

Whissendine Good Neighbour Scheme

Chairman Gwen Griffiths: Secretary Janet Jaconelli: Treasurer Peter Towsey
www.whissendinegns.org.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of the Management Group at 28 Hall Close, Whissendine, Wednesday April 13th 2011 at 3pm

Present: Sue Spencer, Gwen Griffiths, Sally Moyce, Jeff Eaves, Marion Lawrie, Janet Jaconelli

1. Apologies for Absence

Kate Sharpe, Peter Towsey

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.

There were none.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on March 9th 2011

These were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising.

a. Training

Gwen and Janet were booked to attend a first aid course at Rothley on April 14th. There would be another course run by VAR in Oakham on June 14th and Peter was booked on this.

b. Environment group

Penny Stimpson would be holding a preliminary meeting in her house on Tuesday April 26th at 2.30pm. WGNS agreed to pay for hiring the village hall for a public meeting in view of the fact that they had received the remainder of the Parish Plan funding.

c. Informal befriending arrangements

There is still some uncertainty about how to record befriending arrangements which involve our volunteers as in some cases these are so successful that the befriender and befriended become good friends and no longer regard the arrangement as voluntary 'work'. Nevertheless GNS feel an obligation to show to the village and the wider community that it is a successful scheme and need the figures to reflect this. It was agreed to modify the work record form to include a tick box for informal arrangements and to seek the volunteers' views on the subject at the AGM/afternoon tea (June 16th).

5. Finance and funding

a. , VAR is now raising mileage charges to 45p a mile, this being the new tax-neutral rate. The group agreed to review GNS charges at the AGM in June.

b. The secretary had made a bid for a village achievement award. Judging would take place in June.

6. CRB checks

Mrs Pat Chapman had been cleared and Gwen is arranging to produce an ID card. Mrs Chapman is willing to help at the Age Concern lunch. Our new contact at Rutland CC is Hazel Fardell or Rebecca Myatt in her absence.

7. Stats

The latest figures were presented, the number of calls to the mobile had decreased but work records show an increase in activity. In part this is because befrienders are now picking up requests during their visits.

8. Website

Sue produced some surprising stats from the website. Many people had downloaded the notes on How to start a GNS and there were a surprising number accessing the website from the USA and beyond. (Note that a piece about this will appear in the May grapevine)

9. Any other business.

a. The group was sorry to learn that the Rev Bob Mackrill had taken early retirement from his post in the Oakham team.

b. Feast week would be the first week in July – 2nd to 9th July

10. Date of next meeting

Thursday May 12th 2pm at 28 Mill Grove, Whissendine.