



Seaford Community Network: Volunteering in Seaford

Wednesday 3rd October, The Clinton Centre.

25 Participants attended

Evaluation summary

The majority of participants who completed evaluation cards felt that 'making useful links with others to help my work' was the main issue they gained in from attending the meeting. During the meeting participants indicated that they wish to discuss volunteering in Seaford in detail at the next meeting, with a particular emphasis on looking at a local brokerage model that might enable potential volunteers to be more readily linked with volunteer opportunities. There was a reflection that work in progress on intergenerational projects (particularly the planning of a community garden in the children's centre) had arisen as a direct result of discussions and networking at previous meetings.

Main outcomes

Work undertaken during the course of intergenerational initiatives, particularly around befriending had demonstrated that many groups in Seaford are finding it difficult to source younger volunteers. There is a perception among attendees that the core volunteering 'workforce' in the town is ageing and this will lead to an overall decrease in the number of people actively in the community. Participants were presented with a number of potential options to focus on at the next meeting in January. These were;

- Holding a volunteer recruitment event
- Training in creating and transforming volunteer opportunities.
- Mapping existing volunteer opportunities.
- Learning from other local volunteering brokerage models ('hubs') to establish a similar model in Seaford.

It was decided that the fourth of these options would be given the highest priority. This will potentially align with work in progress by the befriending planning group and the Big Lottery funding application

Next meeting

Wednesday 16th January, 10am-1pm, St. James' Trust (booking details will be circulated shortly).