

**Chesil Locality
Portland Local Alliance Group
Minutes
Thursday 18th April 2024
Teams Meeting**

Meeting Attendees:

Chair: Sarah Howard (Deputy Director of Place, NHS Dorset)

Attendees: Susan Cocking, Sandy Cave, Jakkie Spencer, Sue Rolls, Suzanne Rideout, Tazmin McLaughlan, Tracey Digby, Gina Brown, Sean Holehouse, Anna Beech, Jane Somper, Katherine Hudson, Chris Ginnifer, Lisa Osborne, Lesley Bishop, Cheryl Lombardo,

Minutes: Tracey Brown

Apologies:

Jane Stomper, Elaine Okonski, Alice Deacon, Esther Elliott, Louise Drury, Sam Hendre, Sharon Mitchell, Daniel Parker, Carol Hoskings, Deborah Woodward, Rebecca Watson.

No	Item Minutes
	<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Sarah welcomed everybody to the Meeting and started introductions.</p>
1	<p>Update regarding Family Hubs</p> <p>Sarah informed that Rebecca Watson has not been able to attend this afternoon's meeting, however there is a questionnaire being circulated for comments and feedback regarding the location and model of the family hub. There are various models across Dorset depending on the needs of the population.</p> <p>Below is the link to the survey with a deadline of 03.05.2024.</p> <p>https://islandcommunityaction.org/2024/04/11/portland-family-hub/</p> <p>There is a building which was used by Smiley Faces Nursery which is currently empty and is potentially a great building to use at Top Hill. It is believed to be owned by Betterment. Lisa Osborn informed that this is a site which may be of great use to youth services and a prime location for another Portland Drop in for outreach youth support along with other services. Betterment is willing to let the property to the Portland Drop-in service, the rent is already paid for the next two to three years to Betterment by the Dorset Council.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Howard to email Alice and Rebecca for advice on whether financial LAG funding may be used for utilising the building.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Beech to seek advice from housing colleagues to see whether there is any support they may be able to offer.
2	<p>Other Topics:</p> <p>Open Arms Youth Club: Sandy Cave gave information regarding the Open Arms Youth Club on Portland has been active for 27 years in Eastern Square. This is a voluntary service for young people.</p> <p>Sandy expressed a desire to offer more for young people who have educational needs and may benefit from extra support. This may be through opening the centre more days per week.</p> <p>It is a good place to support people with disabilities who have to leave the Island currently for educational purposes and may not be socialising with local peers.</p> <p>Lesley Bishop added that there is an increase in school children being home educated and this is possibly due to their parents needing their own support due to mental health issues.</p> <p>Gina Brown informed that the Inclusion Team has expanded to offer extra support to children and their families who are being home educated. There are a lot of websites families can go to and the team are keen to reach out to these families to break the barriers and let families know they are there to give support and not to judge. The team are interested in offering a space families can go to for support.</p> <p>Lisa Osborn and Gina Brown expressed an interest in visiting the Open Arms to see how it works and will contact Sandy to arrange a visit.</p> <p>Email address for Sandy: sandy-cave24@yahoo.co.uk</p> <p>Dorset Mind:</p> <p>Tracey Digby informed the meeting that Dorset Mind is a charity for adults and young people who are struggling and in need of mental health support and outlined 2 services: Connected Minds and Active Monitoring.</p> <p>Connected Minds is a group programme for children aged 10 to 13 years who are struggling with school. This is currently operating in Purbeck. Dorset Mind will be seeking LAG funding to support the start up of the programme in Weymouth and Portland, with</p>

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	<p>the aim of commencing in September 24, (venue to alternate between Weymouth and Portland).</p> <p>Active Monitoring offers guided self-help on-line for young people and commenced in Weymouth and Portland in April 24, funded by the Primary Care Network. This service is currently available via a G.P. referral. Lisa is happy to approach Royal manor Practice to discuss referral options.</p> <p>Please see posters attached re Connected Minds and Active Monitoring.</p> <p>Orienteering Course: Anna Beech informed that there is a re-launch of the Orienteering course in Victoria Gardens on May 25th 1:00pm – 5:00pm.</p> <p>Anna would like a small group of young people to take part, Lisa informed Anna to approach Brownies/Scouts groups who may be interested.</p> <p>There is a friendly food club who are planning a “train the trainer” approach. Anna will circulate details.</p> <p>Action: Anna to email details to go out with meeting notes.</p> <p>Anna Beech email address: Anna.beech@corsetcouncil.gov.uk</p>
3	<p>Feedback regarding the Portland LAG Meetings: Sarah Howard has requested feedback regarding the LAG meetings. People can email ideas/suggestions to Sarah directly or via chesillocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk Councillor Cocking feels that the group is a very positive and pro-active with good progress being made.</p>
4	<p>Date for Next Meeting:</p> <p>Teams meeting to be confirmed.</p>