



SCEN Meeting Tuesday 17th July 2018 10am – 12pm at Ideas Test Sittingbourne

Present – Krishna Devi, Kim Isbell, Wendy Parr, Lucy Medhurst, Linda Brinklow, Mary Williams, Mark Hinton, Sophia Ramm, Chris Twydell, Shelia Davies, Jane Reynolds, Julie Walsh, Angie Berkley, Laura, Douglas Holland, Kevin Grist, Tanya Cursen, Christine Locke, Zoe Deveson, Sandy Hammock

Apologies – Bobbie Walkem-Smith, Beverley Bryant

Welcome and Introductions

Sandy welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited introductions around the room. Sandy read through the minutes of the last meeting, Angie Berkley asked to be added to the apologies for the last meeting. There were no other changes and everyone agreed they were an accurate representation. Sandy went on to let everyone know that, following the special SCEN meeting, the CIO application is still with the Charity Commission. In light of the new GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) Sandy reminded everyone that they needed to complete a membership form if they had not done so already.

Sophia Ramm, Swale Borough Council

Sophia firstly spoke about Swale Borough Council's new Walking and cycling strategy which is coming out for consultation.

In recognition of the centenary of World War 1 SBC will be working with Kent Highway to allow applications for Street Parties on the weekend of 20th and 21st July 2019. There will also be grants available as the WW1 Centenary Grant has been topped up. Other grants are also open and forms are available to download from the website.

SBC are also involved in 3 events:

11 August – Art in the Park

1st and 2nd September Hop Festival Faversham

10th November Peace Concert at Swallows

Sophia also reported that work begins on the Skate Park on 30th July with a 16 week build programme.

Lucy Ideas Test and Kevin Grist, Sea folk sing project

Lucy and Kevin spoke about their project supported by Celebrating age. This is a two year project dealing with memories helping to create a music production. It has two themes reconciliation and WW1. The target group for this project is 55+ with workshops being held across Sittingbourne and Sheppey. Whilst 55+ is the target age group the aim is to encourage intergenerational performances and establish community choirs.

Lucy explained that you can get involved by contributing memories, singing or joining the audience. You can find more information on the Ideas Test website and also contribute ideas through the website. Kevin explained that they will be looking for interesting venues for performance due to take place in November and they will also be looking to involve volunteers.

Krishna Devi, Community Engagement Officer, Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Krishna explained that the trust was taken out of special measures on 16th March 2017. They still have many improvements to make and have an improvement plan called Better, Best, Brilliant. Improvements that have been made so far include a reduction in the length of a hospital stay, more patients seeing the same doctor and a reduction in waiting time.

They are working at engaging with staff to get their ideas.

They have had an inspection earlier this year, but are still waiting for the result.

Krishna said that their improvement plan has been tested with the snowfall over winter and the struggle to get staff in. However they had a campaign to improve the take up for patients and staff receiving the flu jab and this has improved the number of people vaccinated.

The next aim is to ensure that people are seen in A&E within 4 hours and are working with partners to improve transfer of care.

Krishna gave the good news that Cancer waiting times have reduced. They are holding members events to share good ideas etc. Following recent Governor Recruitment, Swale and Sheppey now have four Governors. The Governors are a point of contact between the Trust and the public.

More than 85% of those surveyed had seen an improvement is public engagement by the Trust.

The aim is to improve this further with events such as coffee mornings, Festivals and Fairs, Networking event etc. Medway Hospital has its own charity. The money used to improve patient experience.

If you have any questions you are welcome to contact Krishna.devi@nhs.net

Hot Topics

Mark Hinton, CAB Swale. They are offering specialist debt advice and the number of people accessing this has dropped dramatically in the last 2 months. The service is easy to access.

They have the resources to see clients quickly and offer comprehensive and thorough advice.

Linda Brinklow, Aspirations. Linda explained that she is organising an event called Those Magnificent Men and Women. It is being held on 1st September for 10am to 4pm on the Spinney Leysdown to celebrate 100 years of the RAF. With the support of Peter West from the Eastchurch Aviation Museum they are putting stories together. Lots of organisations have been involved. On the day Bands will be playing on the Bandstand, there will be stalls and information boards.

Douglas Holland, Elms. Spoke about the development of volunteers and how difficult it is to retain them.

Christine Locke, Diversity House. They are running workshops aimed at supporting people to get out of poverty, yoga classes and after school clubs.

Jane Reynolds, Expert Patient Programme is interested in talking to groups about the programme.

Tanya Curson, Optivo explained that Families on our Doorstep finishes in December. Aiming to be more inclusive and looking to work with everyone, not just families. Increasing their work by supporting people into training.

Krishna Devi, Medway Hospital Foundation Trust. On 30th August they are holding an Apprenticeship drop in for students that have their GCSE and A-level results.

Angie Berkley, Centre for independent Living Kent. They are looking for a volunteer gardener for a disabled person. Several members suggested contacting Faversham Assistance Centre (FACE).

Mary Williams, Sateda. Said they are offering the Employability Programme.

Kevin Grist, Ideas Test said the Sea folk Sing workshop will on held at St Michael's Church, Sittingbourne on Thursday mornings and Thursday afternoons at Sheppey Matters in Sheerness.

Sandy Hammock, Swale CVS invited members to attend Swale CVS's AGM on 25th July at Central House, Sittingbourne, 7 for 7.30 pm. She also asked members to let her know whether they wanted to change the day, location or structure of the SCEN. It was requested that we go to Faversham and Sheppey sometimes.

Date of next meeting

16th October 2018, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm at Ideas Test, High Street, Sittingbourne.