

TAMWORTH VCSE FORUM

Monday 28 June 2021 10:00am - 12.00pm

Online via Zoom

Present

Clare Jolly, James Flintham, Lisa Carson and Louise Summerfield (Support Staffordshire), Martin Peake (Beat The Cold), Julie Cappleman-Morgan (Dig-it), Rob Morgan (Dig-it & Moorgate Action Group), Lee Bates (Community Together CIC), Jemima England (NEST Newborn and Expecting Services), Richard Green (Staffordshire REMAP), Tom Pratt (Evolve for CASES), Derek Hoey (Healthwatch Staffordshire), Ali Betteridge, Engagement Lead (UHDB covering Tamworth), Philip Mantom (WEA covering Stoke and Staffordshire), Jackie Hodgkinson (Tamworth Borough Council), Stephanie Lee (SCC Staffordshire Connects)

Apologies

Amanda Heaton, Zoe Williams, Etheline Deer

1 Welcome and introductions

Clare Jolly welcomed everyone to the forum and everybody introduced themselves to each other.

2. Covid Response and Recovery in Tamworth and Tamworth Wellbeing Partnership – Lee Bates

In the first lockdown a partnership was pulled together to respond to the needs of the community during the pandemic including with food deliveries, medication pick-ups, befriending calls and general enquiries for advice and signposting. This was for 6 months and was lottery funded. As a partnership each brought something different to the table. One in five Tamworth residents received support with over £1 million pounds in social value from given by volunteers.

Moving forward there was a feeling of how to capture the good practice in that partnership to focus on issues that existed before the pandemic e.g. mental health with organisations who specialise in those areas, working together. The Tamworth Wellbeing Partnership was formed to see how the sector could respond quickly to emerging and existing issues how this working could help to facilitate this. Statutory organisation and Support Staffordshire are part of the partnership which is led by the voluntary sector. Lee is currently chairing the partnership with other VCSE groups able to take a leading role.

The Wellbeing partnership came out of Covid and was separate to the Covid response group, but pulls together organisations to do something on a one off or ongoing basis including the ability to make applications for funding. It is the link between the Tamworth Partnership Coordination Group (strategic) and the VCSE Forum (voluntary sector staff and volunteers).

3 Everyone Health – Zoe Williams

Zoe gave her apologies but her presentation is attached here. Please contact Zoe direct if you have any questions.



VCSE online forum
Powerpoint May 202

4 Support Staffordshire Updates and introductions by new staff

Lisa Carson – has been Fundraising Development Manager since November last year in a completely new role. Support Staffordshire looking to be more robust by diversifying income, to bring in unrestricted income from individuals, business and schools. Organising Challenge events that have been very popular. Not seeking to conflict with any other fundraising going on locally.

Contact details: lisa.carson@supportstaffordshire.org.uk,
www.supportstaffordshiretogether.org.uk,

Links to the social media pages can be found on the website!

Louise Summerfield – is Development Officer for Community Mental Health transformation, role funded by CCGs across Staffordshire within North Staffs and MPFT. The idea of the transformation is make the journey from Primary to Secondary care more person centred. There is a role for the voluntary sector in this, with some funding written in the programme. A pilot project for three years and initially focussing on service users with severe mental health issues. Funding is available to plug the gaps in current services. A newsletter will be going out in the next few weeks containing more details about local people involved in the mental health transformation. A mental health forum will be created in the next few months. A real move towards a legacy for building a better relationship between the health service and the voluntary sector and building long term systems to do that.

James Flintham – is a Community Officer and current work is looking at health inequalities for the South East Staffordshire Integrated Care Partnership, which contains representatives from health, statutory and the voluntary sector.

Clare Jolly – Senior Locality Officer – talked about restart funding available for groups that need it; training offer - Lets Work Together and Supportive Communities training. Clare also congratulated everybody on the recent virtual Star Awards. Well done to all that were nominated and won awards. Trophies will be delivered shortly.

5 Network and Sharing - positive news, changes in service and anything else that organisations want to talk about

Dig-it would be celebrating their 10th anniversary this year. Giving information advice and support to children and adults around dyslexia and helping people to discover their skills and talents. Lockdowns meant less work to do. Reluctantly Julie and Rob have made the decision to leave Tamworth for family reasons. Most volunteers were working or otherwise unable to take the group forward so have decided to wind up the group and are distributing resources to other groups. If anybody needs advice for dyslexia information assessment and support please signpost to Dyslexia Association of Staffordshire (DAS):<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/service.page?id=TU7pqJOTATQ>

Thank you to everybody for all your support over the years.

Moorgate Action Group was formed to save the use of Moorgate School site in Tamworth. As Julie and Rob are moving away from Tamworth, other people who are involved in MAG may decide to continue or possibly it will also wind down as well.

Beat the Cold after a two year absence BTC are now working again with Tamworth Borough Council with anybody who is vulnerable to cold, often because of income related reasons and in private rented properties. They are bringing free energy efficiency measures across the County for things like first time gas central heating insulation and solar panels. Information on the Staffordshire Warmer Homes website:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Warmer-Homes/Staffordshire-Warmer-Homes.aspx>

Citizens Advice South East Staffordshire are continuing to give advice, as it has done remotely for the last 15 months. They run an advice line every day between 9am and 5pm that will be answered. Also offer advice by email and webchat and specialist services including debt and energy advice and the help to claim line. www.casestaffs.org.uk Adviceline: 0808 278 7977

CASES are delivering for the Evolve programme that helps people to overcome barriers and help them back towards the job market. As things pick up more people will be wanting to get back into work and this could include finding courses, preparing CVs, job interview skills and dealing with any other practical issues such as claiming benefits.

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia run the Advice Centre and are based in Marmion House. Both services operating in Tamworth.

University Hospitals Derby & Burton The team is largely back in its roles after being redeployed for most of the last year. They are restoring services while still ensuring infection control measures are in place. Looking how to

restore services including out-patient appointments and patient engagement. For further information contact: alison.betteridge1@nhs.net

Together We're Better are organising a virtual midwifery services engagement event/workshop on Friday 16th July, 10am to 12pm. To book a place or for more details contact: twb.comms@nhs.net or visit bit.ly/MaternityWorkshop

NEST Supporting mothers with their mental health – have managed to relocate some of their sessions to Sacred Heart Church in Glascoate. Jermimah asked a question with regards to getting the latest advice.

Staffordshire REMAP have carried on with projects during lock down, including one handrail for a person outside of their house. Attending the VCSE forums raises the profile of what they can do and if you know someone who has a disability and is in need of something to meet their needs please contact them. They are always in need of more volunteers.

For more information on The Staffordshire Remap Panel contact the Chairman, Richard Green, on 01283-791611 or email richardjgreen13@gmail.com
For work requests contact Staffordshire.Referrals@remapgroups.org.uk

Staffordshire County Council are looking for feedback on the main Staffordshire County Council website for the adult social care section of the website. If you can, please fill in our form –

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=TdGsJLuS1kS7qO2z0DgTzYprP_g2E-1HvYQ8g8YWXQtUQVhOWVJaN1VYS0o5UEU5RzBKNEhHTkdTMC4u

We are working to keep the Staffordshire Connects website as up to date as possible, so if you have a listing, please ensure you log onto your account and make sure your listing is up to date. If you haven't got a listing, but think your organisation may benefit from having a listing, please feel free to register on our website - www.staffordshireconnects.info

Tamworth Borough Council are hoping to launch Councillor Grants and the community arts and funding grants from 1st August. Information will be updated on the Council website when the funding pots are open again and will be shared by Support Staffordshire.

Community Together - Are going face to face with befriending service from Monday 5th July and also a bespoke form filling service to help people fill by appointment benefit claims, housing apps, blue badge forms anything to support people our team have level 2 information advice and guidance qualification for both services you can contact Karen 07767 116 457 or Amanda 07722 995 753

(I'll send Clare the flyers for both to circulate 🖨)

Offer a meals on wheels service freshly cooked and delivered on a Monday Wednesday and Thursday to book 01827 59646. The Tamworth Telephone Support Line is also available on the same number.

6 AOB and Close

As there was no other business the meeting closed with Clare asking people to complete evaluations when they come through and asked for suggestions for themes or speakers for future forums. The group wished Rob and Julie well.

Please see below link to complete the evaluation.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjpBJXLPFoLwhVz6vAQe0mn890tNQCSBLO6wtcCmnUQ9fTDQ/viewform>

Completing the evaluation enables us to provide what you want so that you get the most from your time attending the forum.

7 DATE OF NEXT FORUM: September 2021 – to be confirmed