ISSUE 3 Summer 2022 Your regular update on what's happening with the regeneration of Druids Heath

DRUIDS HEATH TOGETHER

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# FOLLOW THE PROGRESS

## Druids Heath bids for Levelling Up funding

Based on feedback from our recent engagement with you, the community, we have listened to what you have told us and we have bid for funding to begin turning your ideas into reality.



You told us you would like to improve your community and we are delighted to inform you that we have submitted a bid to the government Levelling Up fund for the maximum amount of £20 million.

We have bid for funding to create a new centre which includes:

- **1.** Creation of a bigger community centre.
- **2.** Public square with shops and opportunities for start-up spaces.
- 3. Sports pitches and

community amenities.

- **4.** New youth centre with more facilities.
- 5. New Library.
- **6.** Taking down the overhead power lines and pylons by putting cables under the ground.
- Village Green enhancements and a bridge across the canal to Jasmine Fields.

We will be talking to you about the location of the new facilities, so that you shape your Druids Heath and bring these ideas into reality. We will also be holding workshops to look at the design concepts. If you would like to be involved in the design workshops please contact Pioneer.

We will hear if our bid is successful in the autumn. It will kick start the wider regeneration and the funding will enable us to develop these concepts along with sustainable housing, community spaces, amenity space and other sustainable opportunities. Birmingham City Football Club's Community Trust are excited about the regeneration in Druids Heath and would love to make it their home.

## A PLACE TO CALLHOME FOR BCFC COMMUNITY TRUST



The Trust wants to bring a variety of sporting opportunities to the community on a daily basis which would see delivery of sports and participation programmes on a 4G full size football pitch.

Programmes such as football development centres and multi sports programmes would be delivered all year round for the community as well as safe and enjoyable holiday activities for young people. Birmingham City FC Community Trust will also plan to deliver their core programmes surrounding education, skills, and training from their new home which will provide more accessible, supportive, and unique programmes and pathways for residents. The Trust will bring with them key

partners and stakeholders from regional and national levels to provide a variety of funded initiatives and programmes from the facility on a regular basis, these



programmes will include Health & Wellbeing bootcamps (FFIT Fans), Premier League funded social inclusion and development programmes for young people and also We are linking these plans into the Levelling Up Fund bid so that we can work with the council's youth service and community to help create improved facilities and opportunities for young people and residents.

National Citizens Service (NCS) which provides opportunities for young people to develop social and life skills. Holistic regeneration, as requested by you, the Druids Heath Community, is not just about physical change and providing better homes. It's about a holistic and interwoven range of outcomes.

# BULDING THE REGENERATION

Change needs to include opportunities for the whole community, health and wellbeing, education and economic opportunities and create a place where people feel safe and valued. We can't achieve this if we simply replace social housing on the sites that have been cleared, we need to complete the masterplan first.

There is a Planning requirement from the demolition of Baverstock school to provide a new Sports England compliant football pitch. Due to the levels on the site, there are limited options of where this pitch could go and the Baverstock school site is one of them, meaning until the location of the pitch and new community hub is determined this site isn't available for housing. In order to apply for

grants such as the Levelling Up fund, 'shovel ready' sites need to be available not only for the bid but also to ensure achieving the delivery timeframe is possible. community hub, enhancements to the village green, access on foot and cycle to the wider area by way of a bridge over the canal and to ground the pylons allowing more land to be available for

housing development. The community hub will offer opportunities for working, learning, exercise and social life. It will include a modern youth centre and sports pavilion, a new community centre and library as well as opportunities for start up businesses and community events. Through the consultation events organised by Pioneer you can give your view on where the community hub should go.

Having available land has allowed us to submit a bid for £20m to the Levelling Up fund for a new

### WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US AND WHAT ARE WE DOING NEXT

We've held workshops with young people at local schools, older residents at Harrison's House as well as an event for all residents at Manningford Hall.

Consultation feedback has told us you like the design concepts but you want to know what we are doing next.

You have asked us to bring forward new housing and we

are working to bring three sites forward for new housing and will be submitting planning applications in Summer 2022. These three sites are the former Royal British Legion which has now been demolished, at Keynell Covert and on Brockworth Road. This will help us to start to bring people back to Druids Heath who have moved away with the rehousing. To bring together the design concepts and what you have told us about Druids Heath we will be exploring the area being regenerated and how we might be able to deliver additional homes and what we can do to refurbish retained homes.



## **FOLLOW THE PROGRESS**

Our new website is now live. It will share the regeneration journey with you and together we will help shape Druids Heath.

As well as the website, the community survey – yourdatateam.co.uk/druidsheath – is still active, and we'd love you to share your voice. Everyone completing a survey will be entered into the prize draw for one of eight multi-store shopping vouchers. If you need help completing this then please contact us by emailing ifor.jones@pioneergroup.org.uk or TalkDruidsHeath@birmingham.gov.uk

The Pioneer Group are the council's partner for undertaking engagement to help make sure we get everyone's views. Please let us know directly or getting in touch with Pioneer through existing groups and activities.

For more information visit: druidsheathtogether.co.uk

> Left to right: Our new website; a concept sketch of community ammenties; and a digital 3D model of the estate.



# **NEWS UPDATES**

#### B2022 inspiring the next generation

Birmingham 2022 was an unforgettable 11 days of worldclass sport and an event that will live long in the memory. The council will now ensure the legacy of Birmingham 2022 is shared amongst every community in Birmingham.

Investment is continuing in grassroots sports to ensure people across the city can stay active in their neighbourhoods and funding has already been secured for 20 new or improved basketball facilities across Birmingham.

There's also the opportunity for local sports and community groups to be gifted a wide range of sports equipment used by teams and athletes during the Commonwealth Games. Over 16,000 sports items – including bikes, martial arts mats, T20 cricket equipment, basketballs, boxing gloves and weights, as well as general equipment, such as cones and bibs - will all be made available. Visit the Sport England website for details on how to apply.



#### Community survey – a sincere apology

We are sorry that some community surveys were sent out without selfaddressed envelopes to return them. For all residents who completed a postal survey in May and June, and returned this, you can get two free stamps at Manningford Hall.

There is still time to complete a questionnaire and return this at one of the events or pick up a survey with a free return envelope.

#### Local schools



We've had a great time working with The Oaks Primary School and St Jude's Catholic Primary School working with their respective school councils (formed of children from each class in their school.

During these sessions we've explored children's feelings about where they live, what is most important to them and what they know about the regeneration.

We've looked at what their favourite things are about Druids Heath, as well as what they think would change. The children have then thought about what their role could be in supporting their local community.

The children have responded brilliantly and have had the opportunity to go back to their classes to find out what they would 'add, take-away or keep' in their neighbourhood. Their ideas, thoughts and wishes are being fed into the wider regeneration process about what Druids Heath should be. Watch out for more activity in the schools over the coming months and how parents, families, carers and school staff can get involved.'



Now: Planning and design work continues

Autumn: Further design work and local consultation

**Updates** 



The Pioneer Group Making lives and communities better