

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 13th February 2019

Report of Community Support Co-ordinator

Since our last meeting we've covered in excess of 49 volunteer hours across 19 social visits / events, 7 transport trips to appointments and 12 shopping trips.

Our WOW programme for the year is finalised and will be displayed in and around the villages of Walford and Bishopswood. As part of the programme we held a fish n chip lunch followed by an afternoon of boardgames at the Church at the end of last month, which was very well received. Our next event will be a book swap afternoon accompanied by afternoon tea. In March, Wednesday 13th, we have our re-scheduled Pub Quiz night at the Mill Race. We want this to be an event for the whole community and hope you will all join in the community spirit, get your teams together and enjoy some neighbourly rivalry with each other's teams. Pub Quiz details is part of our WOW programme but will be advertised separately on our Facebook page and the Parish Council website, so please look out for details.

You may have seen an article in the Gazette a few weeks ago regarding our re-launch. Our posters, designed by two Walford pupils who won the competition we ran, are now displayed around the Parish and in Ross at pertinent locations. I have placed some on seats tonight, please do pick one up, especially if you'd like to take one or more to display at any business or commercial premises local to Walford.

We continue to talk about our Scheme wherever we have the opportunity. Frank talked about us at a meeting he was at a few weeks ago. As a result of Frank's excellent PR work, we are very excited to tell you that BBC Hereford and Worcester have now asked to do a feature on us for local news and BBC online. We have invited them to film whilst we are at Walford Primary for our next luncheon involving the children and our Service Users, on March 5th. We will keep you updated as to when you're able to view that.

Our strong link with Walford Primary continues to flourish, and we have dates for lunches for every half term until end of this school academic year.

We are adding a page to the new Parish Council website for the Support Scheme and we also have one being added to Bishopswood Village Hall website.

I'm addressing the Patients Participation Group at Pendeen surgery next week and look forward to reinforcing our relationships with both surgeries that way.

It's worth mentioning how powerful 'word of mouth' publicity can be, as highlighted in the case of Frank and his connection made with the local BBC. So please tell people about us – we believe there are still people needing our help who live amongst us. And, indeed, people who may be able to offer us their help too. As always, we are always looking for more people to help and for more people to help us. Any information received is totally confidential, of course, in terms of anyone needing our assistance. If you're able and would like to help with volunteering, please do get in touch. However little time you can spare – there is no minimum or regular requirement. You may be available to assist for half an hour, when no one else is. We appreciate and value all offers of help.

Sarah Hayes