

South West Wiltshire Health & Wellbeing Meeting

1st December, 11.00am (online)

1. **Present:** Cllr Nick Errington (cllr lead), Eamon McClelland (Wiltshire Council Resident Engagement Officer), Karen Linaker (Wiltshire Council Community Engagement Manager), Diana James (Carer Support Wiltshire), Jacob Russell (Nurse Plus Home Care Support), Pippa Webster (Age UK), Liv McLennan (Director of Music for Wellbeing CIC), Helen Wotton (Care Co-ordinator Sarum West Primary Care Network), Alison Timmins (Prevention & Wellbeing Officer, Wiltshire Council)

2. Grant Applications

The groups comments in relation to the following grant applications were:

- (a) Tisbury Car Club – general support as an environment/community transport for older/disabled people initiative, although queried the level of their reserves
- (b) Wilton Men’s Shed – general support especially as this project is one of a few set up for support for men, and because their reserves are much lower. Suggested that a future activity could be to diversify a little as a repair café, so that they could sell on items they work on to raise funds for the future of the shed.
- (c) Mere Platinum Jubilee event – a little concerned at the amount being requested, especially as no apparent lasting legacy/benefit from the day for older people. Suggestions were made for the event committee to raise funds from other trusts (Mere Forest Charity and The Fudge Trust)

3. Dementia Support

Karen updated the group on the potential development of a new Dementia Action Alliance for South West Wiltshire, Salisbury and Southern Wiltshire. Karen will work on this during January and update the group in due course.

All agreed that more was needed to strengthen/better co-ordinate/facilitate and significantly fund better dementia support in the county and in/around the community areas.

There was also a need to help Alzheimer's Support establish itself as a key provider of dementia support in the rural villages especially.

4. Future Events

Karen updated that there was a plan (covid permitting) to put on the postponed (from 19 March 2020) Silent Disco event for older people. A suggestion was made that the Nadder Centre be the venue for this and for transport to be put on to enable people to attend.

Karen also referred to the plans to repeat the successful event held at Langford Lakes in September – which would hopefully take place in May 2022.

5. Open forum

Representatives of services, partners and local groups each gave updates regarding their projects and events, to help raise the profile of upcoming initiatives and to share challenges and successes:

- a) Pippa updated that new older peoples activity clubs would be set up in the south of the county in the coming months, thanks to funding from the Wiltshire Association of Sports.
- b) Helen enquired about progress on the future of Fives Court Mere. Karen updated that this was part of a strategic review of older people's support assets in the town, and that she would forward on an update.
- c) Eamon mentioned the implications of the council's Housing Related Support decision and confirmed that collaboration with all facilitators of support for older people whether grass roots or formal agencies, and the council's new Prevention & Wellbeing team, would be required to ensure residents in sheltered housing schemes continue to be well supported

- d) Diana explained that a new carers café would be set up by Carers Support Wiltshire in Mere in the new year, and that she was keenly following the potential development of a possible new centre at Five Courts
- e) Alison explained her new role and that she and her team (Wiltshire Council's Prevention & Wellbeing Team), as it came together over the following couple of months would be active in coming out to meet local groups, services and agencies
- f) Liv gave an update about the activities she was facilitating alongside the Tisbury Memory Group currently, and how this was providing a valuable therapeutic space for older people to sing, dance and be creative together. She gave a heads up that a performance was being planned by the group, date to be confirmed
- g) Liv welcomed the possible new Dementia Action Alliance and stressed that this type of set up was needed to facilitate stronger sharing, collaboration and less clashing with each other in terms of dates/events for older people and those with dementia
- h) Pippa mentioned Age UK's wellbeing (in person, rather than online) service was soon to restart and that older people will be helped to attend with a sort of buddy service to ensure they were confident to come out and continue attending these sessions and others for the long term
- i) Karen referred to the Celebrating Age programme and particularly highlighted the Creative Conversations project that she encouraged all present to refer into.
- j) Karen referred to the Make A Friend Be A Friend project and that it hoped to restart in the new year.

6. **Date of next meeting** 3rd March, 2pm at the Nadder Centre