

Walford Community Support Scheme Progress Meeting

Tuesday, 8th June 2021 @ 1pm. Walford Village Hall

In attendance: Be Mackintosh (BM); Ruth Dolman (RD) Karen Chinn (KC); Joanne Akers (JA); Bridget Vine (BV); Dave Berry (DB)

SERVICE USERS UPDATE

BM gave an update on service users.

24 active service users at present.

All service users are well and are very much looking forward to being able to socialise again in our new WCSS Hub at WVH.

Weekly requests for shopping, hospital appointments, IT support and garden maintenance are ongoing.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Volunteers are continuing to support service users with shopping, hospital appointments and gardening.

Well-being/befriending calls are being done on a daily or weekly basis.

New volunteers have helped with the Hub's garden maintenance.

BM felt that volunteer's group had lost momentum, a small number of the same volunteers are offering to help consistently.

The working group decided it would be a good time to have a meeting at the Hub with all volunteers to discuss the future events for the WCSS.

KC suggested a 'buddy' system may work with volunteers living in the same locality as a service user could offer their support when required.

This will be discussed at the meeting.

WALFORD VILLAGE HALL

As the meeting was held at WVH the working group could see the interior of the room is now complete.

The exterior is awaiting a coat of paint on the walls to cover crayon marks-BM to purchase paint from Screwfix.

The lawn area has now been rolled and being mown regularly by a volunteer.

The opening of the Hub is planned for Thursday, 1st July 2021. A final decision on this date will be taken after the latest government guidelines are released on Monday 14th June.

BM thank KC for creating the invite. It was agreed that David Emerson's name should be added to the invite as a 'double act' with Baroness Pitkeathley.

Invites to be sent out on Tuesday, 22nd June by e-mail where possible, depending on government updates.

DB to send invites out to Walford Parish Councillors, Ward Councillor and WVH committee members.

The working group all contributed names for the guest list.

All members of the WCSS would be invited.

KC confirmed that Cobrey would kindly donate bottles of fizz and asparagus (dependant on season's end) for the occasion.

E C Drummond have kindly offered soft fruit.

Ideas for nibbles, glassware, confirmation of numbers etc will be discussed at a meeting on Thursday, 24th June 2021 @ 1pm at the Hub.

BM to contact the Ross Gazette and Forest Review to ask for a journalist to be present at the opening. A write up and photos to be sent to Ross On Line after the event.

Talk Community Hub

BM informed the group the Talk Community has had a relaunch and rebranding.

The WCSS is a member of the Talk Community and will be tapping into the funding support and training being offered.

BM suggested that once the Hub is officially open Karen Stanton will be able to deliver some face to face training for volunteer members.

BM attended a virtual meeting regarding the Hub becoming a Lateral Flow Collection Point for the local community. This will commence when the Hub has opened and the collection of kits will coincide with an event being held in the room.

WCSS – the future

BM has created a schedule of events for the WCSS, these included coffee mornings, lunches, talks, film and games afternoons.

It was agreed that members would pay for lunches etc.

BM informed the group that the Bishopswood Community Lunch Club is now under the WCSS umbrella.

DB express concern that the lunch may require numerous volunteers to help. BM explained that existing lunch club members were happy to remain offering their support and that the meal was delivered from Rumbling Tum.

BM to contact other local community groups to invite them to the Hub for a coffee morning to widen the socialisation and interaction of members.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 24.06.2021 @ 1pm at Walford Village Hall.