



YOUNG CRAWLEY CHILDREN & FAMILIES FORUM

Tuesday 16th July 2019

Meeting notes

PRESENT

Liz Roe, Home-Start CHAMS (Chair)
Charis Easter, C CVS
Brian Eastman, C CVS, Scouts
Maria Cook, Autism Support Crawley
Tasha Brabon, Aspens
Robin Sweet, Crawley Library
Mary Kircin, Sussex Prisoners' Families
Lucy Bear, LPK Learning
Danni Groves, Super Siblings
Sophie Smart, Super Siblings
Sally Sikora, IPEH
Gail Reeves, WSCC

APOLOGIES

Ben Burt, Springboard
Adam Wicking, Crawley Town FC
Kath Brooks, WSCC
Matt Laird, CBC
Tracey Wooldridge, CCG

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Liz welcomed everyone and asked for a brief round of introductions.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising. Minutes agreed.

Maria Cook – Autism Support Crawley

Maria presented Autism Support Crawley to the forum, explaining the history of the group and all of the activities that they are involved in now. The presentation is attached.

The website is <http://www.autismsupportcrawley.co.uk/> and the Facebook page can be found here - <https://www.facebook.com/AutismSupportCrawleyInfo/>

They are holding a Golf Fundraiser Day on Saturday 28th September. Please see attached flier for more information.

Sophie Smart - Super Siblings

Sophie presented the newly set up Charity, Super Siblings to the forum. Sophie explained that the charity had been set up to support the siblings of children who have special needs who can at times become isolated and confused and to put them in touch with other siblings who understand what they are going through. The programme of support is due to start in September where there will be fun sessions for siblings. The sessions will take place at Manor Green Primary School. On Mondays the sessions are for 6-8 year olds, 4.30 – 6.00pm and on Thursdays the sessions are for 9-14 year olds, 4.30 – 6.00pm.

If there are families interested in these sessions, you will need to contact Super Siblings to register your place. You can do this through their website <https://www.supersiblings.co.uk/> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/supersiblingsuk/>. They are holding a Fundraiser Day on Sunday 18th August. Please see attached flier for more information.

Tasha Brabon – Aspens

Tasha presented Aspens to the forum and explained her role and what Aspens offers. Tasha's presentation is attached. Aspens offer a free 1-1 online service and free Family Support Sessions offering advice. There is also a Specialist Support Service which does have a cost attached to it but funding can be looked for to help with costs.

Fliers for these services are attached.

For more information, please visit Aspens website - <https://aspens.org.uk/> or their Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/AspensCharitiesLtd/>

INFORMATION SHARING

Gail Reeves – Working Age Service - aims to help people living in West Sussex to stay healthy and independent. They usually work with people who do not receive services from specialist health care teams or social care services.

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/3601/ws1360_working_age.pdf

There is also a new service called Lifelong Services which is for anyone that has a lifelong disability acquired before the age of 25 and/or autism. The service is for people that require social care support either as a child and/or adult. <https://westsussex.local-offer.org/services/1112-lifelong-services-life-long>

Robin Sweet – Crawley Library – The Summer Reading Challenge has started. Children aged 4-11 years old can take part in this challenge. The children need to read 6 books over the summer. You can register online or in the library.

Also 14 year olds can volunteer to help run the challenge. For more info please click here - <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/more-library-services/library-services-for-children-and-young-people/summer-reading-challenge/>

Lucy Bear – LPK Learning – There is a family event happening on Wednesday 14th August called Book in the Park – flier attached. For further information on LPK Learning please see their website - <http://www.lpklearning.org/index.html> and Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/lpklearning/>

Mary Kircin – Sussex Prisoners' Families – support people affected by the Criminal Justice System. They run drop in sessions and provide 1-1 support. There is also training for professionals to help people in the prisons. For more information please see their website - <https://www.sussexprisonersfamilies.org.uk/> and their Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/sussexprisonersfamilies/>

Brian Eastman – Scouts – for information on the various scout groups running in Crawley please see their website - <https://crawleydistrictscouts.co.uk/>

Sally Sikora – IPEH – it is business as usual over the summer. Various sessions are being held over the summer – please see here to find out what is on at your local Children and Family Centre - <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/find-my-nearest/children-and-family-centre/>
The Find it Out Service for young people will also continue throughout the Summer.

Liz Roe – Homestart – another 10 volunteers have been trained and are now supporting families at home. There is an increased number of children on the autistic spectrum being referred to the service. The Twins and Triplets group, the Forgewood parents group and the Little Steps groups only run in term time. There is a charity fun run taking place 4th August at Horsham Park. To find out more about Homestart please visit their website <http://homestartchams.org.uk/> and Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/homestartCHAMS/>

Date of next meeting
Tuesday 8th October, 10am – 12pm at The Charis Centre