



## November 2011

### AIMS OF THE STAKEHOLDER FORUM

- Share information
- Engage and understand the requirements of Stakeholders
- Promote the CCG
- Build positive partnerships
- Inform the management and maintenance of the CCG
- Ensure quality and sharing good practice
- Provide feedback to the Project Management Team
- Promote and support involvement of others

### PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Maurice Kinkead**  
(East Belfast Partnership)
- Anne McMurray**  
(East Belfast Partnership)
- Kyle Alexander**  
(Strategic Investment Board)
- Barry Donaldson**  
(Castlereagh Borough Council)
- Sammy Douglas**
- Gerry Millar (Chair)**  
(Belfast City Council)
- Mark O'Donnell**  
(Department for Social Development)
- Pat Aldridge**  
(Rivers Agency)
- Advisors**
- Emma McCracken**  
(Central Procurement Directorate)

### CCG STAFF TEAM

- Wendy Langham**  
(Programme Manager)
- Heather Chesney**  
(Communications & Admin Officer)
- Sean Brannigan**  
(Community Engagement Officer)
- Stephanie Meenagh  
(Marketing and Communications Assistant)

E-mail: [sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org)  
 Telephone: 90467930  
[www.communitygreenway.co.uk](http://www.communitygreenway.co.uk)



### The Stakeholder Forum

Our last Stakeholders Forum was held in Bloomfield Methodist Church on 24th June and was our largest turn out yet with in excess of 120 attendees, including First Minister Rt Hon Peter Robinson, MLA. The theme for the Stakeholders Forum was Orangefield Park and this generated a high level of interest from local residents eager to find out what was happening in their area and when work would start.

Our thanks to the staff and volunteers from Bloomfield Methodist Church for hosting the Forum and for their continued support.

The Stakeholder Forum continues to grow in attendance and your support, feedback, ideas and issues remain critically important to the delivery of the Connswater Community Greenway.

### Progress update

#### Key Milestones; July 2011 to November 2011

- Ongoing contractual Issues addressed
- Public Art Brief developed and issued for CS Lewis themed art at new civic square. Stage I of the selection completed.
- PARC Baseline Study complete
- Treatment of invasives

### The Hollow—bedded down for Winter

Following on from the hugely successful Hollow Spring Clean in April 2011, local people suggested we 'put the Hollow to bed' for the winter by giving it a further clean up, cut back some of the overgrown areas and clear paths in preparation for Spring 2012.

Yet again support for this event from the local community and business sector ensured a fun and productive event with staff from McDonalds Connswater, Bloomfield Community Association, Walkway Community Association, East Belfast Alternatives, Tidy NI and Elim Pentecostal church joining local residents to tidy up the Hollow. Anyone with ideas for similar events along the CCG route should contact Sean at 90467930 or e-mail [sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org).



## Greenfingers Workshops

July and August saw the Connswater Community Greenway team up with summer schemes in east Belfast to deliver a series of Greenfingers Workshops with Larne Lough Nurseries.

Young people from Carew II Family and Training Centre, Short Strand Community Centre, Bloomfield Community Centre and Dee Street and Inverary Community Centres visited Larne Lough Nurseries in Magheramore to learn about planting and growing ahead of the creation of community gardens along the CCG route.

Larne Lough Nurseries is, as the name suggests, situated right on the Lough with spectacular views and staff have a broad experience in working directly with the voluntary and community sector having helped establish successful community gardens in Suffolk and Lenadoon.

Staff at Larne Lough invited the young people from the various groups to pick and eat strawberries and raspberries, carrots and peas, taste fennel, mint and other herbs, feed pigs and chickens and plant various herbs and flowers whilst learning about planting and maintaining fruit and veg.

Feedback was incredibly positive from both the young people and staff with each group expressing an interest in gaining access to space along the CCG route for their own plots to grow herbs, fruit and vegetables.

Community activities are a key element of the CCG project and we are keen to support such activities where possible.



## Community Activity Grants Programme (2011)

The Connswater Community Greenway (CCG) Activity Grants Programme is aimed at local community organisations and is designed to support them as they seek to promote and raise awareness of the CCG, attract people to the CCG area and allow the local community to engage with the CCG project.

For the past three years we have encouraged local community organisations to apply for grants of between £50 and £500 to deliver activities that best meet the needs of their communities. In 2011 these activities included the Walkway Community Associations Duck Doo which involved a treasure trail through Victoria Park incorporating a nature and photography competition followed by a party back in their Centre, support for EBCDA's Tryathalon in Victoria Park, an event designed to encourage physical activity including cycling, walking etc... for all age groups, Carew II Family and Training centres 'Picnic in the Park' incorporating a sports day for children and parents and Disabled Ramblers NI Van Morrison tour of east Belfast, visiting areas that the legendary Van Morrison sings about on some of his most famous songs.

Any community groups interested in this scheme should contact Sean on 90467930 or e-mail [sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org) for further information.



Walkway Duck Doo



EBCDA Tryathalon



Disabled Ramblers



## Out and About— C.S. Lewis visitors

As one of the great literary figures of the 20th Century CS Lewis attracts interest from all over the world and it was our pleasure to host a group of students and lecturers from Oklahoma, eager to see the area that inspired the young CS Lewis to write the Narnia books and to hear about proposals for the new CS Lewis Civic Square at Hollywood Arches.

Accompanied by noted CS Lewis enthusiast and tour guide Sandy Smith, the visitors heard how the proposed new design will incorporate references to CS Lewis influences such as the Mourne mountains, drumlins etc... and will incorporate public art focusing on a 'the Chronicles of Narnia' theme with a view to creating public space that will attract tourists and other visitors as well as local residents.

Feedback from the visitors, who would subsequently be visiting the Mourne Mountains and Oxford as part of their CS Lewis trip to Europe, was incredibly positive. They suggested that the CS Lewis brand be developed further as his works are internationally recognised and have a huge international fan base, particularly with the success of the recent Disney movies. This is a further opportunity for us to build an international tourism product in east Belfast and all ideas as to how this could be further developed are welcome.



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## PARC Study (Physical Activity on the Rejuvenated Connswater) Update

The PARC Study has been developed by Queens University to measure the impact of the new Connswater Community Greenway on the physical activity and health of local residents. The PARC team have completed their work in relation to the baseline study, after a busy year collecting data across east Belfast.

In September 2011 they held a meeting of their International Scientific Advisory Committee which includes senior academics from the University of Cambridge and NICE (the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence) and are on track to produce reports/studies highlighting the main findings of their research to date. They will be presenting elements of their findings at the December Stakeholder Forum.

In November 2011 the PARC Team are hosting a workshop with a number of key people involved in health and physical activity in the local community, the purpose of which is to plan different physical activity programmes associated with the CCG. Ideas being considered are 'walking buses' to and from schools, cycling and walking programmes and a physical activity loyalty card scheme.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the PARC Study or in getting involved in this internationally important piece of research should contact Dr Ruth Hunter of Queen's University ([ruth.hunter@qub.ac.uk](mailto:ruth.hunter@qub.ac.uk)) or call into the Connswater Community Greenway office for more information.

### Key tasks for the next quarter

- **Resolve ongoing contractual issues**
- **Agree construction programme**
- **Stakeholder and community engagement** - Further public meetings and community activities along the CCG route focusing on the construction programme
- **Stage 2 of the C.S.Lewis Public Art selection**
- **Continue to lobby for funding for East Belfast Flood Alleviation Scheme**
- **Meet with NI Water**
- **CCG Website redevelopment**

### Ongoing Activities

#### Land Assembly

Being undertaken by BCC in accordance with agreed programme and budget

#### Flood Alleviation

Working with Rivers Agency to address flooding in the CCG area on the Connswater, Knock and Loop Rivers.

#### Invasive Species

Management of invasive species in the CCG area.

#### Multi Agency Team

Co-ordination with other key projects progressed within the Connswater Community Greenway

## Yardmen Cycle and Walk 2012—1st April 2012

Following on from the success of the Greenway Santa Cycles 2008, 2010 when hundreds of cycling Santas raised funds and awareness of Bowel Cancer, the team behind the Santa Cycle have joined with Belfast City Council, Titanic Belfast and the 'Shipyards Church' (Westbourne Presbyterian) to organise a Titanic cycle and walk for 2012. To tie in with 2012 Titanic celebrations and the opening of Belfast's newest tourist attraction Titanic Belfast ([www.titanicbelfast.com](http://www.titanicbelfast.com)) we are looking for 1000 Yardmen, woman and children to join us on 1st April 2012, 'You'd be a fool to miss out'.

We hope to attract 1,000 participants dressed as Titanic shipyard workers and, for the first time, are incorporating a walk as well as a cycle with walkers and cyclists meeting up at the new Titanic Belfast building in Titanic Quarter. This represents an opportunity for participants to be amongst the first to see the inside of this iconic new building which will be officially opened on 31 March 2012 and we aim to raise awareness and £20,012 for Bowel Cancer UK.

We would encourage all our stakeholders and supporters to participate in this memorable event as walkers, cyclists or as volunteers in what promises to be a memorable and fun family day out and an integral part of the events programme associated with Titanic Belfast. We aim to recreate a 1912 photo of the yardmen as shown below.

Numbers will be limited to 1,000 cyclists and walkers so it is important that anyone interested registers as soon as possible as this event is likely to be oversubscribed. You can register your interest in this landmark event by e-mailing your name, address and contact details to [greenway@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:greenway@eastbelfastpartnership.org).

### TITANIC YARD MEN CYCLE & WALK 1ST APRIL 2012



#### Cyclists

Departing 12 noon  
From: Billy Neill Centre  
To: Titanic Belfast



#### Walkers

Departing 12:30 p.m.  
From: Pitt Park  
To: Titanic Belfast



Sign up for more details today or email:  
[greenway@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:greenway@eastbelfastpartnership.org)

Information will be available on the CCG website:  
[www.communitygreenway.co.uk](http://www.communitygreenway.co.uk)



### Find out more

With 41,000 people living along the CCG route and with the Greenway passing through business parks etc... this is a project that will have a huge impact on local residents, schools, communities and businesses. It is also a community led project and we are, therefore, keen to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to learn more about the project and to become involved with its development and delivery. You may have ideas about what you would like to see along the CCG route, you may have concerns about some of the proposals or you may wish to become involved through volunteering, community adoption schemes or special interest groups such as cycling, orienteering etc...

To ensure that the project achieves its full potential we are keen to talk to individuals or groups and describe and explain what the project is about and what we hope it can achieve. We want to hear your thoughts, ideas and concerns and we want your help in delivering a project that the whole of east Belfast can be proud of.

If you want to find out more or feel you have something to contribute to the project please contact our Community Engagement Officer, Sean Brannigan, at the address and telephone number below. Alternatively you can e-mail [sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org)



278-280 Newtownards Road,  
Belfast, BT4 1HE  
T: 028 9045 1900  
E: [greenway@eastbelfastpartnership.org](mailto:greenway@eastbelfastpartnership.org)  
[www.communitygreenway.co.uk](http://www.communitygreenway.co.uk)

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