



June 2008

- ❖ 28 Centres
- ❖ 11 Village Halls
- ❖ 69 Staff

Partners with

- Community Education Associations
- Library Services
- Sport and Leisure Services
- Arts & Cultural Services
- Community Learning & Development
- Outdoor Education Services

- Charter Mark
- WLAM
- Community Facilities Team

Gordon Connolly  
01506 776088

Jane Carr-Pollock  
01506 776042

Dennis Cairney  
01506 776054

June Close  
01506 776058

Teresa Simpson  
01506 776093

## 15 Months On

The new model of management continues to develop with the recent announcement of all the Councils Village Halls coming under the management of the Community Facilities Team. In addition Newyearfield Farm Centre has also been included in the new model. Effectively the team are now responsible for 28 Community Centres and 11 Village Halls

### Charter Mark

The Community Facilities Service achieved Charter Mark within 6 months of operation and at present are preparing for an annual review.

### Refurbishments

West Lothian Council are now in the final year of a £4.6 million refurbishment programme to improve community facilities to ensure they are 'fit for purpose'. When completed the programme of work will provide modernised facilities for groups and organisations to participate in social educational, recreational, and cultural activities.

### Facilities Staff

Over the past year staff have participated in training to enhance their customer care approach e.g. Health & Safety, Risk Assessment, Customer Care, Child Protection, Diversity Solutions.

In order to enhance the quality and delivery of our service staff have also participated in Steps and Ladders, Scaffolding, Pecos and Basic IT training.

## Information Bulletin Issue 2

### NEW BUILD

#### Fauldhouse

Work on the new Fauldhouse Partnership Centre is now underway. The £7.2 million project will provide community, health and leisure facilities under one roof and it is anticipated that it will be ready for use by the community at the end of the Summer 2009.

#### Armada

Following consultation with the local community West Lothian Council has agreed to provide a new library within Armada Community Centre at a cost of £1million which includes a refurbishment of the centre itself.

#### Bathgate

Work on the new Partnership Centre in Bathgate is scheduled to begin early next year. Following the completion of the new Civic Centre in Livingston, Education Headquarters at Lindsay House will be demolished and the new building for Bathgate will begin on this site.

#### Livingston Station

The Council has committed £1.2 million to invest in community facilities in Livingston Station/Deans as the present facilities are in very poor condition and no longer meet the needs of the local community. Following public consultation a 'conditions survey' of both Livingston Station Community and Youth Centres was undertaken and the Council are now consulting with the community on proposals to build a new Community Centre in the village

#### Longridge

Longridge village Hall was completely destroyed by fire last year and consultations have begun regarding a new community facility for the village.

### DEVELOPMENTS

Centre Co-ordinators have played a crucial role in implementing the new model of management across the county. In conjunction with local Management Committees and users of community facilities, new developments have been encouraged and established.

Examples include door entry systems and key holding which allows more flexibility and increased use of community facilities by local groups and organisations. Management Committees in partnership with West Lothian Council have also contributed financially towards centre improvements in West Calder, Lanthorn, East Calder, Whitburn, Seafeld and Torphichen.

Eastfield Training Centre, Fauldhouse –This facility has undergone a major refurbishment by WLC to accommodate a range of community groups displaced from Fauldhouse Centre which was recently demolished to build the new Partnership Centre.

Two new management committees have been established in Philipstoun and Polbeth respectively.

Seafeld Management Committee secured funding from Youthlink Scotland and the Lottery Fund to finance a youth café project at Seafeld Centre. Work on the project is almost complete and this new facility will provide a 'dedicated space' for the development of opportunities for young people.

West Calder Management Committee also secured funding from Youthlink Scotland to purchase furnishings and equipment to enhance 'youth café' room for young people.

West Lothian Council has funded a youth café project within Blackburn Community Centre. Work on the project is scheduled for completion at the end of June. West Lothian Youth Action Project in partnership with the Work with Young People Team are working with a small group of young people to get the facility up and running The centre Management Committee has also contributed towards furnishings and equipment.

Further information can be obtained from any member of the Community Facilities Team