



Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum - 13th January 2025

Present

Allison Potter	Chesterfield Borough Council
Roz Smith	Chesterfield Borough Council
Cllr. Judy Staton	Chesterfield Borough Council
Rachel Smith	Life Coach
Marita Wood	Ashgate Hospice
Liz Allam	Ashgate Hospice
Karen Sheriff	Building Bridges in the Community
Lesley Winnard	Workpays Chesterfield
Kath Topliss	Peaky Blinders
Karen Sansom	Bolsover Woodlands
Jo Gascgoine	Social Prescriber
Annette Bentley	
Karen Lawson	Social Prescriber
Dawn McKenzie	Citizens Advice
Melissa Lines	NHS
Rachael Dammarell	Worth
Pamela Williams	Derbyshire Carers
Dena Parsons	Chesterfield Coop
Michele Young	

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>Allison opened the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves. Apologies were received from Sarah Roy, Ian Edmundson, Zoe Bendelow, Tracey Keepings Crummack, Rachael Bunting, Helen Rhodes, Jayne Priestley, Shirley Niblock, Tim Adwick, Alex Fawbert, Sarah Lowe, Sadie Betts, Kayleigh Topliss.</p>	
<p>2. Sarah Lowe – Derbyshire Federation for Mental Health</p> <p>Unfortunately Sarah was unable to attend this meeting, so we will see her at a future meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Lesley Winnard – Workpays Chesterfield</p> <p>Workpays have funding from UKSPF (which ends in March) to work with people from aged 16+, to offer work readiness support and training. The centre is on Newbold Road (next to the old Scarsdale hospital), open 10am to 4pm. On Tuesdays they work with NEETS (16-24). The programme is for eight weeks, with a follow up and possible referring on to another service at</p>	

	<p>the end so support continues. The scheme is called 'Back on Track'. Other funded support includes 'The Multiply', set up to help with numeracy skills for anyone who is working or unemployed aged 19+. Training is also provided for digital skills, digital online awareness, work practical/preparation, fire safety, manual handling and food safety. These sessions can be delivered in the community to groups. They also have adult courses for literacy and maths. Workpays will be working with Gullivers Kingdom, to help with their recruitment in February offering a Customer Service Level 1. They can also help other businesses who are wanting to recruit.</p> <p>If anyone would like to contact Lesley her email address is: Lesley.Winnard@workpays.co.uk</p> <p>Dena Parson (Coop) mentioned that their larger stores have training rooms available, free of charge, for people to use. Dena's email address is: dena.parsons@centralcoop.co.uk</p>	
4.	<p>Karen Sheriff – Building Bridges</p> <p>Building Bridges started from an idea in 2023, from Karen's own personal experience of being isolated through illness. In March 2024, the first meeting at Chesterfield Library took place. Meetings are relaxed, non-judgemental and in a space where people are made welcome. The group sessions are led by what the attendees want to talk about. Building Bridges receive some small grants to facilitate running costs. By August 2024 Building Bridges was a constituted support group. A fundraiser last year raised £500, and they will be doing another in May 2025. The key focus is on supporting people with disabilities and accessibility requirements; bringing people out of isolation and who are feeling lonely. The group gets involved in campaigns and their ethos is to use positive language. Derbyshire Law Centre are doing some work with network rail, re accessibility and Karen is going to go along as a volunteer to advise. Building Bridges have a website; www.buildingbridgesinthecommunity.org and they are also on Facebook. They meet every other Tuesday, 12:30pm-1:30pm at the Library in Chesterfield. The next meeting is 21st January 2025.</p>	
5.	<p>2024-25 events:</p> <p>HMD – 'for a better future'</p> <p>HMD is Monday, 27th January. Three schools and Tupton youth group have joined in with 'Peace Rocks' where the students can paint something positive in relation to HMD on a stone, ie words or a picture about peace, etc. On the back we have written the website address www.chesterfield.gov.uk/hmd for people to log onto, and discover more about HMD. There are resource packs for the schools and youth group to explain HMD. We also have the online book of condolence, and the actual book of condolence is in the main reception at the Town Hall. Allison will share details of any online sessions which she finds that are taking place on the day.</p> <p>International Women's Day</p> <p>For IWD we are linking in with the Museum and Chesterfield College. The Museum are holding an 'extraordinary women' exhibition at the college from 21st February, until 28th March. The college is also doing an art project 'If the shoe fits', about women and inclusion. This year our IWD event is taking place on Friday, 7th March at The West Studios, Sheffield Road. Teresa</p>	

	<p>Waldron, Deafinitely Women will be attending to do a talk on Friday, 7th March starting at 10am. Dena Parsons kindly said they can provide a donation for the pastries and tea and coffee.</p> <p>In addition there will be an 'inclusive hands' artwork piece for attendees to contribute to.</p>	
6.	<p>Update from Climate Change Forum</p> <p>No update at present.</p> <p>If anyone would like to be part of the Chesterfield Climate Change Forum then please contact climate@chesterfield.gov.uk.</p>	
7.	<p>Minutes of last meeting</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.</p>	
8.	<p>Organisation / group updates</p> <p>Rachael Dammarell, Worth; they are providing holistic 1:1 sessions, and also self defence, dance groups etc all within school time, term time. It is a safe space for ladies who have been through domestic violence.</p> <p>Karen Sansom; Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise is a work based learning project, set up over 20 years ago. Funding from DCC comes to an end at the end of March 2025. They will have to become a charging service for the future, but not sure how this will work yet.</p> <p>Karen Sadler, Social Prescriber; Thanked everyone who got involved with a 'moment in our shoes' event. Karen is also involved in the Chesterfield Community Roast, a group of people who get together and cook a Sunday roast, once a month, for around 60-100 attendees, free of charge. It's at Whittington Moor Methodist Church, every second Sunday of the month, next one 9th February.</p> <p>Pain support group, supported by Social Prescribers, meets once a fortnight, and there are around 60 members. You can also find them on Facebook; Pain Inspired Chesterfield. The next meeting is on Thursday, 23rd January, at 10:30am-12noon at Whittington Moor Methodist Church.</p> <p>Dena Parsons, Coop, wants to provide sessions on cooking with slow cookers, and at the end of the session they take the slow cookers, and a food bag home with them. Cadent gas provide slow cookers to Citizens Advice and do provide help in the community so it would be worth contacting them.</p> <p>Pamela Williams, Derbyshire Carers; If you have any events, or identify people who are carers through your roles, please refer them onto Derbyshire Carers.</p> <p>Liz Allam, Ashgate Hospice – the bereavement service for children and young people has recently been expanded.</p> <p>Kath Topliss, Peaky Blinders; the next meeting is on Wednesday, 15th January at Soresby Street Café at 12 noon. The Macular group are next meeting on 29th January at Central Methodist at 2pm.</p>	
9.	<p>Any other business</p>	

	None	
10.	Dates of the next meeting Monday 3 rd March 10.30am (planning for the year) Committee Room 2 Monday 12 th May 10.30am Committee Room 5 Monday 21 st July 1pm Committee Room 5 Monday 15 th September 1pm Committee Room 5 Monday 24 th November 10am Committee Room 5 Monday 12 th January 10am Committee Room 5	