



Bucks Older Peoples Action Group
Meeting 18th March 2022 10am
Christ the Servant King, Sycamore Road, High Wycombe

Attendees:

Alan Barnard – BOPAG Chairman Marlow bottom Valley Plus
David Whittaker – BOPAG Vice Chairman
Paula Watts – BOPAG Administrator
Stuart Smith (CSPA) BOPAG Treasurer
John Betts - (Stokenchurch) STOPAG
Marian Mulady – Local resident
Ros Shorrocks – Age UK
Linda Richards – BEFAB Burnham/Marlow Groups
Janet Kenny – OASIS Group Old Amersham
Wendy Healy – Woodland Manor
Michelle Bewley – ARC PCN Social Prescriber
Emma Richardson – Extra Care at Hughenden Village
Belinda Barlow – Extra Care at Hughenden Village
Jane Osborn Lane End OPAG
Chris Blake – Valley Plus member
Tracey Huxley – Repair Café
Maddy Howe – Repair Café
Heather Wilde – BEC Market
Debbie Darby – BEC Market

Apologies:

Chris Stanners (Dignity Champion)
Phil Folly (COPAG)
Barbara Richardson (COPAG)
Karoline Lamb – Chalfont St Giles Group
Jenny Cassidy – Voices and Choices
Mike McDonald –
Hannah Blatchley – Live Well Stay Well
Hannah Munn -The 50 Plus
Ann Standen – The Advocacy People
Annie Roy-Barker – Marlow Rotary Club
Joyce Melia – Local resident
Dementia Action Marlow
Makyla Devlin – Community Board Bucks Council
Natalie Judson – Community Board Bucks Council
Shila Odedra – Oxford Aunts
Barbara Poole

1. Alan Barnard welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced our speakers from the Repair Café.
2. Maddy Howe (MH) and Tracey Huxley gave an interesting and informative talk about how the Repair cafes started and some of the items that they have managed to repair for customers. They are supported by Bucks council and have 8 groups operating across Buckinghamshire and more Pop-ups planned.
3. Question and Answers followed; Chris Blake asked where the donations go. MH explained that they cover any costs, and the balance is split with the Church and Friends Of The Earth charity. Linda Richards wanted to raise that they need to justify where the money goes more specifically as people will need to be assured. Linda also asked if they were involved with Men in Sheds group. MH explained that they were in contact and work together and they are not taking any business or members away from them. Paula Watts asked where they get their repairers from. MH explained that she uses social media sites, Nextdoor in particular had been successful. Stuart Smith asked if they repair Bicycles. MH explained that they haven't had a request for one yet and they are not insured for off-site visits for larger items, but they could put applicants in touch with more specialist repairers. People should always check first before bringing any larger items directly to any repair café. Michelle Bewley and the Extra Care team from Hughenden Village asked if they would come and speak for their groups too, the answer was yes.
4. **Notices: BEC Market- Heather Wilde and Debbie Darby** – The Bourne End Community Market runs once per month and now features a new Wellbeing Hub for all sections of the community. The Parish council has given BEC a grant to offer this facility. The Wellbeing Hub offers 5 representatives from voluntary wellbeing groups at each one. They are currently looking for more groups to sign up. They are soon to launch their website. Paula to supply the BOPAG Hoot magazine for the Hub each month. David Whittaker has been to one and was very positive about it and mentioned the networking was fantastic. Local councillors are always at this market so a great opportunity to talk to them about any issues or ideas for improvement in the local areas.
5. **Follow up from matters arising from last meeting;** DW talked about the A4 leaflet 'Not on the Computer' that Holly Whittaker and her group have been working on. He bought it with him to show everyone. Has been distributed in the Bourne End area and can be amended to suit other areas and needs to have the local practice managers approval. DW to share with members and PW to share via Hoot.
6. **Any Other Business** – PW mentioned the GYFID at Princes Risborough on 8th April. See Poster and Park and Ride details attached. AB mentioned the Bucks News magazine and showed it to all present. It is run by the Marlow Film Studios, general discussion followed.

Alan Barnard invited all present to update on progress within their groups.

Wendy Healy mentioned a raffle that Woodland Manor are holding to support throughout March at all Porthaven Care Homes, they have been raising funds for the #daffodilappeal and they join Marie Curie UK in their #nationaldayofreflection. Wendy also wanted to mention how much her residents enjoyed being involved in the Zoom talk BOPAG offered in January and what a positive experience it was to bring the outside in, considering everyone was having to stay safe due to COVID.

Linda Richards mentioned not everyone is able to use digital technology and a general discussion followed on this subject. Wendy mentioned she had someone from Age Concern who may be able to help and will pass their name onto Linda.

Chris Blake mentioned the local library in Marlow but said it was usually empty, but he uses it extensively.

Janet Kenny from Oasis mentioned they had lost a lot of members due to COVID and loss of confidence. The Amersham Action Group have an event on 2nd April - Community Group and Volunteering Fair and hopes to attract more members.

Michelle Bewley ARC PCN social prescriber introduced herself and is keen to network with groups in the community and can share information with other social prescribers in different areas too. PW to keep in contact and share info in the HOOT.

2022 Meeting dates - face to face meeting Friday 20th May – Funding Speaker CIB.