

Community Action Blackburn AGM

22ND NOVEMBER 2023



CELEBRATING THE WORK OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE!



SUMMER OF PLAY

We delivered a 3 week summer club in July for P1 - P7. The weather was fab & we utilised the outdoor space at the centre as well as local parks. We also had 3 Family Trips to Summerlee, the Beach and Clyde Valley.

CIB RECRUITMENT

The current Change in Blackburn (CiB) group had a recruitment drive aimed at P7's to expand the group. Informal team building sessions were used in the initial sessions to encourage the group to gel together.

PARLIAMENT VISIT

After a number of sessions in the Partnership Centre to discuss The Firework Bill, CiB was invited by visiting MSP's to Scottish Parliament for the debate session which took place after the full consultation process.

CHAIRPERSONS ADDRESS

Alison Kerr - Chair Person

In the last year Community Action Blackburn continued to focus on the issues that were identified by the community of Blackburn and delivered a thoughtful program in keeping with the Blackburn Futures Plan. The Priorities focussed on supporting initiatives that addressed poverty related matters including social and economic inequalities, promoting positive physical, mental health and wellbeing. Working closely with our Community Regeneration worker and Third Sector partners, CAB are a link to support services, signpost effectively and offer opportunities to engage with groups they deliver. This gives the community a sense of being part of something and confidence meaningful supports are there when needed.

Positive outcomes in the last financial year:

1. Provided support and assistance in delivering the Blackburn Future Plan for the benefit and wellbeing of the community.
2. Improved access to food and knowledge in delivering affordable meals for the family.
3. Older people have an improved quality of life, Mental Health & Wellbeing through attendance at clubs and events provided.
4. Children and Young People are better equipped with knowledge and skills through their involvement in Community activities and work.
5. Young people's support has been increased through the availability of sessions and sign posting by youth workers.
6. People's quality of life, knowledge and skills are improved through volunteering to assist and participate in community activities.

There is a lot of excellent work being delivered within the community which CAB are involved in and tonight you will hear from our great bunch of youth volunteers who have been very busy over the last year developing and delivering actions for the wellbeing and good of the community.



ONGOING PIECES OF WORK

CAB have and will continue to deliver many projects and activities for the benefit of the community whether this be on their own or through the strong partnership working that exists in Blackburn. These include:

- Blackburn's Future Group
- Climate Action Town
- Friday Club
- Summer of Play
- Women's Social Service Club
- Change in Blackburn Youth Forum
- Drop in sessions
- Consultation & Family Day
- 'Waste Not Want' Not Community Pantry
- Mental Health & Wellbeing Events
- Staff support to West Lothian's German Youth Exchange



MOVING FORWARD

As we move forward

- We have once again linked in with our schools to develop and deliver more ideas and projects to continue the great work done by previous Primary 6 and 7 pupils to make Blackburn a better place;
- Through the Climate Action Town work, we are in the process of developing a Local Place Plan for submission to West Lothian Council;
- We are also working alongside other partner agencies to scope out the possibility of providing an Education & Skills Training Hub for the benefit of all residents of Blackburn.



THANK YOU

We would like to thank Michelle Murray, Blackburn's Community Regeneration Officer and Helen Davis of the Youth Action Project for the all the hard work they deliver for CAB and the community.

Our partner agencies who, without their assistance and support we would be unable to deliver all the services that we do and West Lothian Council for their continued funding of the project.

Blackburn is extremely fortunate to have a wide range of skilled and knowledgeable partner agencies and groups to assist in the delivery of the actions required to address the issues and concerns of the community and West Lothian Council for their continued funding of the project.

- Community Volunteers;
- Summer of Play Volunteers;
- Change in Blackburn (CIB) youth group;
- West Lothian Youth Action Project;
- West Lothian Council;
- Blackburn Partnership Centre;
- Blackburn Education Centre Management Committee;
- Blackburn Community Council;
- Community Shop Volunteers;
- Architecture & Design Scotland Climate Action Towns;
- West Lothian Drug & Alcohol Service;
- West Lothian Food Bank;
- Blackburn Primary;
- Murrayfield Primary;
- Pinewood School;
- Our Lady of Lourdes Primary;
- Connolly School Campus;
- Blackburn Gala Day Committee;
- The Larder;
- Blackburn Homeless Unit;



We would also like to take the opportunity to thank all our staff and volunteers for the all the hard work they continue to do in developing and taking the project forward and last but no means least the Blackburn Community for supporting, directing and guiding us to making a positive difference.