

Cobra Meeting

Link via Zoom

February 6th 2024

Time: 2pm – 3pm

Cobra is co-ordinated by Settle Community and Business Hub. If you wish to have any more information about points raised here please contact Jo Rhodes on: hub@settlecommunityandbusinesshub.org.uk

Present: Jo Rhodes (Settle Community and Business Hub), Caroline Wilson (Age UK), Ian Hunt (Neighbourhood Police Team), Louise Try (The Place), Jane Cotton (Town Council, Victoria Hall, The Folly), David Blackburne (Settle Rotary Club)

Updates:

Jo Rhodes

- Chugging along as usual - Public Living Room Monday and Thursday, Community Fridge 3 sessions a week, knit and natter Weds morning. There are a couple of evening Temperance bars going ahead 4-8pm, 10th & 24th February and 9th & 23rd March. Interesting as this is bringing people out particularly those who have been quite isolated during Covid. Food and interesting non-alcoholic drinks available. A good way to re-engage with people - anyone welcome.
- Simon Wells from Mind has started a men's group in the Hub Office initially for 8 weeks for those with severe mental health or trauma. Mondays 11am - not many spaces left.
- There are a couple of things coming up to remember Alex Merrett. Alex's executors are scattering his ashes from Castleberg on the second May Bank Holiday and are inviting anyone that wants to come along. For others that might not manage that we have booked the Victoria Hall for the 11th June (Alex's Birthday) for a crafting afternoon and the opportunity to share stories. Ann at Victoria Hall was hoping to do a Pride event soon so will do something at this as it was something which Alex was very passionate about. More to follow on this.
- I'm going back to USA next week for 2 and a bit weeks for my travel fellowship. Will do a talk or a slide show once I'm back and organised to share learning.
- Through the Public Living Room people and Stir to Action there is a fabulous resource called the 'ABC of The New Economy'. So helpful for locally led solutions. I have lots of copies if anyone is interested. Very useful booklet. Some in the office and some left at the Quakers..
- We have secured funding for wood and coal as part of a Cost of Living grant from Two Ridings Community Foundation. We have not got the money in yet but there is also a small trust in Settle which can offer small grants to individuals – Settle Sickness and in Need. Janet Heap in Austwick is involved with this. Contact Jo or Louise if you know of anyone who might need this sort of help.

Jane Cotton

- Understory - More following the last Event in November 2022. Will be inviting the original attendees plus some others and we can have a look at what might have changed. Police cannot be involved. The next event is 25th March 'Warp and Weft'. We want to pull more from the Public Sector so that we can all start to work more as one.

Understory - general info <https://understory.community/>

The Settle Community Map is here <https://communities.understory.community/settle/network> and if you did it before and are logged in to the map there is now a game where you can try and connect people and organisations so a nice way of learning more about your own community. On the public map you can see without being logged in - the organisations are visible but individuals have been given animal names like Energetic Turtle and Kind Alpaca so people are not identifiable. Obviously if you know who is involved with certain organisations then you can work out who is who.. but.. this is done for GDPR purposes so you can see the connections but not the names. Instructions there for how to zoom in and use filters so you can have a play with it. This is what we will be looking at during the 'Warp and Weft' event.

- Victoria Hall - There is still the crowd funder out there to raise money for the audio equipment that had been on loan to us. The Emporium will be opening back up Feb - March run slightly differently but still as a Charity shop. Jayne the current Cafe Manager will be leaving that post to run the Emporium so we will be advertising soon for a new Cafe manager. This will be run on much reduced staff number to keep costs low
- The Folly - Plastering work taking place at the moment. Ideas around a local art gallery.
- Town Council - Budget has been published, you can see this on the website or the Settle Community News. We are currently one Councillor short which we really need to fill.

Ian Hunt

- Query asked of Ian Hunt whether there is anything in particular we can offer to do. Nothing really trends in rural areas but there are spikes of activities. A spike in burglaries recently possibly a gang from Lancashire.
- A reminder to be vigilant generally and challenge when it is safe to do so. Report anything to the Police, we would rather check it out and be sure than not know things. We will be doing some cycle marking from secure funding.
- Community Messenger - encourage people to sign up. It's targeted messages that are relevant to an area or community. Please do re-share any social media posts you feel relevant.
- Jo suggests Ian put an article in the Settle Community News about Community Messenger and updates. Like below.
<https://www.settlenews.co.uk/contact-us>
<https://www.settlenews.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Settle-Community-News-Feb-2024.pdf>
- Update from Ian about Delaney Court - there has been an email exchange with the Housing Officer responsible for it and he says there is a commitment by the investment and regeneration department to work on Delaney Court.

Caroline Wilson

- Asks Ian if he/Jayne are willing to come and visit Coffee and Chat to ease worries about burglaries.
- Shop is closed for refurb at the moment so a lot of staff are working elsewhere temporarily. Business as usual, activities are all running..

- We are looking at working with Vic Hall Cafe for vinyl revival, maybe a tea dance or musical event.
- Discussions around Public Transport and sheltering in Settle when you are waiting for a bus. This has been brought up before in Town Council - Jane to raise it again.

Louise Try

- Homestart in most of Monday - has suggested that Alice, Ian or Jayne could pop in. We are linking these families in with other services like CAP and SELFA.
- Dementia session by Pioneer Projects on a Tuesday morning as well as our Wellbeing Cafe on a Tuesday afternoon.
- We are having Horton Housing back every other Tuesday afternoon in our big room - similar offer to Citizens advice but with a focus on housing as well as mental health, benefits, health and wellbeing etc.
- Wednesday Age UK morning coffee and chat. Once a month Wednesday afternoons - 'Better Days'. Richard Cuthbert from Rethinking Pain in tomorrow doing a session on sleep - come along.
- Cancer Support group is attempting to get off the ground again as there is a real need for the support as said by GPs, Social Prescriber etc. 4th Monday morning of the month with Caroline and another volunteer. Group is open to all affected by Cancer. Conversations around the possibility of making this available online for those in treatment who may not be comfortable going out.
- Horizons are in every Thursday offering support with Drug and Alcohol support - best to book through them.
- Mindfulness session running on a Thursday
- SELFA running a parenting group on a Friday morning - numbers have been low so please spread the word.

David Blackburne

- Merry Go Round meal fundraiser for the Pool this Friday. Sold out event 210 people coming.
- After the last meeting we had 17 funding requests and were able to give out several thousands to many different groups..
- Always encouraged by the Cobra meetings in terms of discovering what is going on out there and will do our best to help.
- We will be doing a Marie Curie collection in March.
- As we are an international organisation we give money to disaster zones and charities.
- Money is available for individuals who need to support to continue with studies or a special skill - this is trickier to do than charities or organisations. Suggestion made for this to come through existing charities/organisations.

Next meeting Tuesday 5th March 2pm on zoom