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Higher Wealden Community Network Forum 13th October 2017

30 people attended from 21 different organisations. Attendees came from a range of voluntary organisations active in the area. Representatives from the Clinical Commissioning Group, Fire and Rescue Service and East Sussex County Council also attended.

Forest Row Community Services Hosted the Event

Bridging Ages

Wed & Thurs clubs

Befriending Service

Community Transport

AirS

Table Top Discussions

Where are we now?

Sharing knowledge

Building connections

Finding out about other projects

Lots of great services

Pilot scheme – test toolkit

Fabulous elderly engagement

Thriving community centre, community café

Limited resources

Only reaching part of the community

Financially sound

Thriving service. Raise awareness

Committed volunteers

FRPC – Lots of great services. Some under used. Need to support more.

BAGes – testing toolkit/pilot scheme (to take nationally)

MAYFACS – mostly the elderly are engaged at present

Crowborough Community Centre: thriving. Community café just started

Care for the Carers: continuing to raise awareness. Thriving service.

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Headway: very limited resources

Difficulty in speaking with GP practices. How to get in to speak with practice managers?

Training receptionists to be community navigators

Community groups have trouble navigating way through NHS, CCG, ESCC etc

How do we actually get started with social prescribing? How do doctors know that these social interventions actually work and have benefit. How to measure it?

Dialogue has started to open

Signposting to support agencies has become easier/information sharing

Networking events are bringing community groups and support networks together. Good for signposting and information sharing.

Where do we want to go?

More intergenerational working

Volunteering

Good working practice between volunteers and doctors surgeries

Benefits of community navigator – extend the system or something like it if community navigator initiative is not extended

Engagement of more men in activities

More collaboration and sharing of resources

Better/improved communication system

Sustainable services

Share good practice – only doing things once

Centralised resource within the sector, eg befriending

Play to people's strengths

FRPC: garden/men's shed. Intergenerational work. Reaching whole community

B/Ages: Roll out effective project

Mayfacs: whole community engagement

Crowborough CC: Look at how to get more people using it. Befriending.

CftC: Carer friendly communities.

Headway: Create stronger links in community. Wider community awareness.

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More collaboration – sharing resources

Better/improved communication system

Sustainable services

Becoming known

Supporting the Wealdlink transport

Communication of what is on offer

Sharing of resources

Sharing good practice – only doing things once

Centralising resources within the sector, eg befriending

Play to people's strengths

Giving people opportunities to contribute to their communities

Inclusive, welcoming, open and diverse

People come to projects, but we are also willing to come to them

Intergenerational work – reaching whole community

Being able to support more people

Establishing relationships with other professionals

Roll out effective project

Whole community engagement

How to get more people using service

Befriending

Carer friendly communities

Create stronger links in community

Centralised diary

Lunch

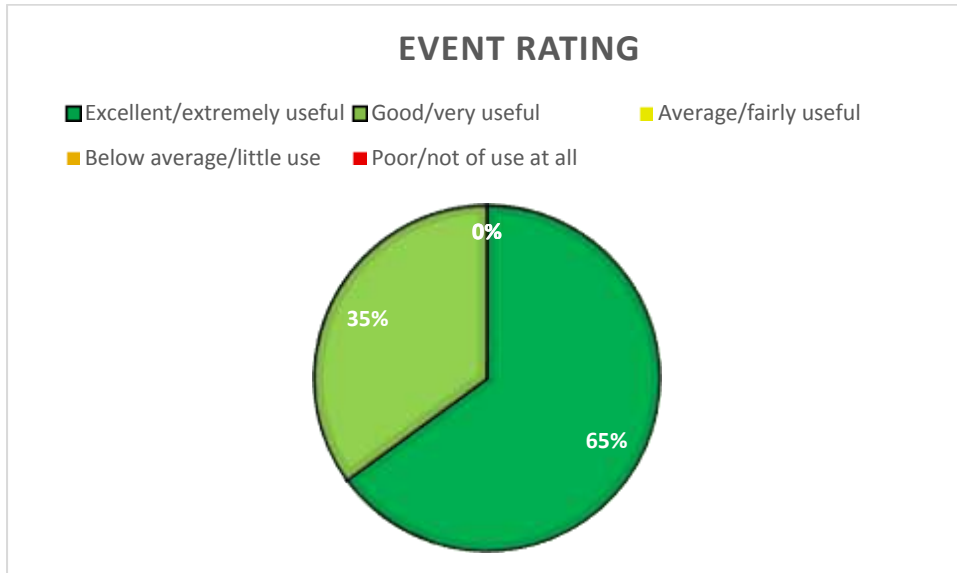
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Plenary

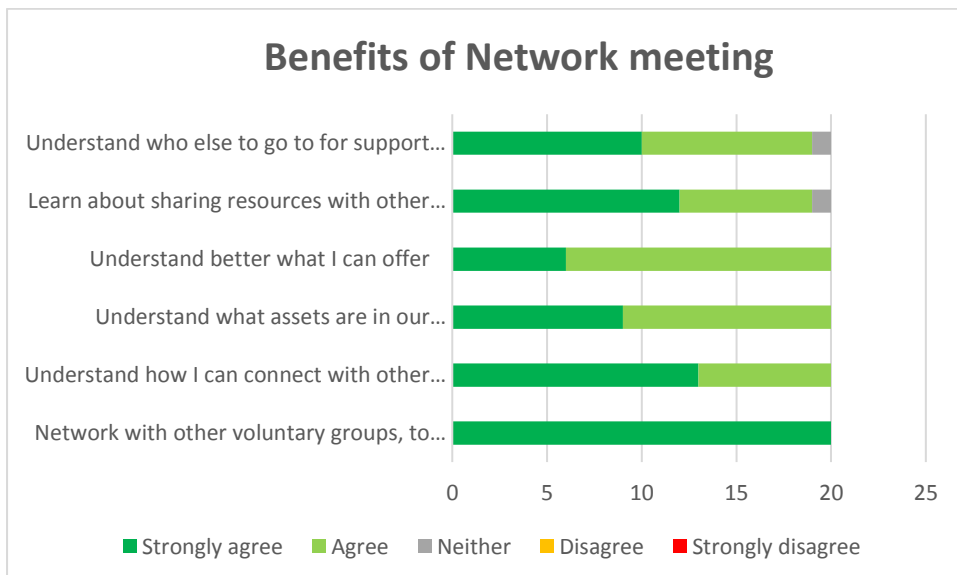
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Feedback and Evaluation

20 people returned completed evaluation forms. The event was rated as 100% positive in terms of being excellent and very useful.



Most attendees cited the primary benefit being networking with other groups as the following graph illustrates.



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Comments:

It was all interesting and useful

(It gave me) ideas of bringing the elderly and young together,

Well done Sara and team and thank you

Really wish we had brainstormed the table plenary to come with collective and viable solutions! Feel that was an opportunity wasted!

More please! Create a cluster and online forum

Good range of agencies in attendance. Lovely lunch.

The next event is scheduled for 30th Jan and will be hosted by Rotherfield St Martin. We hope to act on the request for more networking time in the planning of the next meeting.