**SHARED INTEREST GROUP: Culture** - 7 MARCH 2025

VENUE: E ROOMS SKELMERSDALE

**Attendees**

Ste Horricks E Rooms

Shirley Carr Skelmersdale Heritage Society

Julie Thompson “ “

Barry Carr “ “

Liz Spendley Ormskirk Music Society

Claire Cooper Learning Stars

Made in WN8

Purple Umbrella

Dream Makers

Skem First

Woodlands Community Primary School

Friends of Tawd Valley

Lathom High School

Merseyside Pensions Association

Dot Hawkes Lathom Park Trust

Ormskirk and District Family History Society

Ormskirk Community Partnership

Julian Finch Ecumenical Centre Skem

St Teresas Club Upholland

Upholland U3A

Skem and Upholland Rotary

Friends of Little Digmoor

Debbie Readon Ormskirk Historical Society

Ormskirk Womens Institute

Ormskirk and Aughton U3A

Graeme Iddon Becconsall Living Museum

**SPEAKER – Ste Horricks – Introduction to E Rooms**

* History of the E rooms music organisation who do all things music. Aim is to help anyone (particularly young people) with an interest in music to flourish.
* Gave the group a tour of the venue explaining what each area is used for.
* Ie lessons, practice, recording, performance and much more.
* Provide sound systems and artist for lots of local outdoor events and festivals.
* Provide open mic nights and a venue for local and touring bands to perform, have licenced bar. The venue is the base for Learning stars and Dream Makers who provide support and activities for adults with additional needs, and they work with young people excluded from school.
* Group discussion around the importance of music in culture and arts. Music can enrich and change lives.
* Link made with E rooms and Hesketh Bank around providing an open mic night in Hesketh Bank.

**Helen – CVS**

Introduction to network survey results thematic groups.

Dates for future meetings will be sent out.

Update on the network and looking for leads for thematic groups.

Update on funding fair and AGM 27 March

Update on CVS training.

**SPEAKER – Graeme Iddon – Becconsall Living Museum**

* The living museum is in Hesketh Bank on a 20-acre site formerly Alty’s brickworks. The work to develop the living museum is still ongoing.
* The nature trail includes a large part of the fishing lake and will include a space for schools to use the outside class room, den building and picnic areas are also being developed. It is important that they keep the balance between human encroachment on the wildlife in the area.
* The Heritage Park CIC have a 25-year lease with the wildlife trust.
* Contacts will be sent for open days to the living museum. Friends of Tawd Vally Park will contact about loaning bat boxes.

**HOW COULD A SHARERD INTEREST GROUP HELP?**

* Communication with other organisations and with WLBC
* Raising awareness of groups and what they do.
* Publications (lack of local newspaper) and different marketing to promote group activities
* Storage of equipment/ displaying items
* Core costs and funding long term.
* Involving young people.
* Engaging with the community.

**HOW COULD A NETWORK HELP?**

* Set up a face book etc network page for groups to put activities and events on.
* Share information between groups
* Collaborative working marketing and publications
* Raise awareness and building cultural links
* Creating a lasting legacy and long-term success
* Create a positive image of the area (particularly in Skelmerdale).

**General Immediate Feedback from attendees**

* Positive feeling to take forward
* Lot of passion for community
* Erooms best coffee around
* Good connections made
* Really enjoyed the meeting
* Excited by the possibilities to collaborate.

**NEXT MEETING**

TBA