

Royston Community Group Meeting Minutes 10/02/21 11am

DR - Duncan Rodgers – Addenbrookes Charitable Trust Ambassador

JR – Jim Rawles, RCDT

IM - Ivana Pakozdyova – Local resident and web designer

JC – Jackie Cotton – Homestart - Royston, Buntingford, South Cambs

MH – Mark Hanna – Age UK Herts

RJ – Richard Julian – Community Development Manager, Garden House Hospice

RS – Robert Smith – Royston Community Assoc. & St. John Parish church

PM – Peter Morgan – Sec., Royston Arts Society

CF – Carl Filby – Chair, Creative Royston

CFH – Fiona Hill – Councillor Herts County Council, Deputy Exec, Adult Care & Health

FD – Frances Dewhurst – Social Prescribing Link Worker, Meridian PCN, Royston Health Centre & Roysia Surgery

CTH - Councillor Tony Hunter – North Herts DC, Royston & District Area Community

KA – Kelly Austin - Social Navigator, Granta Medical Practice (Market Hill & Barley Surgeries)

JA – Joanna Aldridge - Social Navigator, GMP (Market Hill & Barley Surgeries)

Apologies:

GB - Gillian Boyd, Royston Speakout Club

Meeting opened at 11am. Chaired and Intro by JA outlining Social Navigation role in Granta and how we run equivalent meeting in South Cambs. As part of our job description we look to link and build relationships between community groups & statutory services into whom we can connect our patients to the betterment of their overall wellbeing.

For further information;

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/social-prescribing/>

DR – to support anyone raising money for Addenbrookes with their fundraising activities.

JR - informed that RCDT has received funding through Herts County council to fund transport FOC to Covid vac clinics. Are able to take up to 4 patients in minibus.

Contact Jim direct 01763 245228 / jimrawles@hotmail.com

JA advised GMP has commenced inviting Cohort 6 to the surgery. JR remarked that demand has decreased as the cohorts of patients have decreased in age.

IM - The website I created for the community is <https://www.roystonhub.co.uk>

Every support group, charity organisation or other organisations that are helping and supporting the community are very welcome here to have a space or a link to your own website.

Also activities (today's or future) like new courses, children's clubs, etc are very welcome to the Royston hub website, as it can help parents to find some suitable activities for their offspring.

I believe this website can help people from Royston and surrounding areas to find all the important and useful information more easily. If anyone has any comments or requests, even constructive criticism is welcome.

JC – Still supporting families with Walk and Talk, virtual meetings, flexible to include evenings etc. Online training course for new volunteers about to be rolled out.

MH – Services still running, Domestic help, Hospital discharge (Lister) & community navigation. Info and advice telephone service & emotional support via InTouch.

Befriending, virtual where possible. No lunch clubs at present but on line 1-1 or groups where possible. 10-3 Clubs may open Spring. Indebted to volunteers.

RJ – In normal times community based initiative at Coombes Community Centre due to Hospice being slightly out of area. Monday afternoon 2-4pm. Once it is back up and running I will let you know so you can circulate to the group.

Also befriending project, Compassionate Neighbours, to reduce loneliness & social isolation, also supporting with running errands due to Covid. Telephone support, hoping to commence doorstep calls. Anyone can refer, no age restriction and even if not necessary accessing hospice. All referrals are followed up and we will establish whether a 1-1 match (following C-19 restrictions) or inviting them to attend the hub is more appropriate.

<https://www.ghhospicecare.org.uk/volunteers/compassionate-neighbours>

Hawthorne centre day hospice still open & running virtual seated exercise & support groups. Age 128+, life limiting illness, elderly & frail.

<https://www.ghhospicecare.org.uk/patients-carers/day-services>

CTH asked if Garden House Hospice at home was still active, RJ confirmed it was but reduced capacity due to Covid restrictions.

RS – Royston Community Assoc. Coombes Community Centre; closed, struggling due to Covid restrictions but managing to carry on with some govt. funding & grants.

St. Johns Parish Church has had to cease most activity except via zoom. Recent fire has also not helped. Hoping to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.

PM – Activities have been cancelled as a whole since last year. Still running exhibitions on line. Full programme of meeting for this year virtually but numbers are reduced. Window walk 18th -21st Feb. <http://www.roystonarts.org.uk/>

CF – Not for profit organisation, rely on volunteers, Royston Arts Festival runs last week September. Have vacancies on committee, meet 1x monthly. Website <http://www.creativeroyston.org/> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RoystonArtsFestival>

CFH – Overseeing vaccine project. Lindsey invited to meeting because have access to grants at HCC to support projects.

Also updated that Old Barn Community day Centre have been proactive with activity bags for their service users during last 12 months.

FD – commenced role with Meridian in September, heavily involved in vaccine roll out since January. Raised that a digital divide means that some people are really struggling because they are unable to get online.

CTH – Agrees IT has been a steep learning curve. District councillor & member of local organisations. Acts as a link into council for local organisations

RE: Digital Divide

MH advised AUKH had some digital champions pre-Covid who would train people age 50+ to use smart phones, tablets etc to Skype, book medical appointments, online shopping etc

North Herts CVS have recently got some funding for this as well.

CFH – use Herts Help as first port of call funded by HCC. Working with Age UK & NHCVS “Connected Lives” project

JA agreed to contact NHCVS contact Hannah Grey

RE: South Cambs representation at this meeting

PM questioned having a South Cambs rep in these meetings for consistency. Royston Arts Society have a small group who are not online but they live in South Cambs.

JA will make enquiries to obtain representation at the next meeting. Will also request that they provide information on projects to support the digital divide.

RE: Other representation at this meeting

JA will circulate minutes to all those whom Lindsey had previously invited and will look to include, in particular;

IM: Royston (Burns Road) Heroes and Foodbank reps

CF: Melbourne Gardening Group, Herts Year of Culture, CABS

JA requests that if attendees are aware of other groups/individuals not invited to the next meeting that all attendees advise JA as appropriate. JA has access to the Lindsey's list but it is not always especially evident (from a personal email address) who represents whom!

Proposed date of next meeting Wednesday 14th April

Meeting closed at 12.20.