

Ipswich VASP Meeting Minutes	
<b>Date:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2015
<b>Venue:</b>	Suffolk Mind, Hyntle Barn, Hill Farm, Silver Hill, Hintlesham IP8 3NJ
<b>Time:</b>	10.00 – 12.00
<b>Attendees:</b>	Chaired by Jayne Davey (JD) – Suffolk User Forum Julia Carr (JC) – VASP CoOrdinator Elaine Thomas (ET) – Stone Foundation (Stepping Stones) Carole Thain (CT) – Suffolk MIND A Cook (AC) – Wellbeing Service Kate Grimwood (KG) – Headspace Nigel Moyes (NM) – Recovery College and Healthwatch Suffolk Eleanor Patrick – Care Support Worker IDT Guenever Pachent – NSFT, Lead Governor Claire Lee (CL) – Suffolk User Forum (Minute Taker)
<b>Apologies</b>	None received.

	Action:
<b>Venue and Dates</b> JC on behalf of the group thanked CT for providing the free meeting venue for the past year and informed those present that the venue for next year will change to the MIND offices in Westgate Street to aid attendance at meetings. The meetings will still take place on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10am till 12pm.	
<b>Minutes:</b> Minutes of 14 <sup>th</sup> October 2015 and the notes from the meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2015 were agreed.	
<b>Minute Actions from October Minutes</b>  <b>Personality Disorder</b> No further update.  <b>Suicide Prevention Strategy</b> No further update.  <b>Crisis Care Concordat</b> No further update.  <b>Turning Point</b> No further information.  <b>Wellbeing Service</b> No further information.	

<p><b>Elaine Thomas – Stone Foundation</b></p> <p>The Stone Foundation had now received charity status; a Board of Trustees was now in place but were still looking for more trustees. The Foundation assists people who are moving from supported housing into the private sector, including those that are inappropriately housed in b&amp;b. The Foundation manages the properties and are the landlords and Stepping Stones provides the support. They are currently working with MSDC to provide further rented accommodation. Stepping Stones is currently working on its 'decluttering service' to help people both physically and emotionally. KG had referred someone to the service and the feedback had been very positive. ET said that they were receiving a high number of referrals especially from health and social services and local councils.</p>	
<p><b>A Cook – Wellbeing Service</b></p> <p>AC didn't have any further updates. The service was still out to tender but the new service should be in place by September next year. JD informed the group that she was on the tender panel and on Monday had held a service user panel to look at the tenders and this had been very worthwhile. Each applicant had attended and had answered questions raised by the panel. They were due to meet again in February for the next stage.</p>	
<p><b>Kate Grimwood – Headspace</b></p> <p>A new programme will be published in January with 25 participants already. The volunteers and participants are putting on a pantomime next week. KG informed the group that in the new year she will be carrying out presentations to other local organisations about who they are and the work they do and would be happy to attend other VASP meetings to give a presentation. KG was also making links with local job centres by offering services to help people who need to access mental health services. KG highlighted a service being offered through the jobcentre, Mygo, a service being offered to young people, 16 to 24 to give guidance and support to young people trying to find work. It was agreed that JC invite Mygo to be involved in the VASP and to attend a future meeting.</p>	<p><b>JC</b></p>
<p><b>Guenever Pachant - NSFT</b></p> <p>GP highlighted the Staff Awards programme and would circulate the flyer via the VASP network and if anyone wished to nominate they can. NSFT had appointed Malcolm Blowers as the Service User Governor, Anne Humphreys as the new Suffolk Carer Governor and 3 new non ex directors had been appointed.</p>	
<p><b>Nigel Moyes</b></p> <p>Healthwatch Suffolk had appointed a new Chief Executive and Tony Rollo to remain as Chairman. The Stepping Forward joint event with SUF had been challenging but the results were very positive. As regards the Recovery College, Chris Hedges was the new Manager with Sarah Mitchell as the overall Deputy Recovery Manager and that Lyn Skipper will be retiring. Year 3 term 2 starts in January. 2 further courses were being put together, Dual Diagnosis and Service User Involvement. Information and registration will take place on 7<sup>th</sup> January.</p> <p>The Suffolk Dual Diagnosis Forum meets 4 times a year and Turning Point will be providing meeting space for 2 of those dates.</p> <p>Oz Osborne had received funding for a year to run the '12 Man Project' looking at men's mental health. Meetings will take place in local cafes on a small scale.</p>	

<p><b>Carol Thain – Suffolk MIND</b></p> <p>Course dates will be available in the new year. They were providing counselling and support in the Saxmundham area and were looking to establish art therapy sessions. CT will be carrying out an annual survey about the service they offer. The building works were progressing.</p>	
<p><b>Eleanor Patrick – IDT</b></p> <p>EP was one of the new Carer Leads in post and had been employed to improve the current system and waiting lists for assessments. Improvements to the assessment process were being looked into to make the forms better understood by service users, carers and professionals. They are looking to create a basic Carers Pack.</p>	
<p><b>Jayne Davey – Suffolk User Forum</b></p> <p>JD advised the sad news that Jeannie Wright had resigned as Chair and Trustee due to family commitments but the current Board of Trustees was strong with new Trustees offering a lot of new skills and with the introduction of sub groups felt the Board will go from strength to strength. JD was currently finalising the partnership with SCOPD and would be looking to run a joint event around neurological conditions and the effects on mental health. SUF had a new contact number, 01473 633733 and this change had been circulated.</p>	
<p><b>Julia Carr – VASP Co Ordinator</b></p> <p>JC updated the group on the current situation with the other local VASPs. The County VASP was due to meet on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at the Dove Room at Needham Market.</p> <p>The Time to Change Village had a stall at the Bury St Edmunds switch on of the Christmas lights. This proved a very successful event and engaged with over 300 members of the public. The feedback was positive and they have been invited back next year. VASP will be celebrating 15 years and JC will be putting together an event to mark this. The VASP was a successful and effective forum. They produce a monthly newsletter, if anyone wishes to include an item to contact JC.</p>	
<p><b>Vice Chairman</b></p> <p>JC reported that she had been approached by two candidates who wished to be considered for the position, Nigel Moyes and Elaine Thomas. It was agreed that the position be shared between them both and the group thanked them for offering to take on the role.</p>	
<p><b>Sharing of Information</b></p> <p>JC would contact David Grimmer's replacement at Suffolk Libraries to enquire if she had an up to date circulation list. This item to be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	JC
<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>13<sup>th</sup> January 2016, 10.00 – 12.00, Suffolk Mind, Westgate Street, Ipswich</p>	