

Ageing Well Network
 Tuesday 20th July 2010, 1.30pm- 3.30pm
 Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club, Nantymoel

Present	
Rachel Rowlands (Chair) (RR)	Age Concern Morgannwg
Doreen Gunning (DG)	Bridgend and District Hearing Impaired Support Group
Enid Lock (EL)	Nantymoel Luncheon Club
Roxane Dacey (Minutes) (RD)	BAVO
Jane Questle (JQ)	Crossroads Care
Allen Chilcott (AC)	OTED
Muriel Howells (MuH)	U3A
Isobel Hunt (IH)	RSVP
Vic Gilbert (VG)	SHOUT
Nadia Ramsahye (NR)	Bridgend Carers Centre
Chris Rayner (CR)	SHOUT
In Attendance	
Mike Hurst (MH)	(Community Transport Development Officer) BAVO
Sheryll Holley (SH)	Speech to Text Interpreter
Apologies	
Rena Sweeny (RS)	Care and Repair
Geoff Hill (GH)	Alzheimer's Society
Kay Harris (KH)	Age Concern Morgannwg
Mo Williams (MW)	SHOUT
Verdun Price (VP)	SHOUT

1. Introductions and Apologies

Introductions made and apologies noted.

VG brought to the network's attention that DG had recently received an MBE; DG was congratulated on this achievement.

2. Speaker: Mike Hurst (Community Transport Development Officer, BAVO)

MH is part-time at BAVO as the Community Transport Development Officer. The role is to develop effective and affordable community transport for Bridgend County. MH role does not have any influence over commercial companies. Currently the main provider of community transport in Bridgend County is OTED, which is well run but has limitations in development of services due to its existing constitution. MH and AC are keen to develop the OTED provision to include a wider client group; in particular those that are living either on the valleys.

The network discussed the issues regarding transport provision to and from hospital, in particular at visiting hour times. The group suggested that a shuttle bus could be put in place to cover all the hospitals for visiting hour times. Lack of car parking at the hospitals was also noted as an issue.

MH has looked into a variety of options that could improve community transport provision. Some include utilising private buses via a brokerage scheme (offering their resources at a reasonable cost when they are not in use), existing provision being developed into being more flexible (e.g. expansion of existing provision with greater resources and a wider remit of client group/existing services in neighbouring county's providing a service beyond their current boundaries etc.)

MH is soon to develop a Community Transport Forum, which is likely to begin in October 2010; invitations will be sent out shortly. MH is keen to update the Ageing Well Network on community transport developments therefore asked whether he could attend the network on a regular basis to provide this information; the network agreed.

The Community Transport Questionnaire was mentioned at the previous Ageing Well Network (Friday 21st May 2010) and circulated with the minutes. Network members were encouraged to complete the questionnaire, as it will help to develop community transport services by acting as evidence on funding applications and business plans. MH urged the network members to ignore the deadline date on the questionnaire; any completed forms will be welcome at any time.

RR thanked MH coming to the Ageing Well Network and welcomed him to attend future meetings.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting (Friday 21st May 2010) Accuracy

The minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record.

Minutes

P3. JQ sent the Solicitors details to RD. The network agreed for RD to book the Solicitor to speak at the next Ageing Well Network in September 2010.

4. Ageing Well Network Objectives

As not all the network members were able to make the previous meeting, RD informed the group that priorities for the Ageing Well Network had been set to enable a greater focus. The priorities were as follows:

1. Transport (including issues such as disabled parking).
2. Libraries
3. Addressing gaps in the sector (third sector organisations/groups providing a service to people aged fifty plus)
4. Responding to the financial cuts in 2011 (e.g. innovative ideas, collaborative working, using resources more effectively, identifying duplication etc.)

The network members agreed with these priorities, with the addition that transport be broadened to 'getting about' so that it could include other pertinent issues such as disabled parking.

It was also suggested that adult education be added, as this is another important issue. Adult Education provision in Bridgend County has a focus on getting people back into work and often involve examinations. U3A provide adult education as an enjoyable learning experience, however they are expected to fill this gap with no additional resources.

The Third Sector is expected to deliver more for less. It can be creative and innovative with resources, but also need to be realistic about what can be achieved with the resources available. The Third Sector is already going beyond what they have been funded to do.

RR suggested that the Ageing Well Network devise an action plan for the priorities identified. The action plan will need to be linked into the new Never Too Old Action Team structure.

Action

- **RD to do an action plan template (2010 – 2011) for completion at the next Ageing Well Network.**

- **RD to circulate the 'Identifying Good Practice and Gaps in Provision' document again with the minutes.**

5. Feedback from the Never Too Old Action Team (RD)

RD provided an update from the Never Too Old Action Team which consisted mainly on the proposed restructuring (photocopies of the two potential restructure were circulated to the members). RD asked for any comments or suggestions, therefore the network members discussed this further. It is envisioned that the Ageing Well Network would remain and continue to feed into the new Never Too Old Action Team structure.

6. Feedback from the Bridgend Libraries Consultation DG/MH

DG and MuH jointly reported back on the Bridgend Library Consultation that took place on Tuesday 13th July 2010. The event was meant as a consultation, but did not provide the opportunity for people to get up and voice their concerns. Eight of the libraries in Bridgend County currently do not meet the standard criteria. Libraries are a statutory sector responsibility, but as it is the statutory sector they are unable to apply for external funding.

The event was structured with workshop groups asking questions such as 'what would you like from your library service if you could have anything?' Bridgend County Borough Council are going to publish what was said on the day, therefore this report could be brought to a forthcoming Ageing Well Network for further discussion.

Action

Bridgend County Library report to be taken to the Ageing Well Network when available.

7. Volunteer Talk: Allen Chilcott (OTED Update)

OTED need to replace the roof on their building, but are having difficulty in obtaining funding. They are also applying for funding to obtain another bus (a grant from South East Wales Transport Association are offering to pay half, but they need to find the other half). MH is due to meet with the OTED Trustees to discuss widening their constitution (to include a wider client group) so the services can be developed further. RR suggested that OTED look for funding from Ford Benevolent Fund and the Tudor Trust.

8. AOB

Age Concern Morgannwg Update

Age Concern Cymru has merged with Help the Aged on a national level and is now called Age UK. It does not change the local Age Concerns; therefore Age Concern Morgannwg has not changed. Information may be sent from Age UK, but this is out of the local Age Concern's control. Please contact Age Concern Morgannwg if you have any queries.

Crossroads Care Update

Bridgend Crossroads Care has established community cafes across Bridgend County. The latest one has now started in Nantymoel at the Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club (Mondays from 12.30pm – 3.30pm). JQ handed out the Crossroads Care leaflet for further information on Crossroads Care.

Bridgend Carers Centre

Launched their advice and support in Maesteg to unpaid, family carers in this area. Paula has started the MacMillan post, supporting carers of people with cancer. A Carers Emergency Card and Carer Assessment leaflet has been developed in partnership with the Statutory Sector, Third Sector and the carers within the Carers Forum and is being distributed.

Creation Project

JQ talked about the Creation Project in Blaengarw, where they have a time banking system for volunteers. People can offer skills for a certain number of hours and then claim these back by using the services on offer for free e.g. hiring the hall for the same amount of hours they have out in.

Date of the next meeting:
Monday 20th September 2010, 10.00am – 12.00pm
Venue: The Rest Hotel, Rest Bay, Porthcawl CF36 3UP

Speaker: Claire Davis
(Formerly Rubin Lewis O'Brien LLP Solicitors, now Howells Legal Solicitors)