

MINUTES

Whetstone Good Neighbours Scheme

7pm 24th May 2021

In Attendance

Louise Hathaway (Chair), Veronica Rye (minutes), Jenny Hilton, Richard Caple, Helen Caple, Danuta Jeeves (meeting held online due to current restrictions)

Apologies for absence – none received

Pecuniary interests

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting, 1st March 2021, 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.

Services Update

The number of jobs continues to increase a large proportion being the delivery of meals. Also a significant increase in the number of requests received for help in filling in forms and writing letters.

Sadly 2 service users have passed away.

The Easter egg run received very good feedback. The surprise element had more impact for service users and similar events will be considered in the future.

Danuta provided an update on the Facebook page –

Currently quiet but still people visiting the page

Information is being shared from other local sources eg when there is a spate of local burglaries

The newsletter will be posted on the Facebook page

DBS and Safeguarding –

Nothing to update

Newsletter –

Louise has previously circulated a copy of the newsletter which will be published in the Duck Paddle news

Website –

Louise and Danuta to update

Agreement to advertise service in health centres and libraries.

Costs for Services

Decision made to encourage all users to use Whetstone chemist.

Charge will be made for prescription collections outside of Whetstone to cover petrol and parking costs.

New requests for prescription collections from outside Whetstone will not be accepted.

Current users to be given 1 month to switch over to Whetstone chemist if not currently used and support with form filling to be offered.

Volunteer update

1 volunteer no longer available

Danuta has increased availability

Decision made to launch a campaign to attract new volunteers – newsletter, Facebook, Next Door app

Financial update

The financial position is strong and looks good for the foreseeable future.

Secretary is now a cheque signatory

Treasurer needs a debit card

The Blaby Lottery provides good financial support.

Any Other Business

Grants available from Blaby District Council- need to apply for Christmas celebration funding now.

Proposed idea – contact in Glenfield can produce gift food boxes as cost of £5 per box to be delivered with calendar and card.

Calendars to be a selection of photos of old Whetstone (and current). Call out for photos on Facebook and to service users / volunteers. Extra copies to be ordered for sale. Helem to coordinate.

Face to face meeting of befrienders to be held as soon as Covid restrictions allow. This has been an extremely successful and valuable service. Ullesthorpe Garden Centre to be used as venue at £6 per head.

The weekly chip shop run will stop until later in the year (September / October) as numbers now reducing.

Up to 10 service users will still need support so local businesses to be contacted to see if they can provide take away meals on a weekly basis (Lime Tree, Waterbridge, Rainbow Tree).

No other business being raised the meeting was closed

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 12th July at 7pm online.