

## Eastbourne Community Network 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 Willingdon Trees Community Centre “Celebrating Connecting Communities”

### Outcomes Report

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*“It was great to meet so many passionate and dedicated people – very inspiring”*

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**Eastbourne Community Network’s** second birthday “Celebrating Connecting Communities”, took place at Willingdon Trees Community Centre. During the past year, Eastbourne Community Network (ECN) held three network events:

- *Working Differently with Children & Young People Around Their Health and Wellbeing*
- *The Langney and Shinewater Ideas Fair*
- *Social Prescribing and Self Care.*

Lots of great work has happened and we took the opportunity to highlight and applaud the connections made. In addition, the time had come to look at the future of community networks and we asked ECN members, what would they like to see over the coming months for Eastbourne.



*Eastbourne Community Network (ECN). One of eight locality networks supporting community resilience across East Sussex.*



## SPEED NETWORKING

Willingdon Trees Community Centre is a fantastic community venue. To take advantage of the space, we started with the heavyweight in icebreakers, **Speed Networking**. Not for the faint hearted. It was noisy and messy, but the energy was palpable. ECN members tell us that networking is one of the main reasons they attend ECN meetings; therefore, we will continue to provide variations of speed networking to suit people and venues.

## FIT FOR PURPOSE

Julie Tremlin, Locality Link Worker, reminded attendees about the purpose of the network. She provided feedback to the group on a review of the networks which took place in August 2018, comprising of an online survey and data review of the 43 networks which had taken place.

Recommendations from this report highlighted:

1. Continue to create time and space to enable discrete networking.
2. Continue to prioritise attracting a wide range of participants from across all sectors.
3. Value and support volunteers.
4. Improve communications.
5. Expand the purpose of the networks to include 'being action focused' and explore options to improve links to informing strategy and decision making.
6. Develop digital communications.



## MINI TALKS

We heard from people who are making a difference in Eastbourne because of connections made through the Network.

### The Eastbourne Food Partnership

Sara Latimer from Edible Eastbourne and Stephen Hughes from 3VA provided a comprehensive update on the fledgling Partnership. This is exciting work and we will keep track of developments over the next year.

[The presentation can be seen here.](#)



The Langney and Shinewater Ideas Fair in September saw 3 ideas awarded with Chances4Change Seedcorn Grants. Loretta Lock from Defiant Sports and Edwina Livesey from the YMCA agreed to update us on progress made.

### Langney and Shinewater Boccia Club

Loretta Lock provided an inspirational talk on project resilience in relation to the Boccia Club. It is the first Boccia club (a Paralympic sport) in Eastbourne. This inclusive sport is open to all and will be well placed at Shinewater Sports Centre to be accessed by people from the local community, including Shinewater Court and local care homes and day centres. The Boccia Club will be delivered by Defiant Sports who have two trained coaches to lead the sessions. [Loretta's presentation can be seen here.](#)

### Shinewater Youth Club Dance Project and the Band Night and Music Workshops for Young People at Langney Village Hall

Edwina Livesey from the YMCA talked about the Shinewater Youth Club Dance Project and the Band Night and music workshops for young people at Langney Village Hall. The Shinewater Youth Club Dance Project was an idea suggested by the Shinewater Youth group who meet at Shinewater Hub. Dance workshops will be taught with the aim of developing a young people's performance group, thereby building confidence and developing dance leaders. The group will perform at local events and beyond. Following this start-up phase, additional funding will be sought to ensure this is an ongoing activity. YMCA will facilitate this project with the Shinewater Youth Hub.

The second project, the Band Night and music workshops for young people at Langney Village Hall, will link in with local schools, youth clubs and groups to hold music workshops, and expert teaching sessions, working towards a band night and musical showcase. Peer support and learning are key elements, along with partnership working, to share equipment and instruments. It is hoped that young leaders will emerge within the local community. The YMCA will facilitate both projects. Edwina spoke about collaboration and invited people to become involved.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S EVENT

Laura Jeffcote from 3VA spoke about the children and young people's event in January. This joint event with Eastbourne Borough Council involved a consultation exercise on the Eastbourne youth strategy and provided a space for children and young people's organisations and groups to come together. This need to meet was identified at June's network event, and was part of a vision for Eastbourne's Children & Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing. The vision, formulated by ECN members, was consequently fed into the Youth Strategy Consultation. Fifteen people have expressed an interest in a more focused approach to children and young people's issues in Eastbourne. 3VA will be following this up shortly. For further information, contact [laura.jeffcote@3va.org.uk](mailto:laura.jeffcote@3va.org.uk).

## GROUP ACTIVITY: THE FUTURE OF EASTBOURNE COMMUNITY NETWORK

We held table top discussions around future events and what ECN members expect from the network over the next year. We asked:

- **WHY ARE YOU HERE?**
- **WHAT 3 THINGS DO YOU WANT FROM THE NETWORK AND**
- **WHY?**

Here are the most popular answers when put to the sticky dot vote.

### WHAT THREE THINGS DO YOU WANT FROM THE NETWORK AND WHY?

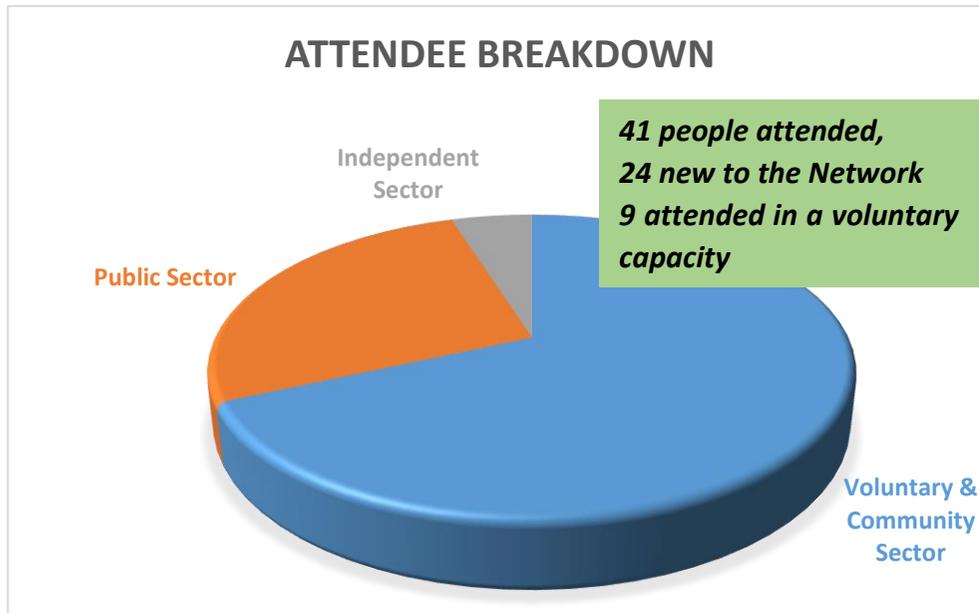
1. *Making contacts – to share expertise*
2. *Project collaboration/ideas – more efficient and avoids duplication*
3. *Raising awareness – marketing our wares! – to let people know what is out there*

### WHY ARE YOU HERE?

- *To meet people*
- *To tell people what we do*
- *To learn about other services/resources*
- *To explore collaboration*

### KEY THEMES

1. *Networking*
2. *Promoting services*
3. *Local knowledge*
4. *Partnership*



## STAY CONNECTED!

Continue or join the discussion and support on-line.

[Eastbourne Community Network Facebook](#) aims to provide a platform for people to stay in touch between our physical, quarterly meetings. People may not have been able to come to all the meetings, but wanted to stay in touch with others. The closed Facebook group is a safe and easy way to access space as well as to have a conversation with others working in and involved with the local communities in our town. You can exchange information, but more importantly, discuss, seek help and support each other.

## MEET US IN JULY

Our next quarterly event will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK NOW.](#)

We will be looking at **‘Our Population Health Check’** being completed by leading doctors, specialists and clinicians for our area, to help our local health and care services find solutions to addressing the challenges we face, and ensure people continue to get the care they need in the future.

If you have any queries about this report or the Eastbourne Community Network, please email or phone Laura Jeffcote at 3VA on [laura.jeffcote@3va.org.uk](mailto:laura.jeffcote@3va.org.uk) or 01323 639 373 ext. 215.

**This report and resources highlighted in the report are [available online.](#)**

## Appendix 1

### List of organisations attending:

Association of Carers	East Sussex County Council (ESCC)
Brighton Housing Trust (BHT) Eastbourne Advice	ESCC Children's Services
Change Grow Live	East Sussex Families and Carers Team (ESFACT)
Chestnut Tree House	Friday Club
Cranstoun	Ivy House
Creative Force	Mediation Plus
Defiant Sports	People in Partnership
Dragonflies	Project SEARCH Eastbourne
Devonshire West Big Local (DWBL)	Sussex Community Development Association (SCDA)
East Sussex College	Seaside Community Hub
East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service - Community Volunteers	South East Water
East Sussex Public Health	Southdown
East Sussex Recovery Alliance	Sussex Police
Eastbourne Access Group	Trees Community Organisation
Eastbourne Soroptimists	Wyntercon CIO
Eden Blue	YMCA
Edible Eastbourne	3VA