



Wiltshire Children & Families Voluntary Sector Forum

Agenda

Date: 25/05/2021
Time: 9.30 am (link open from 9.15 am)

Venue. Virtual forum via Zoom
Link: Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID:
Passcode:

Attendees	Apologies
Damian Haasjes – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (Chair) Liz James - Barnardos Linda Cantillion-Guyatt – Wessex Community Action Vanessa Bedford – Alabare Margaret Winskill - Healthwatch Wiltshire Margaret Firth – Wiltshire Community Foundation Nick Gallop – Wiltshire & Swindon Credit Union Kirsty Scarlett – Wiltshire & Swindon Credit Union	Trudy Srawley - Wiltshire Parent Carer Council Lisa Kinnaird – Home Start Kennet Carol Adams Matthew Jordan – Wiltshire Council Russ Martin – Spurgeons Children’s Centres Jessica Love - Spurgeons Children’s Centres Victoria – Army Welfare Service Vicky Watt – The Rise Trust Jo Woodhams – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Gareth Wood (Minute-taker)
	Caroline Fowke – Wiltshire Dyslexia Association Alison Sankey – Wiltshire Family Counselling Trust Lisa Capon – Victim Support Tony Griffin

Item	Time		Who
1.	9.30 am	Welcome Introductions from members (opportunity will be given at the end of the forum for members news/updates. Any conflicts of interest to be declared at start of meeting. (AOB to be brought to attention of chair before break). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes of last meeting approved. Executive Election <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vote held and Russ Martin unanimously elected to the executive. - Russ welcome to exec. 	Chair All Chair All

2.	9.50 am	<p>Update on search for new Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reiterated that Tony is retiring and is stepping down as chair, but will continue doing bits and bobs for us so as to not leave us in the lurch. - The position of Chair has an honorarium of £3000 per year as an acknowledgement that chairing isn't just a once a month thing. - Advertising of the post underway – will send out to members. - Crucial role – we need to support the incoming chair so they don't get too bogged down in too much work. There can be a lot of demands on the chair. - The new Chair needs to be someone who is keen to do the reading. - Chair will be the conduit between us and Wiltshire Council. - Advert for Chair shared with the meeting. Members asked to think of anyone they know who might be interested. - We will be publicising the role through Wilts Council. - Suggested exec members/members sharing the vacancy on LinkedIn 	<p>Chair</p> <p>Liz James</p> <p>Vanessa Bedford</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>Matthew Jordan</p> <p>Nick Gallop</p>
3.		<p>Fact Feedback</p> <p>Shared slides with meeting (these can be downloaded here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tony Griffin represents our sector here. - Fact board has become huge and people struggling to understand exactly what it is. - The vision for Fact is about a joint approach to early intervention. A lot of our work is about early intervention. Early intervention key here for us as a forum. Positive that this is part of the Fact vision. - The way forward for Fact is engaging local partners. - Challenge for us as a forum is making sure there's a voice per se. If you're there representing your organisation. - Important that it's clear at these meetings who we're representing; whether it is as an individual, our organisation or the CFVSF. - Voluntary sector has a lot to contribute to Fact – Fact has drifted off a little bit. - Tony tries to get broad brushstrokes at these meetings - Meetings can be quite overwhelming. People know each other/lots of terminology used. - Persevere – it's not you. Our voice is important. Don't give up. Stick with it, it starts to make sense. - Voluntary sector is huge and amorphous, but make sure more than one vol. sector representative is there. Different perspectives a good thing. 	<p>Chair</p> <p>⌋</p> <p>Trudy Srawley</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>⌋</p> <p>Margaret Firth</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ask the questions if you don't understand something at these meetings. - Suggested that those not from the vol. sector might not know what's going on at these meetings either! 	<p>Chair</p> <p>MF</p>
4.		<p>Change of admin function</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wiltshire Council has a service level agreement for the administration of CFVSF. That's what Spurgeons did previously, and Russ did in his role. Now, Wessex Community Action (WCA) applied for the new service level agreement and have been successful. - Finding my way – ensuring that administration of the forum takes place appropriately. Responsible for taking the minutes, getting them approved and sending them out. Working with the executive and helping to prepare the agendas. Sitting together with the exec in recruiting for a new chair as part of the interview panel. - From our perspective at WCA we are keen to do this role as we have developed ourselves and are supporting the voluntary sector as a whole in Wiltshire now. Have various meetings with the wider voluntary sector and there's an overlap in information. Sharing things that we learn in other forums with the exec and deciding whether it's useful to you as a group. - Personally, the CFVSF is so important. Together we're stronger. We should be championing the role of children and families. Underpins society. - Newsletter incoming – welcome feedback. We're here to serve you, not to dictate. Any suggestions for improvement very welcome. - Any ideas or thoughts on how things could be done differently moving forward do let the exec or Linda know. 	<p>Chair</p> <p>Linda Cantillion-Guyatt</p> <p>Chair</p>
5.		<p>Overview of Youth Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Margaret shared slides with the forum which can be downloaded here. - MF explained their current grant process – they've managed to be deliver grant making in 48 hours as that's where the need was. - Created an informal network that's ongoing. - Natalie from Motiv8 gave presentation. - Members from group volunteer to speak and lead presentations - a couple of hours on zoom. - Content of the network comes from the network. Fulfilling a need that it maybe wasn't even realised was there. - Future of network – depends on what the attendees want it to be. Important to have strong relationship with CFVSF. 	<p>MF</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members with special educational needs don't get chance to put forward their needs. If there is anything the Forum is able to share with their network of parent carers would be great - TS - Grappling with this. Is it always realising need. Something we can all do. - MF - Challenge of youth services. Currently there is no statutory youth work so it is all all vol sector. Previously, every youth centre had a night for special educational needs, but also integrated. Are we being as inclusive as we can be within the voluntary sector as we develop this area? - Chair - Offered invite to anyone who wished to attend. - MF 	
6.		<p>Talk on Credit Union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - About half of people excluded from traditional banking offers – Credit Union exists to serve the rest. - Credit unions have been amalgamating and therefore their assets increasing. - Quarter of households have no savings – vulnerable to any financial shock/struggle to make ends meet. - Over half of people with low financial resilience struggle to make ends meet. - Loan sharks do exist – trying to systematically route them out but it's hidden. - Money lending team have website – debt written off if you report loan sharks. – This is funded by the proceeds of crime. - Bonus account – funded by illegal money lending team. - Regarding the bonus account – is this based on joint income or individual for the limit of people earning up to 30k? - TS - Individual income. - NG - Second product is a £500 loan at 3% interest and can use child benefit to repay. The credit union gets the assurance of the child benefit. - They have found people really like this product by asking them. - Product 3 – Money Course: Available online and will offer it locally from 21/6, so long as the situation doesn't change. - If you'd like the Credit Union to come talk to your members or an employer that you know might like them to come and have a conversation then just us know. Best to email. - Kirsty Scarlett - Members rather than clients. Basic account is a share account. Gives you one vote at AGM, etc. £2 joining fee. - NG - Have a network of collection points and cover larger towns across the County. - What's the lower age limit? - VB - Isn't really one as they offer a Jr account. - NG 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16 Year old don't have parent/guardian to open for them. - Loan worth recommending for people moving into own accommodation for white goods. - Employer partnership – can do loans at preferential rate, but needs to go through employers. 	<p>VB</p> <p>NG</p>
7.		<p>Mental Health Presentation</p> <p>Slides were presented and can be downloaded here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature connectedness – how involved in nature are you? - Not just exposure but engaging with nature. - Connect with others – humans are social beings. - The meeting separated into breakout rooms to discuss our favourite green spaces. - Connecting to ourselves: talked about stress. The stress bucket concept. - Stress signatures: recognised the symptoms of our own stress so we can do something about it. Recognise unhelpful coping strategies – eg: wine. - Six ways to wellbeing (as featured in PDF) can be helpful. If we want any ideas we can go to Jo for resources. - Wildlife Trust doing 30 days of wild nature challenge, more information can be found here. - If this mental health work could be helpful to your organisation then WWT can do this stuff with you. Will need to cover costs. 	<p>Jo Woodhams</p> <p>Chair</p>
8.		<p>Future Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Took a show of hands on how to proceed with future meetings: No hands for entirely virtual. 3 x hands for next meeting to be in person. - Would love face to face but the practicality of it is off putting. - Could possibly do 2 or 3 in person a year- have speakers and go longer, perhaps 4 hours. - 4 hours possibly too much. - Likes the virtual format. - Works better sharing in person. People are getting quite adept as sharing online. – Will take back to exec. Some still online at least. - Great if could be blended. In person, but still able to attend online if needed. - Will look at this and discuss at the next exec. 	<p>Chair</p> <p>MF</p> <p>LCG</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>RM</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>LJ</p> <p>Chair</p>
9.		<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on how the various organisations of the membership are doing currently: 	<p>Chair</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trying to do outdoors stuff. - Face to face will continue. - Zoom youth clubs have been amazing. - Mental health – overwhelmed with referrals. - Vacancies in Fabric of Life group. Let Liz know if you'd like more information. - Returned to face to face around Easte, but will continue some virtual. - Normally do several big events. End of Oct/Nov – usually 200 people. Well being theme. - Procurement process changing – will bring to group if anything useful comes up. - - ICS/ICA – Encourage health partnerships. Give small grants to vol. sector. Not just big commissioned grants. - FUEL – pilot over Easter. - Wiltshire Connecting People – 1st July – To go in newsletter. - Children and families commissioning team has a new senior commissioner role that's been filled. Split 50% CCG and 50% local authority. New role, so no precedent. Ambition to link up with VCS. Appointee is Lee Willsbury. 	<p>RM</p> <p>LJ</p> <p>Victoria</p> <p>TS</p> <p>MF</p> <p>MJ</p>
	11. 46 am	Close	Chair