



## **PARTNERS UPDATE**

**October 2009**

### **Hot News**

#### **Third Sector Minister visits Keystone Development Trust**

Angela Smith MP, Minister for the Third Sector visited Keystone on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The Minister saw a KAVO networking meeting in action and talked to members at the Keystone Innovation Centre, a children's activity Centre focusing on healthy eating at the Abbey Neighbourhood Centre as well as Green Ventures and the Local Food Group.

#### **META Cambridge to be launched in the autumn**

Keystone has secured resources to run an 18 month META Cambridge pilot project. META Cambridge will operate two sessions a week giving information, support and guidance to migrants living or working in the Cambridge sub-region.

#### **Thetford Sainsbury's local Charity of the Year**

Staff at the Thetford Sainsbury store have chosen Keystone as their Charity of the Year. Board and staff members (supported by Community Spirit) assisted with a charitable bag packing event to kick off the year.

#### **Keystone on Utube**

The national Asset Transfer Unit is developing a series of short films on community organisations. Keystone staff are producing films on our assets over the coming months. The first is on U Tube;

<http://www.buildingcommunity.org.uk/keystone-development-trust/user-video-1/>

#### **£3000 grant from local philanthropic trust**

Keystone has been awarded a grant of £3000 from a local charitable trust to assist META (£1000) and the Fast Track Furniture Scheme (£2000). The Fast Track Furniture Scheme takes referrals from social services or Peddars Housing and provides furniture through Green Ventures.

## **META Suffolk pilot extended**

Suffolk County Council and partners have extended the successful META Suffolk pilot until the end of December 2009 to ensure migrants receive an information service until such time that decisions on the Migrant Impact Fund delivery can be made.

## **Green Ventures (Bike Recycling) partners up with Genesis Orwell Mencap**

Recycled bikes will hit the local streets in the near future with the assistance of funding from the Thetford Healthy Town Project and a partnership with Genesis Orwell Mencap's Green Bike Project. Genesis is assisting Green Ventures in sourcing bikes and a market for bikes when recycled.

## **Keystone ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in 'trusts with big assets' report**

*Regeneration & Renewal* magazine (14.9.09) has published its annual development trust survey and places Keystone 10<sup>th</sup> in the 'ten trusts with big assets' Keystone £5.673 million worth of assets. The 'winner' was the Coin Street Group with £48 million.

Keystone was placed 8<sup>th</sup> in 2008, but a number of New Deal for Communities programmes have adopted the development trust model as successor organisations as the publicly funded schemes close and often have substantial assets. However, Keystone remains the only rural trust on the list.

## **Building Community Assets Practical Guide published by EEDA**

Keystone's St John's Project in Mildenhall (in association with Forest Heath Council and King Street Housing Society) is featured in a new publication available at;

<http://www.icof.co.uk/docs/BuildingCommunityAssetsGuide.pdf>

## **Join the Keystone Facebook Group!**

Keystone has launched a group on the Facebook social networking site to promote its work to local people and colleagues across the UK as well as networking and debate. 68 people joined the group in its first few weeks.

## **Housing and Migration Network**

Keystone's Chief Executive, Neil Stott, has been asked to join a new national Housing and Migration Network. The network is being set up by HACT, Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Metropolitan Housing partnership to improve the housing and places where new migrant communities live.

## Children and Youth

### **Charles Burrell Community Garden Project:**

The launch of the garden and unveiling of the sculpture took place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September and was attended by over 75 people. Some of the youngsters from the project were awarded their Norfolk Youth Awards and their project completion certificates on the day.

The presentations were made by David Blackburn, Chairman of the Friends of Burrell Museum. The sculpture was unveiled using a full-size Burrell engine removing a tarpaulin – the engine was kindly provided by Richard Parrot, Chair of the Burrell Trustees. A DVD of the event is being produced and will be uploaded to the Keystone website.

### **Barnham Cross Big Sitting Room**

A staff team has been recruited for this project which launched on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Sessions will take place every week on a Wednesday evening for 10-14 years and Thursday evenings for 15 – 19 year olds. Both sessions will take place at Fulmerston Church.

## Keystone Community

### **META Health**

Abigail Stancliffe- Vaughn left Keystone on the 24<sup>th</sup> September to focus on her PhD and associated teaching at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge. Danielle Ross who is currently working for Thetford Healthy Towns will be the new interim manager. Danielle will work for META for 3 days per week and Health Towns Project for two days. Within Danielle's META time she will be assisting Alex Collis (Keystone Research Manager) with the migrant and health research project. Danielle has a first class law degree and Barrister's qualification. She has experience of legal casework in a variety of settings, including community legal advice. Danielle's main focus will be ensuring we maintain (and improve) our excellent delivery and developing the new services.

### **KAVO**

The KAVO programme of autumn events is progressing well. As a result of KAVO training courses three more organizations have been supported to develop their own website and eighteen individuals have received Basic Food Hygiene Training. The next KAVO training course will be held in Brandon, in an effort to engage more groups from that area in the network.

The Children and Young Peoples Activities Event (Weds 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 4:30-7pm, Keystone Innovation Centre) and Volunteer Fayre (Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Oct, 10-12:30pm, Guildhall) are now fully booked by KAVO members wishing to publicise their activities to the local community. Promotional materials for both events have been designed and are now being distributed.

Funding was successfully obtained from Breckland District Council to launch a Thetford Health Forum. The Forum's first meeting (Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Sept 2-5pm, Keystone Innovation Centre), will include presentations from Thetford Healthy Town Projects, the Thetford Health Trainers Team, and Voluntary Norfolk's Health Connectors.

## **Keystone Buildings**

### **Abbey Neighbourhood Centre**

Bookings have been very encouraging over the past few months with many activities taking place. A Community Fun Day organized by Flagship Housing which took place at the centre attracted over 200 people in September. Adult Education have now confirmed they are block-booking the front meeting room from September – December 2009.

### **The Limes**

The Limes has now become 98% occupied following the moves of the Thetford Healthy Town project and Meridian East. The building now houses over 20 members of staff throughout the week from the various projects. As ever Thursdays to Saturdays are very busy with META clients in the building.

### **Innovation Centre**

The current building occupancy is now 97.4%

## **Keystone Enterprise**

### **Local Food Group**

The Local Food Group service is increasing weekly with businesses realising what we can offer with external catering, private catering and the social enterprise Café One

Thetford Healthy Town – Joy of Food project is being managed by Local Food Group. Trainers to run the programs have now been fully trained, we are prepared for the Thetford Healthy Towns launch and the project will be fully

advertised. This project is new and exciting and everyone involved is thoroughly behind the launch.

### **Keystone Research and Consultancy**

Recent contracts include;

- DTA Pool - critical indicators for New Deal for Communities (NDC) succession strategies
- DTA Pool - reviewer for Nottingham NDC, West Middlesbrough and West Ham NDCs
- Cheshire County Council – asset development project