

# Chairman's Diary June and July 2013

## 3 June

Jo from Meta to discuss away day

### WV Board Meeting

#### 6 June

South Worcs CCG Patient and Stakeholder Advisory Group (with John Taylor of CF/WAVOCC)

Discussions around Youth engagement – Helen Perry leads for CCG: highlighted need to listen not preach; looking at different models of communication – eg Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/swccgyouthvoice">https://www.facebook.com/swccgyouthvoice</a>

Volunteering Research Meeting with Suzy James, DS, RQ and Lorna

## 12 June

Meeting with Derek Markie (and Lorna) re board membership

## 13 June

**Opportunity Vale of Evesham** - Met with David Manning the manager – update on history of Area of Highest Need project

Outcomes: some very useful insights into volunteering in small village communities – roles of 'Community Connectors' (eg newsagent) in being at hub of community and knowing about people. Lots of 'offers' already there from various statutory / voluntary organisations – need for some 'local' coordination – they have not felt 'need to spend' – Involvement in our Volunteering Research

#### 14 June

Met Justin Daniels to provide support in his role as VCS ambassador on Adult Safeguarding Executive.

#### 19 June

**EU Funding Workshop** – briefing on the complexities of EU Funding – LEP looking forward to Lorna's engagement – a long way to go before any money likely to come to the sector – the LEP require to engage with VCS / SE.

#### 27 June

**Wyre Forest CCG VCS Event** – Good support from diverse group of vol orgs (Jim Smith attended) John Taylor on 'Team' – this group are not as advanced as in South Worcestershire – at the start of the journey to properly engage VCS.

One delegate thought the CCG should set up a Virtual Voices Discussion Group – I said WV was underway with that and we could have an independent discussion group – on stream in autumn.

Plans to have further event in September before the priority setting process begins so VCS can contribute.

**Safer Communities Policy and Commissioning Group** – attended as we still have not recruited ambassador for the group. Very focussed on statutory partners and the North and South Community Safety Plans. Some uncertainty around the continued role as it was not clear what direction the PCC was taking things.

## 28 June

**Shenstone** – Areas of Highest Need briefing (Shenstone members are champions for one of the six projects); Worcestershire's Image (guest did not attend due to injury); Next Generation – progress report – employing a marketing company to lead the launch in autumn.

Ist July WV Board Meeting

8 July WV Away Day

## **23 July**

Website development – with Cat, Lindsay Penistone (WVC) and Matt Lennard (CF)

## 25 July

Bumped into **Bill Longmore**, **PCC** – He told me he is planning a celebration event at Hindlip Hall on 30 September 2014 (yes 2014!) to recognise work in communities (I think). He will be in touch with me to get the VCS involved.

Recorded answers to questions for Next Generation Launch

## 30th July

**Meet with Sarah Dugan, Chief Exec of Health and Care Trust** – follow up to letter circulated to stakeholders.

She had met with John Taylor (CF/WAVOCC) and wanted to understand the role of WV.

She is very appreciative of the role of volunteers – much more volunteering in Worcs than in Dudley . Told her WV had just undertaken volunteering research – gave her the executive summary but report not approved by the board - would provide full report when approved.

She says she thinks there is suspicion from VCS that the Trust want to take over – looking at ways to overcome that and build up proper partnership. Offer of venue for meetings at the facility in Bromsgrove. Interested in our plans – she has 11,000 members in membership scheme and feels many will be volunteers – might be possibility of cross linkages at some point. Agreed to keep in touch.

## 5th August

**Meet with Chris Fearns, Director of Strategic Development, Acute Hospitals Trust** - Follow up from letter

Keen to look for ways to work with sector – interested in the benefits of the single voices website / voices panel. Concerned going forward about the number of older patients taking up beds – not sustainable. Keen to work with all of the Health Economy and WCC and Vol sector to look at sustainable solutions.

Also considering transport issues and how to make services accessible to those patients and relatives who come to one of the hospitals – again elderly people may not be able to get there themselves. Again sees solution as being rooted across sectors. Interested in volunteering and also support in kind – eg allowing use of entrance areas for displays, use of training rooms for meetings etc. I agreed I would let her have the volunteering report and keep her informs about the web developments.