



**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**Ways to get involved & make a difference in the Harrogate District**

**Jan Garrill, Chief Executive,  
Two Ridings Community Foundation**

Esteemed guests, ladies and gentlemen you have heard from Karen about some plans for 2019 (see slides in slide presentation). And whilst Karen, myself and Ann are very motivated and pretty dynamic (and as you saw from the welcoming slides pretty photogenic) we can't achieve all of this on our own....

That's where I hope you will indulge me and consider how you might get involved...

### **Ways to get involved (1)**

Don't ever let anyone fool you into thinking that giving away money in grants is easy...not all groups are able to do what they think they can or have the trustees or procedures to do it properly and safely

So to help us distribute the funds we need:

People able to spread the word about THE LOCAL FUND – Harrogate district is a large and diverse district with groups in all places and not all are as aware of the fund as we'd like.

The team at two ridings is very expert at grant making and one of our biggest assets is our bank of volunteer assessors who help the two paid staff sift out the applications by talking to the groups and bringing the applications to life. We are always looking to add to our team of volunteer assessors.

Finally we are proud of our grant making being informed by up to date and relevant data about the borough. The Vital Signs report highlighted the priority areas for the initial round of grant making but we want to take that research and use it to engage and motivate people to take action to make change. In 2019 we want to revisit the report and bring people together who want to do something to address the issues.

## **Ways to get involved (2)**

Whilst 2018 has been a great start, if we want to get to the point where the fund is of a scale to make a major, long lasting difference, we need to attract additional funds and donors to give to THE LOCAL FUND.

Giving under the umbrella of THE LOCAL FUND means a donor can benefit of the shared scale of the funds reach and diversity but a donor can also have a tailored fund within THE LOCAL FUND that addresses the area or cause they care about. For example we'd be keen to develop a rural needs fund to really target and support the more rurally isolated areas in the district.

As Karen mentioned we are planning on a Dragons Den event to support the fund this year and if anyone has ever fancied being a dragon come and talk to me. It's a fun evening and with a small donation of a few thousand pounds you can be part of a great evening supporting charities. Its also a great way to hear about the work of local grassroots charities and really understand how such groups can make a relatively small donation go an awfully long way.

As I mentioned leaving a legacy to THE LOCAL FUND is a great way to support the district and ensures any legacy can be used to support charities active at that time in the Harrogate district.

Finally, we do want everyone to be able to support the fund and we would encourage you to sign up to the local lotto. It supports local good causes and THE LOCAL FUND at the same time.

## **Ways to get involved (3)**

But the beauty of THE LOCAL FUND approach is that we can use the assets and resources in our district to help and a great example of this is Peter and his team at Rudding Park. Not only has Rudding Park been very generous with their beautiful hotel they have also given of their staff time. With Karen's assistance they have brokered 7 relationships with local charities where Rudding Park staff get involved and have helped with a range of tasks and projects.

So where Rudding and Majestic have shown the way in giving of their venues and staff can others do the same? Sometimes a gift of time or venue can be almost as good a gift as financial support.

## **Useful resources**

All the partners in THE LOCAL FUND – Two Ridings, HARCVS and HBC are committed to this and will help in whatever way we can to talk to and encourage others to get involved as we believe it's the future for the charitable sector in the district.

Finally, before I hand over to my chairman to close I'd just like to leave you mulling over this for the next few days and hope it might spur you into doing something amazing to support THE LOCAL FUND...

**THE LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District is all about the people in the district using their talents, time, money and passion to help others who live in the district and who for one reason or another aren't enjoying all that this great place can offer.**

**Whilst there are other funders who might support such groups, they will not prioritise Harrogate district, understand the actual needs or issues, focus on the local groups making a difference or put all of their resources to bear to address such issues.**

**The people and funds behind THE LOCAL FUND will do all of these things and more.**

**Where do you think your time, money or passion is better spent?**

Thank you esteemed guests and ladies and gentlemen.