

MINUTES

Whetstone Good Neighbour Scheme

7.00pm 14th December 2023

In Attendance

Louise Hathaway (Chair), Veronica Rye (minutes), Danuta Jeeves, Jenny Hilton, Helen Caple, Richard Caple, Steve Webb

Pecuniary Interests

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

Apologies for Absence

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting, 13th September 2023, have been read and declared to be a true and accurate record with the following amendments – the Christmas event is now being held on 17th December and the date of the AGM will be 17th January 2024. With these changes the minutes will now be signed off by the Chair. These will now be uploaded to the website.

Matters Arising

The advert for a coordinator for the chip shop run was not circulated as Lyn was happy to take on the role.

The agreed response was sent to BDC who have acknowledged receipt and will keep it on file for reference the next time a grant is requested.

Services Update

The list of service users has been updated and the names of people who no longer need support or have passed away have been removed to give a more accurate number. The overview of jobs shows an increase in the number completed compared to the previous 2 years.

Christmas parcels will be delivered to service users not able to attend the Christmas event.

The Facebook page now has 350 followers. Discussion was held about how to promote the volunteering side of WGNS on Facebook – QR code, small postcards with link etc to distribute in local businesses and with service users. Any articles written for Duckpaddle News and other publicity communications to be shared on Facebook.

Decision confirmed that business adverts will not be accepted on the Facebook page but we will continue to advertise local services such as the Commbus, lunch club etc

DBS and Safeguarding

3 new volunteers have received their DBS.

Helen to explore use of update system if appropriate.

Financial Update

Report from the Treasurer was received. Balance remains healthy. Full update to be given at the next meeting.

Grant for Christmas event still shown within budget as not yet spent.

Additional debit card to be applied for.

After the meeting a new WhatsApp group was set up to share and approve receipts.

Whetstone Parish Council to be approached for grants.

Any Other Business

Thanks to Helen and Richard for hosting the meeting.

The AGM will be held on 17th January 2024.

Management meetings will now start at 6pm after the AGM depending on agreement with Whetstone Parish Council for the room availability

The ASDA grant has been received.

New volunteers have shown an interest in the befriending role which is currently available.

District Councillors to be contacted directly with invites to events.

Items for future discussion –

- Ways to ensure that WGNS continues to run efficiently and successfully helping as many people as possible:
 - Criteria for jobs, timings of requests, charging for transport, different types of support offered
- Systems for expenditure

No other business being raised the meeting was closed at 8.40pm.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

AGM 17th January 2024