

Melksham Wellbeing Group

Notes/ actions from 17.10.2016

Attendees:

CLlr Pat Aves (Wiltshire Council), Rhys Schell (Wiltshire Council), Amanda Brookes (Bradford on Avon & Melksham Health Partnership), Helen Henderson (Wiltshire Council), Chris Pickett (Older Persons Champion), Martin Pain (Melksham Seniors Forum), Martin Elson (Contact the Elderly), Kath Norton (Wiltshire Council)

Apologies:

Jayne Funnell (Age UK) and Lucie Woodruff (Healthwatch)

Notes from last meeting

Agreed

Older Persons Area Board – 16th November

RS highlighted that there is an Older Persons themed Area Board on Wednesday 16th November, 2pm at the Melksham Assembly Hall. CP suggested a 'hook' to get people more likely to attend. Suggestions included using Wiltshire Farm Foods to provide sample lunches, or approaching Sainsburys or ASDA. Also, sending flyers around to Farm Foods (if involved) and promoting via high street shops.

Action: RS to circulate the information to group for wider circulation

Action: AB to send RS contact details for Wiltshire Farm Foods

Action: All to promote the Area Board on 16th November

Update/ discussion on proposed projects

Melksham Leg Club - AB provided an update on the recent and positive progress of the Melksham Leg Club. The main issue is finding a suitable, accessible and affordable venue. The group suggested many options including Spencers Sport and Social Club, Forest Community Centre, Town/ Assembly Hall, Riverside Club, Rachel Fowler Centre. Storage is a big issue that needs consideration. AB will be contacting venues to discuss further.

The BOA Leg Club has been a huge success with approximately 50 attending each week with a further 20-30 for purely the social element. The group agreed that they would be prepared to financially support the social element of a leg club in Melksham.

Action: AB to submit formal application for the Leg Club, which early indications would be approximately £1800 for one year.

Time Banking – after brief discussion the group agreed not to pursue this option any further.

Welcome Wagon – MP provided a recap on how the Welcome Wagon works in the US and Canada. The group were very supportive of the concept, however, a number of issues were raised which may

prevent this coming forward. RS suggested that he and MP meet with local Sheltered Housing associations to discuss the concept further.

Secretariat – RS updated on the BOA proposal, which has hit some considerable delays despite including matched funding from two further partners. Whilst not completely ruled out, the group felt there were more suitable options at this moment in time.

The Hub – after a brief discussion the group agreed not to pursue this option any further. The Campus should be the natural hub once built.

New project proposals

ME updated on the Sunday Tea Parties he runs through the Contact the Elderly charity. ME stated that funding is not required, it just needs more older people to keep running. The group were very impressed with the operation and wish to support and help identify more older people.

Action: ME to circulate details of the Sunday Tea Parties to the group

RS updated that since this funding had been made available two requests had come forward from Melksham Seniors and Melksham Community Area Partnership.

The request from Melksham Seniors was to help with the ongoing costs of the Monday Club for rent and their session facilitators. The group were generally supportive of this proposal up to approximately £500 – 600.

Melksham Community Area Partnership have put in a proposal on how they could help target social isolation and loneliness. RS put forward a proposal which may link with this and would aim to increase the number of volunteers and activity groups, particularly within the more rural areas. The group discussed this and agreed to hold this proposal for the time being for further consideration and discussion.

Agreed way forward

To invite formal applications for the Leg Club and Melksham Seniors.

To discuss the proposal as put forward by RS at the next meeting.

AOB

Next meeting agreed for Monday 12th December, 10.30am – 12pm.