

Steering Group Meeting

Bennett Griffin offices 1.30pm 6 February.

Apologies received from:

Tom Wye, Kerrin Page, Kelly Compton, Bill Demel, Tim Wilkins, Julius Newman, Ian Blackwood, Ian Macara, Sue from Wraysbury Houe, Kimberley Roper

Membership Update

Members of the Worthing Dementia Action Alliance was currently 37.

Thanks to a contact via Bob, Julia had held a meeting with Sue Warburton from the Parish of St Mary of Angels and this was being followed up with actions and Dementia Friends sessions by steering group DF champions for the St Vincent de Paul Society, Members of the Church and, later, the primary school.

Since the last meeting, Worthing Lions have joined the alliance and have two DF sessions in place for members plus a talk focused on Dementia Awareness in July.

Julia used her stand at the Worthing Business Show on February 1st to additionally promote the Alliance to Worthing Businesses. We now have new care agency Home Instead as members and interest from SJM Electricals, Worthing Coaches, Worthing Symphony Orchestra and the Lovejoy Centre.

Funding update

Our application to the Members Big Society Fund in 2017 had been well received and we were hopeful of some funding for a Dementia Co-ordinator.

Julia had been contacted for more information as to how we we go about funding additional items for the post and these had been received. We would hopefully hear if we were successful with the application at the end of February.

Bob explained that this was the final opportunity as the Members Big Society Fund was being replaced by Crowdfunding in the future.

Bank Account and Insurance

Both were well underway. The DAA is very grateful to the Worthing Lions for paying the insurance without which we would not be covered for public meetings.

Julia to follow up and obtain Kelly's signature and return paperwork to Ian Macara re bank account.

Website Update

At the November Steering group we had decided to offer some limited sponsorship and business links to members of the alliance. This was in order to cover the costs of running the website, maintenance and security plus some ongoing digital marketing and SEO. Plans for this had commenced. Two providers have now agreed sponsorship and once these have been invoiced Fine Marketing would be reimbursed for domain registration, SSL certification and hosting costs from December to present day.

Matters arising from the Open Meeting in January

Carers had asked if any local C of E churches were members of the Alliance. We had attempted to contact Rural Dean but discovered that Colin Kassell was no longer in post. Julia was waiting information re the appropriate person to contact.

There had been no further news on the CCG social prescribing project from the Dept of Health except that no decision had been made.

Currently no news from Chris Walton Turner of Guild Care as to whether Dementia Matters would be interested in speaking at a specially organised Worthing DAA meeting.

Plans for Dementia Awareness Week in May

Offer of a classic bus from Stagecoach to use for a day during Dementia Awareness Week.
Plan meeting with Rob Vince of Stagecoach.
Suggestions for 3 to 4 stops ending up in South Street Square?
Alzheimers Soc/Carers Support/Guild Care/Bennett Griffin for POA/Carers
Possible stops Lyons Farm/Tesco Durrington, Field Place or Leisure Centre
Dawn to ask Tim of Town Cryers would like to be included and/or onboard the bus.
Julia to contact Rob and set plans in action.

2018 Strategy

It was decided to make this the focus of the next steering group meeting as the strategy would change depending on whether we were successful with the funding for a Dementia Co-ordinator.

AOB

Format of Meetings

Address the fact we probably were not reaching or encouraging as many carers to attend the open meetings as we could and that the manner in which we held the meetings might seem daunting to people attending for the first time.

From the March meeting we would advertise the meetings at 4pm but commence at 4.15pm to give the steering group members time to welcome new attendees and introduce them to some of our professional regulars who could buddy up with them.

A suggestion to focus every third public meeting particularly on the needs of carers and what is relevant to them. Advertise it differently – maybe more as a hub, time to ask questions, more drop-in session with stands with the aim to engage more with carers.

Should we organise an exhibition – with talks from Memory Assessments, service providers. Easy to access venue such as Southdown Leisure – summer event? Add this to April's Steering Group Agenda.

Dementia Co-ordinator recruitment (if successful)

Panel of 3 to interview

Jacqui from Abbeyfield who would be hosting the post.

Dawn from the Alzheimers

Plus a carer.

Arrange to run a coffee morning/race night/raffle to raise funds for laptop & phone