**Networking meeting minutes Thursday 25th January 2018**

**Introductions/Attendees**; Denise Hayhurst, Donna Talbot – Community CVS, John Verity Age UK, Ilyas Patel – BRFC Trust, Kiran Sadiq – BWD Carers Service, Mark Woods – Age UK, Julie Astley – Sliding Doors, Mizbakh Ahmed – Older Peoples Forum, Thelma Tomlinson – Shelter, Christine Cramsie – Blackburn with Darwen Parents in Partnership, Valerie Drinkwater – Older peoples forum Mark Wood – Age UK, Jay Ratcliff – Nightsafe

Apologies from: Louise Taylor – Bootstrap

**Presentation from Denise Hayhurst Community CVS**

**Community CVS are recruiting volunteers for the Festival of Making 12th & 13th May 2018**

* It’s a great event, not sure if anyone went last year it was fab the event is all through the town centre including :-

 The Cathedral

 Craft fair @ King Georges

 The Town Hall

 The Bureau

 The Making Rooms

**L**ast year 30,000 people visited the making.

* Looking for volunteers to help in lots events and exhibitions, you can enrol to be a festival Volunteer on line aby completing the online form or by contacting me.

**Volunteer Week**

* 1-7th June 2018 starts Friday and ends Thursday – however we are holding a number of events the weekend upto Monday 11th June
* Every year we endeavour to make it bigger and better – we are looking for organisations to pledge their events then we will promote the events as a package rather than a ad hoc piecemeal piece of work.
* All events will be promoted through The Shuttle & BBC radio and hopefully the Lancashire Telegraph.
* Please let me know if you can do anything to support volunteer Week we can then pull together a timetable of events.
* So Far Volunteers Fair @ Blackburn Cathedral on Tuesday 5th June
* Celebrating Volunteering at Blackburn Market on Wednesday 6th June
* Promotion of Volunteering @ The Mall on Thursday 7th June
* Blackburn with Darwen Volunteers Week Award Ceremony Monday 11th June @ King Georges Hall 6pm – 9pm.

Update from **Kiran Sadiq** from **BwD Carers**

* We are holding a Masquerade Ball on Saturday 16th June @ Northcote @ The Rovers tickets cost £45pp or Table of 10 for £400.00
* There will be entertainment and 3 course meal
* Walk a Mile in carers shoes – Sunday 8th July 3 different level of walks – Red, Amber and Green
* Volunteer Academy end of April – 6 week accredited course for all our existing volunteers and new volunteers, one day per week – morning & afternoons – if you would like more info please contact Kiran at Kiran.sadiq@bwdcarers.org.uk

Update from **Ilyas Patel** from **BRFC**

* We have nominated for community Club of the year
* Disability Officer comes in every week – does anyone know of any groups or organisations that would like to benefit?
* Euro fit project – 30+ males 12 week project looking at healthy living with half the time working with the food specialist and then engaging in a low level fitness regime ( walking etc)
* Lots of clients split into groups walking & Talking – counting their steps, making new friends, many of the clients are counting their steps out of the project as we are in competition with Leicester City
* If you would like any more info please contact Ilyas at Ilyas.Patel@brfctrust.co.uk

Update from **Julie Astley** from **Sliding Doors**

* Sliding Doors have recently been nominated as Herbert Parkinson’s Charity of the Year
* Sliding Doors is 5years old today and we became a CIC last month
* We are having a big part tonight @The Blues Bar at Ewood Park to celebrate
* Sliding Doors are holding a “Sliding Doors has got Talent” in July
* We have activities on every day of the week, - new Men’s group in Mill Hill Community Centre Wednesday mornings 10am – 12pm
* We now have a walking group
* We also have a ladies group Thursday 1pm – 3pm at Mill Hill Community Centre

Update from **John Verity** from **Age UK**

* We are still recruiting Digital Champions – vols and service users
* Anyone can do as little or as much as you would like – it could be as little as talking to family members, we are not asking for major commitment.
* We are looking for 200 people to sign up – it looks really positive on peoplesCV’s
* 1st part of the project is contacting groups – both small and large of people over 50 years old.
* We are now delivering training in doctor’s surgeries
* We can come to any venue to deliver training
* Patients needing assistance with NHS prescriptions etc – we could help them
* Looking to have a presence in a variety of locations getting over 50’s to use technology

Update from **Thelma Tomlinson** from **Shelter**

* With the introduction of Universal credit – Shelter now based at the Job Centre every

Afternoon

Q. Do you have a presence in Darwen?

A. Yes, every 2 weeks in Darwen Town Hall

* There are a number of issues with language and technology

Q. How do you cope with the language barrier?

A. We use a system called Language Line that we pay for – you call the number and it’s a 3 way conversation with you the client and the interpreter

Update **Donna Talbot – VOICE**

* Voice have relaunched their service user forums and we are looking for reps from each service user group to come together monthly to talk about their issues.
* Dates and times of the forums haven’t been determined as of yet I will let you know as soon as possible,

Apologies from Clair Bloomfield – will be attending the next meeting to show the new Blackburn with Darwen Funding portal.

**Update from Mark Wood from Age UK**

* Linda guise is on long term sick and Elaine – we still need vols however the recruitment drive is on hold at the moment.

Update from **Paul Becouarn** from **Challenge through Sport Initiative**

* Originally designed for guys in recovery
* We work with Cycle Roots Monday 2pm – 4pm 6 week project were we teach how to fix bikes etc, at the end of the 6 weeks the bike is yours.
* We facilitate other sporting activities – football at Soccer dome
* Fishing Clubs
* Exercise on prescription
* Walking Groups
* We are holding a Common Wealth Games – in April lots of different old school sports – Netball, cricket, rounder’s being held at Preston UCLAN.
* Most teams come from substance background last year we had 150 individuals.
* We are also involved in social inclusion football
* We have funding for another year – we have applied for a number of individual tenders
* We are now involved with the Rossendale area delivering activities – apprenticeships, diversifying in the activities we deliver.
* We have a project linking in with ex – offenders
* We link in with mental health units
* Boxercise @ Shad Hub

Update from **Jay Ratcliffe** from **Nightsafe**

* A number of upcoming events
* June 14th – Sports Quiz at East Lancs Cricket Club
* Old School Car treasure Hunt in July
* Fundraising in conjunction with Holmes Mill
* Sponsored walk in August
* Our target for this year is £50, 000.00

Next meeting will be on Thursday 26th April 2018 @ The Boulevard Centre 09.00 to 11.00. Please inform Donna of anyone wishing to chat about their project. Donna.talbot@communitycvs.org.uk