

## **PAVS AGM 2014**

### **'Re-Imagining Public Services' Workshops Feedback**

**Environmental Services** (grounds maintenance, waste management, beach cleaning etc)

This workshop should seek to:

- establish the asset base including groups and services, buildings and facilities, specialist knowledge etc.
- what could the third sector do differently?
- What is stopping us from doing things differently?

#### **WORKSHOP NOTES**

What is the Asset base?

- Litter picking - community groups and individuals
- Community adoption schemes e.g. Litter control, planting etc.)
- Mill pond and warden scheme project - Pembroke
- Landscape management – Castlemartin
- Landscape and biodiversity management - volunteers
- Nature trails, woodland walks and path management - improved biodiversity and conservation
- Allotments
- Churchyard biodiversity project
- Tree planting
- Moorland management
- Footpath maintenance – community groups and volunteers
- Beach cleaning – community groups, coast champions and volunteers
- Free IT / waste electrical recycling for businesses
- Transition cafés e.g. Fishguard
- Bioengineering and broadleaf planting
- Up skilling volunteers
- Volunteer management training role
- Sustainable and ongoing maintenance in place
- Grounds maintenance e.g. Stackpole gardens
- Innovation e.g. seagull proofing rubbish bags

New Ideas – what could we do differently?

- Scolton Manor – social enterprise
- Aberystwyth group – horticulture gives proven mental health benefits
- Beach cleans – need an overarching group to co-ordinate organisations (otherwise potential to double up and clean the same beaches) – use an existing group to improve communication
- More work with universities e.g. students for consultancy work
- Match funding between town and community council precept and the third sector

What is Stopping Us?

- Conflict and lack of understanding e.g. between community councils and community associations

- Different approaches to 'tidiness'
- Difficulty engaging the public / community to get involved in groups and in community councils
- Funding issues , including for overarching groups
- Fragmented smaller groups
- Welsh Government - payments and collaboration – lead partner capital issues
- Asked to do more with no extra funding – pressure to raise precept as it has no cap
- County Council barrier to subcontracting under Service Level Agreements
- Lack of a 'common mind' amongst those involved
- Innovation not see as the norm
- Lack of capacity within town and community councils
- Community has lack of sense of responsibility / disengagement / expectation that Council will provide services
- 'serving the community' no longer seen as a prestige position
- Age profile of organisations