

David Brings His Community Together in Old Colwyn

Suzanne our Volunteer Co-ordinator met David at a Volunteer Fair in Llandudno back in June, it was clear he loved meeting people and being part of his community. David shared that a few years ago he had suffered a head injury, which left him with epilepsy and meant he could no longer work.

Having recently moved to Old Colwyn, David was eager to keep busy, meet new people, and find a way to make a difference locally. David's main barrier was his disability and the frustration of being unable to work as he once had. Taking great pride in himself, his home, and his community - and was keen to contribute in some way, even if he couldn't take on paid employment.

He told Suzanne that he missed having something to do and simply wanted to be involved in something meaningful.

They discussed his past work and what he enjoyed doing, sharing photos of his old work van as he was self-employed, and explained that while he can't use machinery anymore, he's more than happy to do physical tasks like moving boxes or gardening.

Suzanne explored several volunteering options for David, speaking with various departments within Cartrefi Conwy and Creating Enterprise about possible placements. Unfortunately, due to safety concerns around David's health condition, we were unable to offer anything suitable.

Rather than be discouraged, David came up with an excellent idea - he wanted to tidy up his local area and bring together neighbours who shared the same passion for keeping Old Colwyn clean and welcoming.

Suzanne then worked with Lucy, David's Housing Officer, to make it happen. Suzanne created the flyers, and David volunteered to deliver them himself around his neighbourhood.

Suzanne also found out about a local residents' association and shared the contact details with David, who said he would get in touch. Lucy has since shared details of activities in the local community centres so David can stay connected and meet more people nearby.

They plan to meet again on 22nd October after the leaflet drop to bring together anyone interested in joining the group and to plan their first community clean-up.

David now feels empowered and motivated to take positive action in his community. By helping him shape his own volunteering idea, the Creating Futures team have supported David to overcome isolation, regain a sense of purpose, and connect with others in his area.

David is proud to be leading something that will make Old Colwyn a better place to live — and he's excited to get started.



David said "I can't wait to get going on this - I want to do my bit and encourage other people to do theirs too"