


Meeting Minutes: **Dementia Friends**

Date: 4th March 2023 **Time:** 2 pm **Location:** Town Hall

In attendance: Diane Ritherdon (Chair), Cathy Dean (Secretary) Glen Williams, Adriana Jaracz, Paul Bates, Elizabeth Stubbs, Emma Richardson.

Apologies: Claire Shread, Catherine Sale, David Morris, Gail Gittings.

Next meeting: TBC

1.	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>Diane welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
2.	<p><u>Previous minutes and outstanding actions.</u></p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting of 16.10.23 were accepted, and a chair's report was issued in January 2024.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>A reprint of the Dementia Friends leaflet has been actioned. Since the last meeting a second reprint has been issued which removed U3A activities and added in Everybody Leisure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AJ suggested an addition to include later-life advisors, the help with paying for care. https://societyoflaterlifeadvisers.co.uk/
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3.	<p>Dementia Friends Collective (Cheshire East Network)</p> <p>Due to Alzheimer's removing the Dementia Friends Programme, dementia leads from Congleton, Alsager, Sandbach, Poynton, Middlewich & Nantwich are continuing to work together to produce a dementia friends programme.</p> <p>Diane shared the proposed new logo.</p> <div data-bbox="172 1630 424 1890" data-label="Image">  <p>The logo features three stylized hearts in blue, green, and yellow above the word 'Dementia' in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below 'Dementia' is the phrase 'Friendly community' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'Cheshire East' is written in white text inside a teal-colored rounded rectangle.</p> </div> <p>We can replace Cheshire East with Congleton. All happy.</p> <p>Terms of reference completed. (Attached with minutes)</p>
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4.	<p><u>Cheshire East Dementia Strategy</u></p> <p>The strategy is now completed and can be viewed on this page: https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/livewell/living-independently/cheshire-east-place-dementia-plan-final-version-2023.pdf</p> <p>The Dementia Steering Group on the 3rd of April will be Jo Cliffe's last meeting who has been instrumental in bringing about the strategy. We wish Jo all the best.</p>
5.	<p><u>Lions Stickers</u></p> <p>Diane shared a range of stickers with the group which has been developed by the Lions dementia lead. They are brightly coloured stickers with pictures and words to help identify everyday objects.</p> <p>Aims to maintain a little independence.</p> <p>We are looking to purchase some with existing funds and distribute via our groups.</p>
6.	<p><u>Health and Wellbeing Fayre</u></p> <p>We will be taking a stand at the Health & Wellbeing Fayre and Diane will be running a workshop at 10:30 am on how to communicate and help people living with Dementia.</p> <p>March 26th 10 am – 3 pm Congleton Town Hall.</p>
7.	<p><u>East Cheshire Hospice</u></p> <p>Community Dementia Volunteering Programme – A volunteer programme that lets the carer have a two-hour break while the client who has early-stage dementia, no personal care required. Full training is given, you don't need to have had any previous experience of working with people with dementia – a caring nature and a willingness to learn are our only requirements.</p> <p>Angela O'Mahony on angela.omahony@echospice.org.uk or 01625 665682</p> <p>Lots of interest in the service, a lack of volunteers coming forward. Put in touch with Congleton Volunteer Action.</p>
8.	<p><u>Future of Group</u></p> <p>It is proposed to combine the dementia friends group with the senior forum. Many of the members belong to both groups. Glen proposed that Dementia Friends should have a dedicated slot on the agenda and expressed concern that Zoom meetings did not give the same network opportunities as face to face meetings (At a subsequent meeting between Suzy Firkin, chair of the senior forum, and Diane it was agreed to have some face to face meetings.)</p>

A.O.B

Community Quiz in Aid of Marie Curie Friday 22nd March 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm at Astbury Mere Care Home contact Adrina.jaracz@porthaven.co.uk

Equal access for all in Congleton is the aim of a new group formed to advise and question Congleton Town Council in its ambitious disability-positive work. The new group, made up of local people living with a wide range of disabilities is seeking help from others whose lives are affected by a disability to take a few minutes to complete a survey to gain a better understanding of the issues facing people living with a disability in Congleton.

To complete the survey online click: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CongAccess>