley Community Centre was selected as a venue to host one of the official beacons which was lit by community champion 16 year old Shane Parker. He was given this honour after being voted for by local residents for his commitment to going above and beyond to serve his community with daily essentials during Lockdown.

The exceptional turnout, particularly during significant occasions like the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration with approximately [600 attendees](#), emphasises that these events not only offer moments of joy and celebration but also serve as platforms for community engagement, collaboration, and support, enriching the fabric of Wormley and Turnford's social landscape.

DAY TRIPS



WTBL provided 3 free coach trips aimed to provide less privileged families with the opportunity to enjoy a day out together, particularly those who may not have the means to go on a family holiday. This initiative aimed to create memorable experiences for families who might not otherwise have been able to access these places due to financial constraints or other limitations.

Identifying target families: Our close connections with local community organisations, schools and family support charities helped us bring this opportunity to the families who would benefit most. Considering criteria such as financial need, single-parent households, families facing challenging circumstances, or those who have never experienced a day trip before.

The community coach trips were a great success! It's clear it left a positive impact and created lasting memories for everyone involved.

Each trip was carefully chosen for its overall appeal to all generations. A total of 106 attendees were able to take part in either the Royal Air Force Museum London or Walton-on-the-Naze trip.

Within this figure were families with ages ranging from a few months old to 93 years old.



“We can't thank you enough for today. It was fantastic...we all enjoyed it and was so well organised. The kids loved the gift bags, too”



“Thank you for organising the trip and for organising perfect weather”



“Thank you all for putting on such a great day xx”



“Thanks for a lovely day guys. You're all doing such an amazing job round there.”

PAVING THE WAY FOR FUTURE FUNDING

Currently the main focus for the WTBL legacy charity Broxbourne Big Local is redeveloping the Wormley Community Centre in order for it to become financially sustainable and bring in enough income to fund the staff as well as future community projects. Our staff continue to develop initiatives for the benefit of local communities in the Borough of Broxbourne.

The cross over between the staff working for WTBL and then moving into new roles at BBL has been helpful in aiding seamless continuity. Whilst the staff were in their roles at WTBL, the project planning, impact reporting, marketing and communications that they put in place has meant that the charity has a foundation of gathered information which has supported funding opportunities for a range of local community activities.

In response to the current economic crisis, the charity has also been focusing on sustainability and continued support for local communities.

THE BIG LOCAL BREAKFAST CLUB



This Club was introduced to address the pressing issue of food poverty, as shown by our local authorities' finding that 'Broxbourne has one of the highest levels of residents at risk of food poverty in Hertfordshire.' This highlighted a critical need within the local community.

With these official findings, plus our own extensive information gathering from community members, BBL were able to secure funding from [Hertfordshire Household Support Grant](#). This enabled us to support our local community by providing a free breakfast club at Wormley Community Centre, offering a healthy breakfast to those in need on their way to work or school and by providing a warm space for those suffering from social isolation.



Q. Please explain how the breakfast club has benefited you these past few months?

- A. "I lost my job 2 years ago. I don't have any income. Breakfast Club started soon after I ran out of my savings"
- A. "It brings people and the community together. I am short of money but I know I can have a breakfast"
- A. "Meeting others at breakfast and helping others with their problems"
- A. "Handy when I'm unwell to have somewhere to grab a bite to eat"
- A. "I've made new friends"

Having the breakfast club has also provided the opportunity for the attendees to learn about our other projects, events and sessions at the community centre. They have been able to attend activities like the community parties, coach trips and Lunch & Learn, Eat & Meet sessions, all of which are tailored to improve the well-being of the Wormley and Turnford community.

Q. How does not having the breakfast club available to you impact you personally?

- A. "I'll have nothing to eat if there is no alternative. If there is the option to do so I would volunteer myself to help so that I could pay for my own breakfast"
- A. "I will miss the company"
- A. "It will be a great loss to the community"
- A. "This is a great place to socialise, if it stops I'll have no one to talk to"
- A. "I'll have nowhere to go in the mornings"

HEALTHY EATING ON A BUDGET



The BBL charity also received funding from [Hertfordshire County Council's Food Aid Network](#) for a project aimed at offering cost-effective and energy-efficient support food learning courses. These courses were designed for residents at risk of food poverty, providing valuable knowledge on budget-friendly shopping, cooking and meal preparation. The initiative extended its support to individuals with food aversions, ensuring inclusivity within the community.

These projects aim to empower local communities, providing opportunities to enhance welfare and well-being for those affected by the area's issues and the current economic crisis by: [Learning new skills](#); [Utilising their existing skills to assist others](#); [Connecting with new people and establishing useful contacts](#); [Improve their mental and physical well-being](#).



HAPPY SUMMER CAMP



During the four weeks of July and August 2021, we organised eight children's summer camp sessions as part of the Happy Camp initiative. This free summer holiday camp, funded by [Herts Sports Partnership](#), was specifically designed for families facing financial challenges or receiving free school meals.

Our camp attracted an average of 20 individual children per session, with over 100 attendances in total. The main objective was to offer children from less financially stable backgrounds the opportunity to



engage in activities they might not have experienced before, allowing them to learn new skills and discover their potential in various activities.

To facilitate this, we collaborated with local small businesses, to conduct the activities. The children were treated to:

- [Music lessons](#) from [The Music Lab School](#), including learning instruments such as bucket drums and ukulele, as well as engaging in song writing. The WCC piano was also utilised for performing the songs they had written.
- [Singing, acting, and dance lessons](#) offered by [Make Believe Performing Arts School](#).
- [Cricket sessions](#) with a professional cricket coach from [Your Cricket Coach](#).
- [Cooking lessons](#) where they created pizzas, wraps, and cereal bars with a local school dinner lady who also provided their lunches at lunchtime.

A notable outcome of our collaboration with The Music Lab was the identification of two children with exceptional potential. Both were offered free term scholarships with The Music Lab.



DJ & MC ACADEMY



In the following report, we showcase the project's efforts to support marginalised communities through alternative educational opportunities. These initiatives provide individuals with appealing chances for success by aligning with their interests and connecting them with relatable role models.

Despite the charity's successes in empowering communities through connection, education and support projects, there was a noted gap in engaging local teenagers, particularly evident in the lack of appeal of the clubs held in the local area for this demographic. Our impact reporting brought attention to this issue.

Valuable information from Hertfordshire County Council highlighted that the pandemic had presented significant challenges for many young people, impacting their informal social interactions and potentially contributing to increased anxiety levels. Recognising this, the charity sought to address the gap by actively understanding the needs and preferences of local teenagers.



Our objective was to improve facilities and service provision in Wormley and Turnford in order to address anti-social behaviour and provide a safe space for local young residents. To achieve this we aimed to provide learning experiences that promote social welfare, community cohesion and better life chances for young people.

Armed with this knowledge and plan of action, BBL sought funding for a year with DJ & MC Academy. Known for its ethos and values, the club was selected as it aligns with the Big Locals values and addresses the issues at hand.

The academy consists of experienced youth workers who are passionate about empowering young individuals, building their confidence and promoting positive relationships. The academy specialises in teaching Rapping, Lyric Writing, Radio Presenting, and DJ'ing and has a track record of successfully turning around the lives of teenagers and reducing gang violence in London. This initiative aimed to actively engage and support local teenagers, addressing the previously identified gap and fostering a sense of connection and well-being amongst this demographic.

Quotes from the youths attending:

- "I have learned how to DJ and perform with confidence"
- "They have inspired me and helped me find something that I love. I'm forever grateful"
- "The teachers are kind and AWESOME!"
- "I really like it here, it has a good vibe"
- "It's fun and keeps your mind distracted off your phone"



Quotes from the parents of regular attendees:

- "My daughter's confidence has really grown, she enjoys performing her songs and loves to prepare and pick new songs for the next session to record"
- "It is really important this group continues as there is not much else for this age group to do in this area other than hang out"
- "This club keeps them safe and off the streets and they have all made new friends"
- "This has given my daughter a real interest and has increased her confidence, they feel like they can achieve whatever they want to be"
- "The youth workers are great role models to the children having come from the same background. To have a club like this people would usually have to pay a lot of money for or send them to private classes, we can't afford to do this"
- "The youth workers are really great with the kids, they bring them out of themselves with their talents, giving them so much confidence and making them feel like they're family"



Quote from DJ & MC Academy CEO Krissy Sims

We have started a youth provision with the Big Local at Wormley Community Centre, running is a DJ'ing, radio presenting, singing and music production workshop every week on a Wednesday from 4-30-6-30pm. Started with no one, to date we have had over 23 young people attending. They really look forward to the program and have said it's really benefitted them, often already waiting for the team to arrive from 4pm!

Wormley & Turnford is a very big estate and there isn't much going on there but the community centre is the heart and soul of the place. I didn't even know it existed before I visited Zoe and the team.

It has taken us some time to gain the trust of the young people, we have a core group of 8-10 who attend every week and never miss a workshop and through word of mouth and the consistency of project, more young people have attended. Even after loitering outside for months they are now coming in and getting involved which shows the true dedication and hard work of the team, but also how much the young people are anxious and low in confidence to freely walk in from the start.

Feedback from the young people has been truly inspiring, they have said it's something they look forward to every week, they have made friends, they have learnt music skills, life skills, increased their confidence and self-esteem and have improved communications skills.

We have also put on a showcase and invited parents and peers. The young people would never of imagined they could perform and sing to a crowd, as well as DJ and run the entire show themselves, but they did it successfully and with ease.

I hope this will be a continuous project as the young people really need it. They have not only been inspired and had pride in themselves but we have also really got to know them and are so proud of their hard work and dedication too. We look forward to coming to teach them every week and see them grow. There is still work to do as more young people are joining the project so it will continue to grow and give them something positive to do.

The feedback from this group not only shows the impact this project has had on local youths but also their families and the youth workers supporting them.



SUMMARY

Throughout this impact reporting process, we have evidenced how we have successfully reached our harder-to-reach communities. This process has provided us with a detailed understanding of the deprivation prevalent in Wormley and Turnford, as well as insights into how we can create lasting change in people's lives.

With this insight, we have initiated new projects and programs based on the suggestions from the community. These programs were developed with our values in mind and aim to encourage active community participation.

Our commitment to leaving a sustainable community goes beyond just saving the community centre; it involves providing opportunities for connection, giving individuals purpose and empowering them through support and education.

We have learned that by providing our community with a safe and welcoming space and by building an open and trusting relationship, we have been able to help nurture the next generation. Allowing them to discover who they are and develop skills they may not learn in school or may never have realised they possessed.

Once we developed these projects, we were able to delve even deeper into our impact reporting. This has opened the doors to the potential for new funding opportunities, with the hope of paving the way for Wormley & Turnford Big Local's legacy charity, the Broxbourne Big Local.

ROUND UP

4000

Individual beneficiaries:
We estimate to have reached in the last 2 years

National Events: Hosting three national events has brought communities and partnerships with local organisations together for celebration and friendship.

3

10

Community Parties: Hosting these events served as invaluable opportunities to unite communities, foster connections and establish trusting relationships. They provided a relaxed atmosphere conducive to receiving feedback, which in turn informed our strategic approach to project delivery.

Sustainable Clubs/Projects: have successfully connected individuals with similar interests, providing them with purpose and a sense of community.

5

5

WhatsApp Social Groups: Through platforms like WhatsApp, the community remains closely connected, with groups dedicated to various interests and support networks.

Small local businesses supported: while delivering essential life skills, education, and empowerment to residents, covering a range of activities.

27

5

Eat & Meet, Lunch & Learn sessions: providing valuable life skills and education, warm spaces and addressing food poverty and social isolation.

Partnership collaborations with charities and organisations: Focusing on building neighbouring community project connections while leveraging diverse expertise and knowledge.

14

3

Coach Trips: Providing opportunities for residents to create lasting memories, these coach trips offer experiences to those in need, enhancing their quality of life.

Funding Opportunities: Continuation of funding for various initiatives. Grant funds ensured the sustainability and growth of Wormley Community Centre.

7

ISSUES ADDRESSED

Residents struggling financially

Providing support and resources to improve financial stability for individuals and families in need.

Food poverty and Cost of living

Addressing food insecurity and assisting in managing the costs of basic necessities for vulnerable residents.

Health and Disability

Offering support services tailored to individuals with health issues or disabilities to enhance their well-being and quality of life.

Mental Health issues

Implementing initiatives to promote mental well-being and offering support for those experiencing mental health challenges.

Suicide

Implementing suicide prevention strategies and providing support for those at risk or affected by suicide.

Isolation

Creating opportunities for social connection and community engagement to combat loneliness and isolation.

Physical ill health

Providing resources and support for physical health issues to improve overall health outcomes.

Barriers to access to support and social opportunities

Access to essential support services and social opportunities for all community members.

Safer Living environment

Implementing measures to enhance safety and security within the community, ensuring a safer living environment for residents.

Responsible Dog Ownership

Promoting responsible pet ownership practices to ensure the well-being of both pets and the community.

Domestic Abuse

Offering support services and resources for victims of domestic abuse and working towards prevention and intervention strategies.

Anti-social crime

Implementing measures to address and reduce instances of anti-social behaviour and crime within the community.

Lack of 'out of school' activities/opportunities available for children from families experiencing financial difficulties

Providing access to recreational and educational activities for children from financially disadvantaged families to promote their holistic development.

Raising awareness on Environmental issues

Educating the community about environmental issues and promoting sustainable practices.

A BIG LOCAL THANK YOU!

We extend our gratitude to all our wonderful volunteers but in particular the Wormley & Turnford Big Local Partnership, both past and present, whose unwavering dedication and contributions have been instrumental in the delivery and success of the Wormley & Turnford Big Local Project.

CURRENT WTBL PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

Loretta Allen – Chair
 Steven Parker – Vice-Chair
 Stuart Bennett – Financial Liaison Officer
 Peter Cassell
 Breda Higgins
 Audra Heywood
 Seema Rajani
 Noelle Blackman
 Jeff Allen
 David Birley
 Kenneth Macarthy
 Norah Trimmings



CURRENT STAFF AND CONTRACTORS

Zoe Edwards – Head of Community & Partnerships
 Victoria Moore – Operations & Marketing Manager
 Filomena Ravellese - Cleaner
 Steve Robinson – IT & Maintenance
 Andy Brace – Caretaker



A BIG LOCAL THANK YOU!

FUNDERS AND DONORS

who's generosity has enabled us to offer such valuable support to our community

Local Trust
The National Lottery Foundation
Community Ownership Fund
Broxbourne Council
Hertfordshire County Council
Hertfordshire Community Foundation
Herts Sports Partnership
Broxbourne Councillors
MP for Broxbourne
Tesco Community Champions
Costcutter Wormley
Manto's Meze Bar & Grill
Broxbourne Boat Centre
The Wormley and Turnford Community

CHARITIES, ORGANISATIONS AND BUSINESSES

that have supported our aims and objectives

Broxbourne Primary School
Change Grow Live
Chris Foster – Walk the Beat
Citizens Advice Broxbourne
Community Alliance for Broxbourne and East Herts
DJ & MC Academy
Dogs Trust
Fishing Adventures
FLOW with Stories
Healthy Hub Broxbourne
HOST – Holistic On Site Therapies
Jam Arts
Khaya Kitchen
Local Trust
Love Hoddesdon
Lowewood Museum
Make Believe Ware
OPAL - Older Persons Adult Learning Services
Roller Start
Sarah Lamb Jewellery
Sea Cadets
Sue Watson – Self-Defense
The Chicken Shack
The Music Lab
Your Cricket Coach



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