

November 2009

Update from South Ward Neighbourhood Management Partnership

Parks improvement programme has continued with the refurbishment of Byron Recreation ground in partnership with the DCFS Playbuilder programme. The design of the park has incorporated opportunities for natural play including reed beds, stepping stones, grassy mounds and timber play equipment.

Shopping parades improvements continue with the refurbishment of Aller Parade shops on Oldmixon. The improvements will see a range of soft landscaping, including tree planting and hard landscaping, including new flooring and street furniture. Work will commence in January 2010.

The Community Chest fund has provided more than £200,000 in grants of under £3,000 to

- Support the development of very local projects and initiatives with wider benefits to the community
- Encourage more residents to get involved in activities in their neighbourhood
- Build a network of local community groups

Since the scheme was first set up, the Community Chest fund has been able to help lots of local groups in South Ward, and has also enabled community groups to establish themselves.

Communal gardens have been developed in six areas on South ward. Local residents have come together to reclaim disused communal spaces and turn them into gardens that can be enjoyed by local families.

A new **one stop job and skills shop** has been opened on St Andrew's Parade to help local people to access advice and support on employment, training and career development opportunities. The shop is staffed by partners from a wide range of organisations so people using the shop have access to the best advice and guidance.

Our space is an innovative programme to transform the former garage area and communal garden for seventy properties between Windermere, Selworthy, Grasmere and Baildon. Draft designs for the area are being drawn up in conjunction with local residents and will be available in January. Work will commence on the transformation of the space in April.

Arts strategy many of the artists appointed to deliver projects are now making their piece ready for installation in the New Year. All the artists have worked closely with local people to discover the history of the area and to make pieces that connect with the local landscape and the people who live here.