

Attendees; Maggi Aslet, Angela White, Pete Spiers, Annie Spiers, Jackie Vasquez, Dianne Harrison, Gillian Moonman, Craig Horan, Lauren Jones, Tiffany Horan, Glyn Thomas, John Buchannan, Babu Patel, Ibrahim Hussein, Jackie Francis, Nadia Speers Robinson, Carys Veale, Andrew Stott, Amy Hughes, Beth Anderson, Ian Singleton, Karen Yates, Father Henry Moses, Paula Bridson, Elizabeth Devey, Richard Owens, Sylvia Miley, Neil Gibson, Debbie Fulwood,

Welcome & Introductions – Pete Spiers and Maggi Aslet

Pete and Maggi completed the introductions for the meeting and the theme which is to recognise the work that faith organisations do in the community in Sefton. The meeting had a focus on arts and culture with multiple key speakers

Sefton CVS Community Insight Tool – Maggi Aslet and Angela White

Maggi presented the Community Insight tool, a simple form for gathering community needs and solutions. Angela explained how this data informed new neighborhood profiling for health, leading to initiatives like bereavement counseling and financial literacy courses. Pete inquired about the source of community needs, with Angela clarifying it comes from both community leaders' insights and conversations with community members.

More information can be found here and please contact Maggi if you want any more information or support <https://www.directory.seftoncv.org.uk/node/33>

Southport Mosque – Babu Patel

Babu provided an overview of the Southport Mosque, highlighting its role as a community hub and its recent renovation efforts to enhance security and accessibility. He discussed the mosque's activities, including open days, children's classes, and interfaith collaborations with local synagogues and churches. Babu expressed interest in developing the mosque into a more versatile community space and invited suggestions from the public. Maggi offered to facilitate communication between the mosque and the community, and Pete inquired about school visits, which Babu confirmed are already occurring. The conversation ended with plans to establish a communication channel for community input on the mosque's future use.

Christians in Sport – Dianne Harrison and Ian Singleton

Di and Ian presented three upcoming events organized by Christians in Sport in collaboration with local churches. The first event, on April 13th at Formby driving range, includes a golf experience with a putting competition and a talk by Christian golfer Howard Bennett. The second event, on May 11th at Christchurch, features a sports quiz and a Christian talk. The final event, on June 10th at Southport Football Club, includes a buffet and a talk by Bill Bygroves, the former Liverpool Football Club chaplain. The organisers plan to evaluate the success of these events to determine if they will continue in future years.

The group discussed plans for the British Open golf tournament being held in Birkdale in July, including opportunities for local churches to get involved. They agreed to send website information and flyers to Maggi for distribution, and discussed potential volunteer roles such as providing car parking and refreshments. Jackie mentioned two professional athletes who attend her church and offered to connect them with the event organizers. The group also touched on a litter picking initiative planned for March.

Related to this but later on in the meeting Nadia from the Hearth Network shared information about their Southport memory quilt project and upcoming events like the Great British Spring Clean and the Great Big Green Lunch.

Southport 26 – Tiffany Horan

Tiffany presented Southport 26, a year-long program of cultural events designed to bring people together through shared experiences in public spaces. The program includes events such as Lightport, Cristal Palace, Big Top Festival, and Books Alive, with opportunities for community involvement and collaboration. Maggi and Tiffany discussed, that there may be potential funding opportunities for community groups to participate in events, particularly around the Big Top Festival. The presentation highlighted the importance of faith organizations in community engagement and the potential for projects like an artist-designed crazy golf event to complement the Open Championship at Royal Birkdale.

For more information see the presentation attached and information here - <https://www.southport2026.com/>

Tiffany Horan can be contacted - Tiffany.Horan@sefton.gov.uk

Bootle's Cultural Festival and Bid – Annie Spiers and Karen Yates

Annie and Karen discussed the Bootle International Festival and the town's bid for the 2028 Town of Culture competition. Annie explained the festival's activities, including workshops, plays, and events celebrating different cultures. Karen outlined the town's bid process, emphasizing the need for authentic stories and facts about Bootle to shape the bid. Maggi highlighted the festival's success in attracting participants from over 20 countries and various faith organizations. The group expressed hope for community support and engagement in both the festival and the town of culture bid.

More information see attached and also contact Maggi maggi.aslet@seftoncvcs.org.uk
Annie annie.spiers@icloud.com and Karen Karen.Yates2@sefton.gov.uk

Additional Information Sefton CVS – Maggi Aslet Sefton CVS

Maggi provided updates on several upcoming events:

Meet the Funder session with Burbo Bank on March 18th – 10-11 on zoom
<https://www.directory.seftoncvcs.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=570>

Social Signature Community Assembly March 16th – 9.15-3pm the Lake house Waterloo
<https://www.directory.seftoncvcs.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=549>

First aid training in Southport – April 24th Southport community Centre – 9.30-3.30
<https://www.directory.seftoncvcs.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?id=567&reset=1>

Creating a digital marketing strategy- April 17th – 10.30am -1pm Crosby Library.
<https://www.directory.seftoncvcs.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?id=568&reset=1>

There are also plans for Meet the Funders with John Moores Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund – details to be confirmed.