

Amesbury Health and Wellbeing Group

Notes of virtual meeting

Tuesday 17 November

2pm – 3.30pm

Notes / Action Points

Apologies: Cllr Fred Westmoreland; Cllr Robert Yuill.

In attendance: Cllr Graham Wright (Chair); Cllr Mike Hewitt; Irene Kohler (Salisbury Older People's Champion); Jacqui Abbott (Community Engagement Manager); Graham Audin (Community Transport); Kirstie Johns (NHS); Jan Tidd (Community group); Carolyn Taylor (Health Improvement Coach); Mike Symonds (Local Area Co-ordinator); Nicole Abela (Abri Housing); Maureen Atkinson (Community group). Eamon McClelland (Resident engagement);

Cllr Wright welcomed all to the meeting and asked for any updates.

Health and Wellbeing updates

Although activities and events had begun to open up prior to November, many initiatives are now paused. Virtual activities were able to continue such as Celebrating Age and virtual Community lunches (Jan Tidd). Celebrating Age were undertaking virtual concerts and placing content online for viewing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zdq-3xn35xo>

Community Covid support groups were up and running but it was a quieter time for them with less people needing their services. Those that did contact them were looking for help with prescriptions primarily. There were also fewer volunteers as more people were working than during the first lockdown.

Carolyn Taylor provided information regarding the Health Improvement Coaches and these could be accessed via the new wellbeing hub:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/3078/New-Wiltshire-Health-Improvement-Hub-to-improve-health-and-mental-wellbeing>

Kirstie Johns reported that there was a significant increase in alcohol consumption amongst some people resulting in the need for emergency services. It was extremely severe in a few residents. The meeting discussed a number of agencies that were available to support people and agreed that prevention would be a useful strategy before alcohol consumption got out of control. The meeting agreed to discuss this further.

Action: JA / GW to discuss initially

Graham Audin reported that community transport was continuing to operate at a reduced level. Only 5 or 6 people could be allowed onto a bus at one time due to social distancing requirements. There remained a lot of demand however for transport as people still needed to get to the shops and undertake essential journeys. Contactless payment had now been installed into the hoppa buses.

<https://bustimes.org/services/hpb-amesbury-boscombe-down-amesbury-hopper-b>

Maureen Atkinson informed the group about the community support operating in the Winterbournes which included ideas for Christmas tea and a mini hamper. A similar scheme was proposed by Irene Kohler and would include literature, quizzes and a consultation around Silver Salisbury / Amesbury. Irene was planning tea boxes for January. Jan was also running a project to get people online and involved in virtual community lunches, also to include a Christmas mini-hamper.

Carolyn was also working on the Wellbeing hub which was opened up to support vulnerable people without access to any other support. The hub was also working on track and trace.

There were two Covid Champions appointed to Amesbury and their role was to help get the messages out about staying safe throughout the pandemic. Their role would include delivering leaflets, flyers and posters to towns and large villages.

Graham Audin reported that there was a new housing portal for Wiltshire Council tenants, open to them only.

Funding Applications

Applicant	Amount requested
Applicant: Wiltshire Council Project Title: Durrington Tennis Court Safety Measures View full application	£900.00
Applicant: Salisbury older people's champion Project Title: Taking afternoon tea to isolated older people View full application	£500.00
Applicant: Farley's Malone Community Project Title: Virtual Christmas Party Celebration and ongoing weekly virtual lunches View full application	£1500.00
Applicant: Abri Project Title: Gardening Outreach Project View full application	£300.00

Four applications were discussed by the meeting. Please see accompanying grant report for further details. **All four projects were agreed by the Health and Wellbeing group and would go to the Area Board meeting on 19 November with a recommendation for approval.**

The budget was currently £7,900 and if all applications are agreed, the amount remaining would be £4,700.

The meeting discussed and agreed the following scheme:

Invitations for small projects up to £300 to be welcomed from community groups, town and parish councils in the Amesbury community area. Funding could be provided to decrease isolation and loneliness and improve mental health amongst older residents. Projects operating around Christmas / New Year would be welcomed. This could involve bringing small gifts such as tea & biscuits, activities etc. to people who were identified as being vulnerable in the area by community groups or the parish councils.

If applications were received between Area Board meetings, there is a scheme of delegated authority in place which could be used.

Action: All to help publicise these ideas for small Health and Wellbeing grants.

The group agreed to meet again in January prior to the next Area Board meeting which is on Thursday January 14th.