

Tendring Older People's Forum (TOPF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 3 February 2012
at Weeley Council Offices

Present:

Jean Allen (JA)	Home Instead (Chair)
Sharon Alexander (SA)	Community Voluntary Services Tendring (Minutes)
Cathie Lockhart (CL)	Essex County Council
Dave McLeod (DM)	Harwich Town Council
Vivien Chapman (VM)	Brightlingsea Town Council
Gill Burden (GB)	Tendring District Council
Brian Thomasson (BT)	Community Voluntary Services Tendring
Marianne Telfer (MT)	Primary Care UK
Simba Chandiwana (SC)	Anglian Community Enterprise – Falls Prevention Service
Marion Fowler (MF)	Age Concern Clacton Lunch Club
Barbara Atkins (BA)	Age Concern Clacton Lunch Club
Valerie Reiser (VR)	Alzheimers Society Tendring
Ron Hiller (RH)	Essex Guardians
Stephanie Blackman (SB)	Home Instead

1.	Welcome and Introductions The Chair, JA, welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the guest speaker Ron Hiller of Essex Guardians.	
2.	Apologies Peggy Muddiman, Pauline Mann, Natalie Emmerson, David Eniffer, Gerald Wallington Hayes,	
3.	Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 25 November 2011 Approved as a true record.	
4.	Matters arising i) Jean Allen (JA) highlighted the need for the forum to look at raising funds to cover our costs and that the Council's Big Society fund may be a potential source. ii) JA confirmed a letter had been sent to the CEO TDC re: innovative ideas for housing, and she had received a reply stating that the forums' request had been forwarded to Gary Guiver, Planning Department, who will be contacting JA shortly to discuss the forums' ideas in more detail. iii) Dave McLeod (DM) reported that there had been some repairs made to the A120 however the road is not adequate for present and future use. He had contacted 3 MPs and not received a response. Vivien Chapman (VC) stated that Bernard Jenkins MP had met with the local community.	Action: JA/GB to explore this further and report to next meeting. Action: JA to liaise with Gary Guiver

<p>5.</p>	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>i) JA reported that she had contacted the Gazette re: report from last meeting.</p> <p>ii) The letter had been submitted to TDC re: TDC to consider inclusion of planning for an intergenerational complex designed for older people and families as seen in our twin town in Biberach. The dwellings can be for either renting and/or purchasing.</p> <p>iii) JA has met with Gill Burden re: older people's questionnaire and liaised with the Gazette.</p> <p>iv) JA has met with Gill and Sharon to organise arrangements for the TOPF Open Day on 30th March.</p> <p>v) JA met with Age UK re: assisted living in the Frinton area; this is ongoing.</p> <p>vi) JA reported that she was endeavouring to recruit a volunteer secretary for the forum. If anyone is interested in receiving more details to contact Jean.</p> <p>vii) As part of her work with the nurse consultants in the Elderly Care Unit, Colchester Hospital, JA has met with Helen Edmondson. Helen works alongside Louise Notley, the latter coming to speak to the forum May 2012. Helen took Jean to meet staff and have a tour of Birch Ward. JA was shown how they are providing good care and that there is a system in place for staff to report every two hours and this is left at a patients' bed. The checklist includes whether the patient needs toileting, medication, meals, liquids etc. If the patient needs assistance with eating, a red flag is on the patient's records. JA was impressed with the care given and emphasised the need to promote good news and to report on best practice. DM suggested a letter be sent to Colchester Hospital reflecting the forums' views.</p> <p>viii) A report had been received from Future East and circulated.</p> <p>ix) JA met with the Tendring Citizen's Guide to ensure publicity for the forum.</p>	<p>Action: GB to chase up Gazette Editor re: distribution of questionnaire</p> <p>Action: JA to re-distribute publicity flyers for the Open Day. JA to publish in Gazette.</p> <p>Action: Publicise need for volunteer secretary</p> <p>Action: JA to send letter to Colchester Hospital on behalf of the Forum</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report To be reported on at next meeting</p>	<p>Action: RT</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Guest speaker: Ron Hiller, Essex Guardians (EG) Essex Guardians was previously known as the Receivership Department. It has recently been refreshed and rebranded with a view to give best care for Adult Safeguarding and ensuring those who are unable to manage their finances are given the best possible service. EG offers a range of financial services. <i>A short film was presented.</i> Essex Guardians not only deliver this service in Essex but is also offering to deliver this across the UK. EG has partnered with Lloyds TSB to offer a broad range of financial services for</p>	

	<p>vulnerable older people whose family are unable to care for them and the care provider usually has a conflict of interest. EG step in when there is nobody else to manage a vulnerable persons' finances. Care providers have been very keen to offload this responsibility and many care providers operate across the UK, hence the service has expanded. Staff are trained in safeguarding, benefits, financial management and the service liaises with police and other services in instances of abuse or financial irregularity.</p> <p>Issues include people under claiming or over claiming, etc. EG takes people under a court protection order and this is given when a client does not have the mental capacity to manage their assets and financial affairs. EG are accountable to the courts and the person is deemed incapable by a GP. EG manages a person's finances as though they were their own. They act as a persons' bank, distribute cash cards and the person is able to access pocket money on a weekly basis. A person's assets for example, jewellery, is also managed properly - if a person has to go into a residential home and they will need to sell their jewellery, EG will receive several quotes. They are a non-profit organisation and charge fees to pay staff and overheads, however if a person cannot pay, EG don't take the fee.</p> <p>There are currently 28 staff managing 1800 clients, and this is rapidly expanding. EG are able to do tax returns and the team are able to do this without accountants. When EG discover financial abuse, it is reported and when a client is taken on, EG look at their affairs over the previous few years.</p> <p>EG charges a flat fee of £600 and second year from £300-£700. Third year is based on percentage of person's assets.</p> <p>EG can recommend a court order to deal with a person's finances rather than a power of attorney as a power of attorney would limit their freedom and can be given to only one person, however court order awards the responsibility to a 'body'. For more information go to: www.essexguardians.co.uk or telephone 01245 434098.</p> <p>JA thanked Ron for the presentation.</p>	
8	<p>Update on Survey of Older People through the Gazette JA has liaised with the new editor who was positive about the questionnaire and JA subsequently met with the reporter David Lambert to establish when it will be going out and whether it will be published in the <i>County Standard</i> and <i>Harwich and Manningtree Standard</i></p>	<p>Action: GB to chase up gazette editor</p>
9	<p>Planning for the Open Meeting JA reported that she had met with GB and SA to plan arrangements for the Open Day. There will be two guest speakers - Dr Mike Gogarty ECC/NHS, and Andrew Gardner, Age UK. Gill Burden reported that representatives from Essex Police would be attending to answer questions on community safety. Dan Land, Tendring Community College will be in attendance and there will be a TDC</p>	<p>Action: all to promote and publicise the event within their organisation; to friends, colleagues and service-users.</p>

	<p>Benefits representative and a representative from Trading Standards. JA emphasised that there will be opportunities for all to ask the panel questions so please think about questions to be asked and to bring promotional leaflets as there will be a space set aside for this.</p> <p>.</p>	<p><i>Flyers to be sent to parish councils, county council, community centres.</i></p>
10	<p>Discussion regarding finances of forum and membership fees JA highlighted the need to raise funds to support the running costs of the forum. It was agreed that it would be inappropriate to charge a membership fee as it may exclude people. She asked for ideas for income generation. DM suggested the forum apply to TDC for funds. Simba Chandiwana (SC) stated that membership fees may exclude some members. He said that Colchester Borough Council supports the Colchester Older People's Forum and that TDC may therefore support this forum. SA suggested meeting with CVST Funding Advisor.</p>	<p>Action: JA/GB to apply to TDC</p> <p>JA to meet with Karen Tedder-Ward</p>
11	<p>Reports from members</p> <p>Alzheimers Society: Valerie Reiser (VR) reported that she had attended the Brennell Wood Care Home at Walton on the Naze, who have launched an Alzheimers drop-in and a lunch club for older people which is an excellent facility. VR has also met with the Admiral Specialist Nurses who go "live" in February. There are two specialist nurses for people with mental health and dementia and cover the area of Colchester and Tendring.</p> <p>Age Concern Marion Fowler (MF) Age Concern reported they had a very successful Christmas and Boxing Day lunch. Regrettably lunch prices have risen to £3.50 due to rising costs of food, and membership fees are £1.</p> <p>Home Instead Stephanie Blackman (SB) spoke about the Falls Free plan which is about protecting independence for older people and reducing risks of falling and encouraging older people to adapt their home to be 'fall free'. Home Instead have sponsored the brochures and are pleased to say they are being given out at Clacton Hospital and are being considered by the Falls Prevention Team at Colchester Hospital.</p> <p>Anglian Community Enterprise (ACE) Simba Chandiwana Falls Prevention Service is open to anyone (01206 518522) and patients can refer themselves. Tendring District Council's overview and scrutiny committee are currently looking into falls prevention as the district has a high population of older people and the report will be available at the end of March.</p> <p>Primary Care UK Currently updating our website and Facebook page. This week PCUK has been considering contingency plans for bad weather.</p>	

	<p>Tendring District Council Gill Burden TDC is currently recruiting a Community Development worker for Manningtree Foundry Court.</p> <p>David McLeod reported that some buses may be reducing services and this would have an impact on access.</p> <p>Brian Thomasson highlighted the automated pill dispenser. JA reported that the automatic pill dispenser pilot is a clever gadget and loaded by a trained pharmacist. It is very useful for those who take multiple pills and can be connected to Careline. More details available on the CVST TOPF webpage: http://www.cvstendring.org.uk/older-peoples-forum.html</p> <p>Community Voluntary Services Tendring Sharon Alexander promoted the next meeting of the Voluntary Sector Partnership will be held on Tuesday 14 February and Dr Carla Mahmoud, Clinical Lead for Patient and Public Engagement will be the guest speaker. There will also be a short film about the work of the Virtual Ward.</p> <p>There will be a Community Network Breakfast next Friday at 9am which is open to all.</p> <p>Sharon reported the launch of a new pilot : the Empowerment and Self-care service which is a service for people with long term conditions and designed to facilitate people to gain knowledge about their condition and therefore increase their confidence to self manage their condition and to be more independent. Conditions such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Chronic Asthma, pregnant women with Asthma, Hypertension with Chronic Kidney Disease and Coronary Heart Disease. For more information, contact Vivienne Davies, Service Manager on 01255 425692 for details on the accessing the service or for volunteering opportunities as a Well-Being Mentor.</p>	
	<p><i>JA thanked everyone for attending and hope that the information has been helpful.</i></p>	
	<p align="center">Date of next meeting: 10am Friday 30 March Open Meeting @ Weeley Council Offices Please contact admin@cvstendring.org.uk or 01255 425692 to confirm attendance or tender apologies</p>	