

MINUTES

Whetstone Good Neighbours Scheme

7pm 21 May 2018

In Attendance

Barry Fisher (Chair), Rachel Hall, Monica-Jean Hoare, Louise Hathaway, Neale Bassford,
Apologies for Absence: Jenny Hilton, Kris Riley

Welcome

A welcome was extended to our guests, Chris Carroll (Volunteer and fund raiser), Aime Sanyang (new volunteer) and Debbie Kenney (ASDA's Community Champion)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting 19th March 2018 have been read and were declared to be a true and accurate record, and signed off by the chair. These will now be uploaded to the website.

Pecuniary interests

The Meeting was reminded of their obligation to declare any pecuniary interests in the affairs of the scheme – None was declared.

Volunteers Update

Amie is a new volunteer, taking on the role of call co-ordinator and deputy treasurer. Barry will be helping Amie to settle into her role by taking her to jobs, so that she has an understanding of the work undertaken by WGNS.

Kris Riley is currently attempting to set up advertising on facebook for recruiting new volunteers within the Whetstone area, and get our services recognised for those people who might need us.

Service Updates

The Service dashboard review, shows the past couple of months, and it indicates that there was a high level of jobs recorded in March, this was due to a service user needing extra attention after a fall. A new key safe was fitted for the user, at a small cost to WGNS.

Currently we are assessing the need for acquiring next of Kin details for our service users, in the event of an emergency. We will require written consent from the service users.

For new service users, Barry Fisher has suggested that a welcome pack be put together, with useful information. In addition it will include a fridge magnet containing our contact details. A costing of £168 for 200 has been obtained and was agreed to go ahead.

Fund Raising and Financial Update

Debbie Kenney, congratulated all the volunteers within WGNS on a job well done, and presented a cheque for £500 as winners in the green tokens within the ASDA store. We would like to thank all who participated in making this happen, it is truly an honour.

Barry Fisher has been filling in for Jean whilst she was on holiday/unwell, and it is good to see Jean on the road to recovery. Jean the WGNS Treasurer, reports that we are in a good position regarding the finances, and are within our budget needs.

Blaby Lottery – Continues to produce a steady income. We have received another payment in May. Little movement in numbers of tickets/supporters recently.

Back to the 40s event – This took place on Sunday 25 March at the Bulls Head and raised £280. Tremendous event enjoyed by everybody who attended. Congratulations and thanks to Chris and her team once again.

A first draft budget for the financial year commencing 1st August had been distributed ahead of the meeting. No adverse comment was given, and this will be refined for approval at the next meeting.

Newsletter

WGNS has produced a News-letter and printed 5,000 copies, which is being distributed with the help of volunteers of Blaby District Council community support week, to 2,900 homes in Whetstone.

Any Other Business

It was a pleasure meeting Debbie from Asda and found it refreshing to know about the different services Asda can provide, and would like to thank you for supporting our local cause. Not only did Debbie supply us with various useful information, she has also offered her own services in whatever capacity she can.

With help like this, it enables the scheme to support more residents that are in need of the extra help.

Asda will put a WGNS poster up in their store, and also have copies of our latest news-letter on hand for the customers.

AGM – All management team members present indicated that at this time they were prepared to be nominated for office at the AGM or the next fiscal year. It is therefore unlikely that we will need to make any constitution changes this year or that any other motions need be put forward by the management team. The suggestion was made by the Chair that we should consider expanding the team to include a service user and maybe a third party from a group not directly involved to give a wider view point. Suggestions were requested. Role descriptions are available for all the principal officer roles if anyone would like to be considered now or in the future. Louise will be running the pre AGM process.

Volunteers Social Event – This has been discussed for some time and needs to be progressed, Aime agreed to take the lead on this.

Contact with other schemes – Barry reported that he has had contact with a number of other schemes at various stages of development requesting guidance and advice. These include Blaby, Stoney Stanton, Rothley and Casterton.

Meeting Closed

Next Meeting/2018 Meeting Dates

Monday 9th July 2018

Monday 20th August 2018

Monday 17 September 2018 – Annual General Meeting

Monday 15th October 2018

Monday 26th November 2018