West Moors Dementia Action Group

Notes of meeting Tuesday 21st May 2024

2-3pm, The Hall, St Mary's WM

1. Present: Laura (Barchester), Rachel (Social Prescriber), Penny (WMTC), Jo (local resident), Lynne (chair & St Marys).

Apologies: Sarah R, Carol D, Alex C, Angela M.

**Omitted at the meeting** (apologies from the Chair): Alex Clark has not stood for re-election on Local Council and is therefore no longer a representative on their behalf. A letter of thanks to be sent to Alex for all his support. Angela McVeigh sent a message today advising that she feels it is time to step back. Her husband has also just retired. We thanked Angela last year when she retired as WM Librarian. All our meetings up to then had been held at the Library 'out of hours'. A further note of thanks will be sent. We will miss them both and thank them for their support.

Welcome: We welcomed Councillor Penny Yeo as our new representative from WM Town Council.

2. Matters arising from last meeting:

5. under Thursday 16th last point: Jo has checked out Diverse Abilities and found that that was not appropriate for us.

7. Fund Raising: a typo 'donations **of** £200…' not 'or'

3. New Group Photograph: We could do with a new group photograph as there have been a number of changes. We agreed to inform all of the date of the next meeting and asking for a full compliment if possible. Should some have other commitments but could make the first 5 minutes, just for the photo that would be great, otherwise we will need to find another date.

Plus someone to take the photograph. [LM will ask Lou from Pulfords again]

4. Jolly Days, WM: This has made a good start though numbers are modest. It may take time to grow. Good team of workers and volunteers. Due to an observed difference on the website on 'when they meet', this has now been clarified and it is definitely 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month.

5. WM Directory: We continue to place articles in there - free of charge. Next edition is on us reviewing our purpose and asking for any comments. Our thanks to Jo for preparing these.

Living Well magazine: The Spring edition is out and is being widely circulated. We need to ensure Jolly Days is included in the next edition. Jo will check with Sarah she intends to put it under the Jolly section (JB) The deadline for any articles and information relating to West Moors should be with Lynne, by Wednesday 5th June, please. (ALL) It will be out just in time for Westival.

Facebook: The number of 'likes', etc is gradually growing and more people are seeing what we are doing.

WMTC Annual meeting: We were invited to attend this meeting along with many other 'interest groups' which gave us another opportunity to make ourselves known, and what we are trying to do in and for WM residents.

6. Dementia Action Week: We felt this had been well worth while with some good and helpful conversations on all three days. We also had the Manager of the local surgery come and chat with us and asked for any posters about the group that they could put up in the surgery. Posters are now being prepared. (JB) After discussion it was agreed that Social Prescribers should also be a point of contact on the poster.

7. Westival:

2 long tables: one for literature/information, one for free gifts (cakes, twiddle mitts, pocket teddies & wiggle worms, etc.; another table + 2 chairs for jigsaws & games from our box.

Long tables from Jo. (St Mary's a possibility, if needed).

Jo to source cakes. SP to bring puzzles/games. LM to bring teddies, mitts, etc

Lynne & Jo to man the stand. Laura (on the Barchester stand) suggested that she could help if needed, esp to enable us to take a comfort break, etc. if close by. WMTC have agreed to put us next to each other to enable this collaboration/support.

Jo to contact TEC Team to invite them to join us to provide information about helpful technology for people with dementia.

Banner & Gazebo: we need to replace the long Banner to fix in front of tables/on railings, etc. and a Gazebo for our outdoor activities. (after some discussion) Jo to investigate. Cllr Penny reminded us that the TC do have funds available for community projects.

LM & JB to put in a Grant Application to the WMTC.

Feather Banner: This has been purchased and looks great. Used last week for the National Dementia Awareness Week, and will be used at Westival.

QR Code: Jo explained the various means of raising funds via social media. We agreed that the 'Just Giving' combined with a QR code on our posters and some literature should be our aim. JB to set up.

8. Needs, Vision & Purpose: It was felt this was too important to try and rush in the last few minutes of our meeting so was deferred until the next meeting. Please read documents and come prepared and ready to discuss. \* see Alzheimer's Soc. Help and Hope Strategy – item 10. (ALL)

9. Fundraising: This was mostly covered under 7.e. Donations from our stand last Tues. Wed. Thurs. amounted to £61.50. Balance in our account = £1,499.00.

10. AOB: Jo gave out copies of the \*Alzheimer’s Society Help and Hope strategy. Taken from: <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-us/our-help-and-hope-strategy> which AS describe as: Our bold and ambitious five-year framework of priorities which underpins all the work we do at the Society, and which outlines Four priorities.

Date of Next Meeting: **Tuesday 9th July,** 2-3, the Hall, St Mary's WM + Group Photograph

\* \* \* **IMPORTAN**T: We need to get a group photograph, preferably on this afternoon -> 9th July. It needs all of us to make it a priority.

If you have other things in your diary that afternoon, but could come just for 5 minutes for the photograph that would be much appreciated by us all. Obviously we would love everyone to be at the meeting as well if possible.

\* Please let Lynne or Jo know asap **whether or not** you are able to be there.

With grateful thanks. Lynne