

Twelve months ago Rossall Beach Residents Association didn't exist. Today it's a force with which to be reckoned, a group which represents the interests of 80 houses from Thornton Gate on North Promenade through to Rossall.

It's been 12 hectic months with a lot of laughs and new friends along the way – and it's testament to working together and getting to know your community.

Interest and support for what we are doing has led us to offer associate membership for anyone from anywhere with an interest in supporting our cause, and membership has steadily grown to around 100 members.

We formed to address issues of anti-social behaviour, in the quest for a CCTV camera, funding for which we have never managed to find, and the issue remains a sore spot!

Livewire

A weekly look at the issue of the moment

The Power of the People

By Jane Littlewood, Chair of Rossall Beach Residents Association



But we have worked so well with our partners we have already made a difference through campaigning – we've had a scheme passed through Lancashire Locals to re-route the Promenade down Thornton Gate and create an outbuild to slow the boy



TOMORROW: Jon Rhodes wants A Word In Your Ear



racers down. We called for extra dog and litter bins, with a full set of new litter bins on their way anytime now, new beach steps and handrails, improvements to street cleansing to make the whole Promenade a nicer and cleaner place.

We've campaigned strongly to the police to stem anti-social behaviour problems on Rossall Prom, and they have increased patrols.

We've worked hard ourselves on the environment – with a series of community beach cleans.

In the process, we've moved well over 200 sacks of rubbish, sharps and glass – and that's as well as what's been removed through local authority beach cleaning.

We've spent our first year resolving long standing problems caused by this end of the Prom having been neglected for a number of years. We are now fund raising to build up a reserve for next year so that we can start to apply for grant funding for our new projects to improve the community further.

We've had two grants for beach cleaning equipment, from B&Q

One Planet Living Grant and the Lancashire Green Partnership Award. Our only expense has been room-hire and we've covered the cost of that through draws at meetings and raffles. We've held a couple of jumble sales and raised a good amount of money, and we will be producing a limited edition Christmas card along with our Rossall Beach notecards which are on sale through the website.

Now we've petitioned Wyre Council to look at how this piece of the prom might be improved to tie in with the rest of the coastline, because it won't be re-built for at least another 10-15 years.

Our very first annual meeting is on Wednesday August 26, 6.30pm at the Frank Townend Centre, Beach Road, Cleveleys - and everyone is welcome to attend. Or visit www.rossallbeach.org.uk

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