

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WEST SUFFOLK VOLUNTARY AND STATUTORY PARTNERSHIP FOR MENTAL HEALTH Our Lady and St Etheldreda Catholic Church, Exeter Road, Newmarket, CB8 8LT

Thursday 21st January 2016 10.00-12.00 noon.

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1. Wolcomo 9 Anglorico, con balour	
1. Welcome & Apologies: see below	
HP welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies	
2. Notes of the meeting held on 27 th October 2015	
Agreed	
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3.Matters arising None	
4. Election of Chairman	
Colin Leonard agreed to chair the March meeting on an interim basis.	
Kate Sparks agreed to chair the May meeting on an interim basis,	
5. Speaker: Peter Devlin Suffolk County Council Personalisation and the Care Act	
Pete gave an update on progress since his last presentation	
eighteen months ago	
Please see attached sheet of the pyramid structure.	
HP highlighted the valuable work of the linkworkers and how it	
helped GP's to refer people with mental health issues for support.	
PD reported that it is about 50:50 who takes up a personal budget and who remain with support from the local authority.	

Concerns were raised that people are not able to access personal budgets quickly as it relies on care co-ordinators to process applications and they are under pressure.

PD agreed to look into this on the request of WSVASP

PD reported that there was continuous review of paperwork to streamline the process and support the care co-ordinators who have a duty to support the person with the disability.

A question was asked about the take up by older people not necessarily suffering from dementia. PD reported that take up was generally low and maybe due to people not wanting to have the bother of managing the finances.

PD undertook to investigate whether he can reduce the burden of paperwork to allow easier access to personal budgets.

PD will speak to Simon Leech.

PD explained about the Care Act 2014 and lending support and the entitlement of carers to have their care needs met.

SCC would like to raise the profile of carers.

The triangle of care giving guidance and support.

Colin Leonard's role is to link in with staff.

At present working on carers assessments with Suffolk Family Carers.

Carers events being held in all localities, looking at carers rights, triangle of care and the Recovery College.

Carers events aim to have a balance of carers, service users and staff. The events have been very useful and it is believed this is the right way forward and wish to continue and extend the events.

Carers rights to advocacy, PD explained that in the next six months hpw this can be expanded and carers can be properly involved.

The Care Act talks about advocacy, but many carers are advocates themselves, so investigating self advocates and other ideas, working with Suffolk Community Advocacy.

6. VASP Co-ordinators update

15th anniversary of the creation of VASP this year. Plans to have a celebration in mental health week,

VASP survey to be published after 2nd February 2016. To be discussed at chairs meeting.

JC asked everyone to do the survey when it is published as it will determine future direction.

County VASP: Hazel Pidsley had retired and Gill Jones, Healthwatch Suffolk had agreed to chair the County VASP on an interim basis. All meetings for 206 will be held at Mid Suffolk Districy Council Offices, Needham Market. Dates on VASP website.

Ipswich VASP: Jayne Davy, SUF, has replaced David Grimmer, and will be able to provide some admin support.

PD

PD

Coastal VASP: Suzanne Wyard, NSFT, has had to step down as chair and Jayne Davy has offered to be chair on an interim basis.

Mid Suffolk VASP and Sudbury VASP are continuing and have some admin support.

VASP calendar has been circulated on e-mail and is on the VASP website.

7. Events

Time to Change Village event had taken place in Bury St Edmunds at Christmas Lights switch on.

300 people had conversations about their mental health,

Training event 27.1.16 Time to Change and the Recovery College at Oakes Barn, St Andrews Street South, Bury St Edmunds.

Most Active County event at Trinity Park, Ipswich 27.1.6. VASP will have a stand.

8. Updates from organisations

NSFT

Colin Leonatd reported that things had settled and new staff have started.

Jacqui Fairley reported that a new Recovery College timetable had been published.

New courses are being developed.

Carers workshops are being facilitated by Colin Leonard, to prepare staff. It is mandatory for all staff.

Cambridge Pringle Group

Jo Streeton reported that the organisation has secured another building on Haverhill.

Survey being circulated asking what does Haverhill need to support people..

They have a large community area and will invite people to come in and do workshops.

Working with Karen Chapple, One Haverhill, running Signposting for people up to 25, she is currently running this but hopes soon that it will become peer led.

Sunset Barn Care Farm

Funding for family carers had been received and this would be for 2 years.

Open 3 days a week and will possibly add another day.

Grant received for a building which will be open in September 2016.

Age UK Suffolk

The charity is undergoing drastic change internally. Sharon Cozzens has left and Mel Cassidy has been appointed Interim Chief Executive.

Very little outwaed facing channge, but there is no Team Leader in the West. Recruiting internally at present.

The help deask in Bury St Edmunds is closong in March, but the telephone will be redirected to the advisors.

Advisors are researching community venues, I.e libraries for pop up surgeries.

Healthwatch Suffolk

Mental Health Focus group meeting dates have been confirmed. See attachment.

Last survey carried out was to ask people who used menatl health services if they had noticed an improvement since NSFT was put into speacial measures.

As a result of 3 negative comments about a cre hoem Healthwatch used their 'enter and view' rights to go into the care home, but they found that management were aware of problems and were taking remedial action already.

Healthwatch Suffolk will be using these rights to inspect GP practices.

HWS has establishes a Hub with seven satelites based in localities. Dan Pennock commented that VASP shouls be on this.

Lead is Lesley Drew working alongside Sharon Picken.

Shaw Trust

Kate Sparks reported she has moved to a new office in CAB in Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds. Clients have said they prefer the location.

Referrals have dropped off.

Kate will e-mail referral forms to Julia Carr to be e-mailed to WSVASP e-mail circulation.

BSEVC

David Finn reported that BSEVC had tendered for three areas for rural transport. They were the preferred bidder for Mid Suffolk and loswich.

The preferred bidder for Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury had not been announced but would probalby be The Voluntary Network.

David said that it was good that community transport had stayed with the voluntary sector and not gone to commercial organisations.

The contracts start on June 13th 2016.

In the meantime it is business as usual.

BSEVC had received funding to provide support groups and programmes for people with menatl ill health and for carers,

Gatehouse

Amanda Bloomfield reported that they had had a very busy Christmas. 400 food hampers had been distributed and 100 people served Christmas Lunch.

Gatehouse are becoming a Dementia Hub for Bury St Edmunds. An event was held to get ideas for services.

Funding needed to change rooms upstairs to counselling rooms for

KS/JC

1:1 support. This is likely to be a free servcie and Amanda would like it to start immediately.

The room is available for meetings but at preent there is no lift access.

Junction 10 CIC

Mandy Horne reported that the CIC has just started and they are looking for premises in Bury St Edmunds town centre.7They are working with Suffolk County Council to provide services for young people.

If you know of any premises please contact Mandy; mandy.horne@hotmail.co.uk

9. West Suffolk Locality VASP prioroties

Personal budgets and the Care Act

Transition youth menatl health going into adult services

Dual diagnosis

10. Dates of future meetings

Tuesday 10th May 2016, Haverhill, venue tbc

Tuesday 12th July 2016, Mildenhall, venue tbc

Tuesday 13th September 2016, Thetford, venue tbc

Tuesday 15th November 2016, venue tbc

11. AOB

Julia Carr reminded everyone of the monthly newsletter and it had a good read rate and over 200 subscribers, so a good way to publicise activities etc.

Any articles send to Julia: vasp@bsevc.co.uk or Franca Wade: vasp@bsevc.co.uk

Date of next meeting Thursday March 2016 Gatehouse, Dettingen Way, Bury St Edmunds NB The room is upstairs with no lift access.

Present:

Hazel Pidsley (HP)

Jacqui Fairley

Karen Jackson

Chairman

NSFT

NSFT

Emman McDougall Havebury Housing Partnership

Dan Pennock Healthwatch Suffolk

Kate Sparks Shaw Trust
David Finn BSEVC

Julia Carr (JC) VASP co-ordinator

Jo Streeton Cambridge Pringle Group

Chris Eves	Cambridge Pringle Group	
Gill Peat	Age UK Suffolk	
Lizzi Cocker	FHDC/St EdsBC	
Melanie Smith	Sunset Barn Care Farm	
Colin Leonard	NSFT	
Peter Devlin	SCC	
Amanda Bloomfield	Gatehouse	
Mandy Horne	Junction10 CIC	
Jon Eaton	Community Action Suffolk	
Apologies		
Frances Allen	Turning Point	
Brenda Crichton	Age UK Suffolk	
Carl Coughlin		
Sarah Bradbury	SWCAB	
Wendy Shepherd	SUF	
Sara Flowers	NSFT	
Richard Baldwin	FHDC/St Eds BC	
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