

**Meeting of the Senior Persons' Council
on 10th March 2014 at the Lavinia House**

NOTES

Attendees:	Barry Mursell (BM)	-	Chair, Broadbridge Heath
	Paul Smith (PS)	-	Vice Chair, Nuthurst
	Betty Ogden (BO)	-	Resident, Henfield
	Lesley Ainslee (LA)	-	Resident, Henfield
	Carole Duffy (CD)	-	Resident, Horsham
	Ann Gover (AG)	-	Resident, Warnham
	Michael Jarvis (MJ)	-	Resident, Forest Horsham
	Shirley McCaig (SM)	-	Resident, Storrington
	Keith Barraclough (KB)	-	Resident, Billingshurst
	Janice Leeming (JL)	-	CEO, Age UK Horsham District
	Jan Wise (JW)	-	Development Wkr, Age UK Horsham District
	Shirley Gardner (SG)	-	Administrator, HDC
Cllrs:	Brian Harvey (BH)	-	Forest NC
	Martin Bruton (MB)	-	Denne NC
	Paul Leany (PL)	-	Billingshurst PC
Visitors:	Zena Cairns (ZC)	-	Business Director, St Catherine's Hospice
	Corrine Clark (CC)	-	Service Mgr, Royal Voluntary Service
	Dr Simon Dean (SD)	-	Chair, Horsham Locality, Horsham & Mid Sussex CCG
Apologies:	Martin Toomey		

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies (inc. Member update)

2. Notes of the last meeting:

- Are they correct record of meeting?

All agreed they were a correct record of the meeting.

- Progress against Action not elsewhere covered on the agenda.

JW had produced leaflets on the Winter Weekend Activities being held at Age UK Horsham District and said there was shown to be a need for activities on Saturdays and Sundays, not just during the week, especially for food.

3. Matters Arising not elsewhere covered on the Agenda

Dementia Challenge: Following the G8 Dementia Summit more funding to come from David Cameron for Dementia Champions.

Crawley has become a dementia friendly town on back of summit.

The first week in December saw much in the media looking at funding into research. **PS** mentioned research being held on blood tests for early detection of Alzheimers.

Pride of Place: **BM** waiting to hear from WSCC and HDC on Pride of Place improvements in Broadbridge Heath.

4. Correspondence received since last meeting

None.

5. Presentations From Guest Speakers:

St Catherine's Hospice – Zena Cairns, Business Manager

End of Life care and the community

- St Catherine's Hospice works out of main hospice in Crawley and 3yrs ago took over a wing in a nursing home in Caterham. Half a million people are covered by this service, which celebrated its 30 year anniversary last year, and which looks after adults of all ages given diagnoses. 80% of patients are looked after at home with care also given to the families and carers.
- The care is free and provision is an enormous challenge, having to continually find new ways of raising money; this is part of the reason for her post as Business Director. At the moment funding is provided through NHS with £2.5 million per annum being provided from Clinical Commissioning Groups; Crawley CCG and East Surrey CCG. Care also covers CCG areas on the borders and there is the need to reach an understanding on how they fund care provided in these areas.
£5.5 million per annum is raised and community support is needed as the service couldn't be provided without this.
- Looking at new business plan; 'how and where' care is provided and at data on care and support in community they are not meeting. This is the first time this research has been done and is looking at the next 5 years and what it will look like. More work needs to be done in future on how to extend support to more people with terminal illness and those affected by death and bereavement.
- 2nd Strategy strand looks to meet the need of those affected by death and bereavement, providing information and advice services to help those affected.
- The hospice is told there is a need for information but much already exists and they have to ascertain if there is a local need not being met, what that need is and if they are the right people to fill the gap. They are embarking on local consultation and have to clarify the need is there for certain things. The challenge for them is not only the need they can fill, but also for a signpost service for anyone affected by death and bereavement ie by calling St Catherine's they can be signposted for different areas. Research should show if there is an area which is needed, that they can help with and attract funding for.
- They will be talking to various groups and will also circulate questionnaires and include media promotion. They are a group who have good links, including those with local funeral directors covering the last 30 years and are now interested in linking in with other groups which exist in the community
- St Catherine's are going through process of becoming dementia friendly, being part of Crawley Dementia Alliance.

***Please see attached copy of presentation.**

Questions/comments:

- **BH** queried whether some people may be embarrassed talking about this subject but **ZC** said their service supports more normal conversation and response has shown this is much appreciated; with people being able to talk about their own feelings in an environment where they don't have to worry about their conversation around other people.
- **MB** asked if the legal side after the funeral is being explored. **ZC** said they won't be going into advocacy area for legal problems after death, as the legal situation on the whole is a specialist area; they will just help people to approach things more confidently. **PS** thought Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) may be contacted for this but it could be just signposting.
- **JL** expressed interest in working with them on end of life issues, as Age UK Horsham District has range of services helping people back into the community.
- **MJ** asked to what extent they work in isolation or if they are an association of groups. **ZC** said the national body represents them in department of health and help for the hospices.

Horsham & Mid Sussex CCG – Dr Simon Dean

Priorities for work with older people, including dementia

- **SD** is one of 7 Clinical Directors with Horsham and Mid Sussex CCG, with most of these being GPs. **SD** felt that partnerships were vital and has found the local hospice invaluable, including from the educational element.
- Public involvement is felt to be important on planning/buying/checking. How to improve if things are working and to bring changes if not.
- There is a 5 year Strategy Plan which takes into account project of aging population. All are living longer with medical conditions, some long term, with diabetes being a common condition.
- There are 5 local priorities:
 - Ageing population and frailty
 - Health of children and young people
 - Improve mental health
 - Reduce health and premature mortality
 - Reconfigure services for a sustainable health economy.
- Research carried out by The Kings Fund on the development of CCGs, to make sure our health and care systems are fit for our ageing population and communities. General Practice still has support of general population; primary care needs to move into this area. Some achievements have been reached on improving community services.
- With 1 in 4 elderly people admitted to hospital who don't need to be there, there is need to make sure they can be looked after at home or in the community ie nursing home, community hospital.
- Steve Adams, a consultant nurse is part of the team at East Surrey Hospital CCG highlighting dementia. 2 yr plan setting up service for early diagnosis of dementia.
- Contact number for service based in Crawley hospital is 01293 600300 ext 4255.

***Please see attached copy of presentation.**

Questions/Comments:

- **PS** asked if the onset of dementia can be prevented and said if people's long term memory can be temporarily restored by memory boxes etc. was there any chance of this becoming a permanent restoration of memory, including short term. **SD** thought it was right to think along these lines but had not heard anything to date and a lot of work was still to be done.
- **ZC** said the benefit of Crawley being dementia friendly was enormous, with businesses training their staff. The Dementia Friends organisation provides local volunteers to carry out one hour dementia awareness sessions and people were encouraged to attend one of these. Idea has been taken up by East Grinstead.
- **JL** said Jackie Pond from the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Action Alliance (DAA) is working with local community, working to make Horsham a dementia friendly district. Holding a number of forums.
- **BM** felt there was a need to 'badger' the local district council on encouraging a dementia friendly area.

Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) – Corrine Clark

Services in Horsham District

CC gave brief update on the RVS, formerly the WRVS, which changed its name last May. The service, which remains the same, began in 1938 helping people to cope before and after the war and in 1943 started the meals service. In 2012 interactions with older people started but self referrals are low and anyone who is referred has to be in agreement.

The RVS now run a Good Neighbours West Sussex service responsible for Crawley, Horsham and Mid Sussex. This is activated by how they can help the community and although the RVS focuses

on the support of older people this service is open to vulnerable adults from all age groups. Good Neighbours West Sussex is free of charge but any expenditure ie refreshments, activity charge, travel etc is paid for by client.

No two Good Neighbours services are the same, as different areas will have different people running the contracts.

In West Sussex there are 2 hubs and people can be signposted through these.

***Please see attached copy of presentation.**

Questions/Comments:

MJ asked if there was vetting for the people who volunteer. **CC** said all have DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks and in addition 2 referrals are required for each candidate from someone they have known for 2 years. If all found to be OK then training takes place, including dementia awareness training. With the dementia awareness training, volunteers aren't specially trained as, in the early stages, it is just company that is needed.

6. Reports from Members who have attended Events/Meetings on Behalf of the Senior Persons' Council:

None

7. Update from on Senior Persons' Council's Executive:

- Action Plan – Update Against Progress

No update at the present time.

8. Updates on Senior Persons' Council's Projects

BM said that during his walk around Broadbridge Heath, many items had been identified as needing attention and the Parish Council had shown interest in improving the village.

SMc expressed concern at problems she and her family had experienced with Worthing Hospital and asked for any guidance on dealing with problems such as this. Unfortunately no specific solution was found for this problem, but **JL** mentioned, for future reference, the Home from Hospital service run by Age UK Horsham District. This service arranges an assessment at home and will then arrange a coordinator who will link in with the appropriate service. Person can be contacted prior to leaving hospital. This service includes partners of Age UK West Sussex and Guildcare.

9. Updates on Consultations the Senior Persons' Council has been invited to respond to or has responded to

Pensions: **BO** said she had spoken to various people at the office of Nick Herbert MP and found it a very bad experience with no one responding satisfactorily to her requests for information. A member of Age UK Horsham District's Information & Advice Team, Marion Tyrrell has details and will take forward.

10. New Issues from Senior Persons' Council

- What issues would you like to highlight?

CD referred to the issue of dementia friendly Horsham. Contacts - Cllr Sue Rogers at HDC and Jacquie Pond from the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Action Alliance (DAA). Contact details are: Cllr Rogers tel.no: 01903 816361 or email: sue.rogers@horsham.gov.uk and Jacquie Pond tel.no: 01403 750485 or email: jacquie.pond@alzheimers.org.uk.

MB forwarded suggestion that one of our projects should be to make Horsham dementia friendly.

- What would you like to see at future meetings?

JL asked for ideas on subjects/speakers for future meetings. Suggestions were as follows:

- On dementia friendly issue; Cllr Sue Rogers or Trevor Beadle, Head of Community & Culture at HDC
- Horsham District Community Safety Partnership
- Ambulance Service
- Aids/Adaptions for seniors
- St John's Ambulance
- Macmillan cancer support

JL asked for list and will arrange 2 presentations for next meeting.

11. Chair elections

- Who to chair

After announcement at the last meeting by **BM** that he will be standing down as Chair at next meeting in June, a discussion was held on re election of new Chair.

AG said the group have had interesting speakers under **BM's** Chairmanship and have learnt a lot. **MJ** agreed saying all meetings had been very encouraging and enjoyable.

12. Any Other Business

KB asked, with Chair issue arising, what was happening with the Constitution. Also asked for circulation contact list. **Action: SG** to circulate list of regular member's contact details after confirmation that all agreed.

MB expressed interest in Chairmanship description and forwarded his apologies for the next meeting.

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10 June 2014 Southwater Leisure Centre.