

WM Dementia Action Group

Notes of meeting held on Wednesday 22nd March 2023 7 p.m. at the Library

1. Present: Lynne (chair), Angela (librarian), Rachel (social prescriber)

Apologies: Alex Clark (WMTC), Jenna May (Moors Manor), Jo Breen (on jury service), Pip (social prescriber)

2. It was difficult to have a full and proper meeting and decisions with only three of us, but we had some good conversation. We scanned through the notes from last meeting.

3. Rachel spoke of the experience and importance of the Dementia Bus. Highly recommends it.
Stepping into Nature - Spring - books have and are being distributed. Summer themed books are running out and it is expected that no further copies will be reprinted as Finances not there.

4. **Fund Raising:**

Lynne completed and submitted a **Grant Application** to the WMTC (Town Council) to cover the WM part of the printing costs. The application was heard at their finance meeting in March and they have given us just over half of what was asked for, being the end of the financial year and not much left in their kitty. We have been advised

that

we can apply for the rest in the next financial year from April. This will give us a two year cushion. We are grateful to them for their support enabling us to pay our part towards the Living Well magazine in the short term, while we look at doing our own fundraising. **Action - ALL**

It was mentioned (by RK) that many of the large **corporate care homes** have a community budget and may be able to help if approached.

Conversation took place around the Living Well magazine and its area coverage. RK had different contacts for Verwood DF than on file. RK to check out.

5. **Dementia Action Week 15-22 May.** Ideas are needed for how we might engage with the WM community.* **Action - ALL**
RK informed that Help & Care have a Dementia Co-ordinator and that we might like to link up and do something together for WM. RK to explore.
6. **Activity Box:** This has been used by SP's and they are aware that one lady took one puzzle home, possibly thinking they were free. They will try and retrieve this next time they see her. The Box is held at the Library and there is a book for noting what is taken, name, address and phone and the date it was taken and returned. Angela will log all items

from the Box in the front of the book.

7. **WESTIVAL** - We have expressed interest in a pitch, but not yet paid for it. It was suggested offering worry worms for a donation. Otherwise it will be literature. We need other ideas ! It was also suggested Help & Care might be having a pitch and again it might be worth joining forces again. We are aware that the word Dementia is not very inviting on a family fun day, whereas Help & Care might be. Action - ALL

8. AOB: > Lynne has produced a draft of a renewed tri-fold leaflet for our group. This will be attached for comment on content and detail. It is basically to let people know who we are and what our aim is, what we do. The attached is by no means an end product, just a starting point. Please give some thought and comment or suggest. It is for handing out to the general public. We need to put the WMTC logo/crest on and as we are signed up to DAA that is also included, alongside Alzheimers Soc who produce most of the literature to support us in making information known. Action - ALL

>Dementia Champions - we still don't know of any in our area who might be willing to run the occasional awareness session.

>We were also informed that there is need for more Memory Lane groups but we need to find a venue and there is also need for new facilitators and support volunteers (no experience necessary).

9. Date of next meeting: with so few present we have provisionally made the date of **Wednesday 10th May**, just before the Dementia Action Week begins. Could I ask that you please check your diaries and let me know asap if this is ok with you or not. If we do need to rearrange it would be helpful to have a few alternatives from your diary schedules. Many thanks.

Action - ALL