

Notes of a meeting of the Later Life Conference Steering Group

Tuesday 31st May 2016 at Bracknell Forest Council, Time Square, Bracknell
1.30 pm – 2.30 pm

1 Present:

Mira Haynes	Chief Officer OP<C, Bracknell Forest Council
Tracey Hedgecox	Chief Executive Officer, Age Concern Bracknell Forest
Carole Allen	Assistant, Age Concern Bracknell Forest
Yvette Hockley	Volunteer Services Manager, Involve Bracknell Forest
Cliff Thompson	Bracknell Forest Councillor and Trustee Age Concern Bracknell Forest
Madeline Diver	Bracknell Citizens Advice Bureau
Sherree Westwood	Supportive Housing Services Manager, Bracknell Forest Homes

2 Later Life Conference

2.1 The Later Life Conference would be held on Tuesday 4th October 2016 at Bracknell Leisure Centre from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm. The Forest Suite and The Balcony (upstairs) had been booked. The centre had been booked from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm to allow time for set up and clear down. The Mayor of Bracknell Forest and Councillor Dale Birch would be invited to attend. Dale Birch would be asked to welcome the delegates and to outline what the day will cover. An opening/key note speaker was considered a good idea, suggestions welcomed.

2.2 It was agreed that the conference would be entitled “Planning for Later Life”.

2.3 There would be tea, coffee and biscuits for delegates, and food can be purchased from the Sports Centre café if needed.

2.4 The conference would be broken up into presentations and seminars. Each seminar and presentation will run twice so all attendees can attend both sessions if they wish. It was suggested that the format could be two presentations including financial planning and legal matters making wills, living wills, power of attorney etc. Possible seminars will cover the areas of public health, Forestcare, becoming a carer, gardening and volunteering/befriending that type of thing. Any other ideas would be welcomed.

2.5 There would be an area for stalls, called The Market Place. Businesses would be charged for a stall, local charities and groups will be charged a lesser price. Donation from stall holders would be required for the raffle to be drawn on the day. Suggested stall holders include:

- Bracknell Shopmobility
- Fire Service
- National Trust
- Stroke Association
- U3A
- Open Learning Centre
- Age Concern Bracknell Forest
- Blood pressure, and sugar testing
- Bracknell Forest Homes

Stall holders would be given lunch.

- 2.6 A Wishing Well would be focus point, where people could write their wishes for retirement.
- 2.7 Other ideas for the day included a singing session, hands on activities “have a go” type of events and other taster sessions. The essence of the day would be very much informal and interactive for the delegates.
- 2.8 Volunteers will be needed on the day to help. Mira will organise some people from her department, other volunteers will be needed.
- 2.7 There will be a survey/feedback form will be prepared and there will be a prize drawn from the forms completed to encourage participation
- 2.8 Advertising the event needed to be arranged, posters, flyers

ACTION:

- 1 Mira Haynes to arrange for the Mayor and Councillor Birch to attend the conference.
- 2 ACBF draft a programme for the event, to decide on layout etc
- 3 ACBF to visit Sports Centre to decide on layout and format
- 4 Meeting to be arranged for July
- 5 All steering group members to come up with suggestions for speaker
- 6 Raffle source prizes stallholders to donate items
- 7 Advertising, programme, via BFC communications section