

**Notes from the meeting of the Third Sector Network Hub  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 09.30am  
Room 1, the Gateway**

**Present:**

Derek Jones (DJ)	Disability
Wynn Higham (WH)	Carers
Dave McNichol (DM)	Children and Families
Mandy Taviner (MT)	Learning Disability
Matt Davenport (MD)	Homelessness
Janice Hayes (JHa)	Culture
Jo Taylor (JT)	Third Sector Partnerships
Eileen Fitzgerald (EF)	Older People
Alison Cullen (AC)	Infrastructure and Volunteering
Stef Woof (SW)	Infrastructure
Lynne Bennett (LB)	Town Centre Management

**Chair of meeting:**

Alison Cullen (AC)

**Minutes:**

Stef Woof (SW)	Warrington Voluntary Action
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**Apologies:**

Steve Cullen (SC)	Information, Advice and Social Policy
Paul Storey (PS)	Young People
Hasan Kazi (HK)	Ethnic Communities
Dida Goode (DG)	Substance Misuse
Michael Sheppard (MS)	Mental Health
James Howes (JHo)	Sports
Lydia Thompson (LT)	Health
Matt Parker (MP)	Parks and Green Spaces

Item		Action
1.	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies received as detailed above.	
2.	<b>Conflicts of Interest</b> None declared	
3.	<b>Guest Speakers</b> None – AC updated that Ashley Smith will attend the November meeting to update on the My Life website.	
4.	<b>Notes of the Last Meeting/Matters Arising</b>	

	Minutes were agreed as a true record.	
5.	<p><b>Action Points Carried Forward</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Re: reporting issues around Town Centre cleanliness. JT confirmed all issues need to be passed to Dave Cotterill's team.</li> <li>2. Pending re: SC arranging a meeting with Cllr Pat Wright. MT stated this is in reference to reinvigorating networks and support for LD particularly in relation to employment. Currently unaware as to who is leading on this within the council. MT stated there is still no LD partnerships meetings and asked who is leading on this in Mike Alsop's absence. JT to begin enquiries about this.</li> </ol>	
6.	<p><b>Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</b> Not met, next meeting November 15.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Central Neighbourhood Renewal Area Board</b> Various stakeholder events have been held re: the development of the Masterplan. Engagement gaps and strategies were discussed by wider stakeholders to ensure the whole community is involved, particularly young people. JT stated that engagement with children and young people had already begun, including links being made with local schools and colleges. Partnerships with GP surgeries and other community buildings are also being explored to raise awareness and consult. A number of Hub members have not yet attended /been invited to stakeholder events. JT explained to colleagues that she is happy to come out to any organisation who would like to know more about the CNRB and the Masterplan. The distribution list would be updated with key Town Centre contacts who work with clients from the central wards and all would have the opportunity to input to the plan, this is only the start of the engagement process. The last meeting of the CNRB included presentations on the family summer clubs, an update from Torus re: their merger with Liverpool Mutual Homes. Also an update from 'Central 6', which are the group responsible for dealing with immediate resident issues and providing a voice for local residents.</p>	JT
8.	<p><b>Third Sector Policy Group</b> Gave an update on the finished Charity Governance report, which didn't reveal anything new, but the survey itself proved a useful tool for charities. WVA will send the final report to their Registered Charities mailing list, and encourage people to continue using the survey as a development tool. Discussed the Compact refresh, which will produce a shorter and more accessible document which will be a more practical resource for groups. A small sub group will work towards launching the new document in January. Rick Howell updated on WBC management restructure within his team but couldn't confirm final outcomes. Commissioning check list pilot Citizens Advice was discussed at length.</p> <p>AC to circulate minutes from TSPG</p>	AC

<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>News Round-Up</b></p> <p>JHa – The Culture Warrington and Livewire joint bid to the Building Connections fund was unsuccessful, as the fund was over-subscribed. Going forward, partnerships will be developed to ensure Warrington is more ready for a bid of this size. There are a number of commemoration events planned to celebrate the centenary of Armistice Day, taking place from Holy Trinity Church on Sankey Street, the main aim being to connect local people with local stories from the past. Next year, Warrington Walking Day will coincide with the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. The Heritage Network continues to meet, and will begin developing a town-wide strategy at the next meeting, which aims to give people ownership of their heritage and say what they value. The network would also seek to engage with the younger generation.</p> <p>DJ – WDP to facilitate consultation re: all aspects of accessibility of libraries through focus groups. There is likely to be an underspend with New Leaf which means the programme could be extended by 6 months until March 2020. WDP have seen great successes through the programme, and have exceeded targets. WDP had a decision to not award funding overturned by WVR College regarding their 18/19 contract. They later apologised and said the decision was made ‘in haste’. Application to the Work and Health Challenge fund was unsuccessful, but could provide a starting point for other projects and partnership work. There is a new ‘smart flat’ fitted at the Centre for Independent Living, which showcases innovative assisted technology solutions for the home. Key members of staff are being trained to assist viewings, open Monday – Friday 10am – 2pm, initially appointment only. A new information advice and guidance shop has been set up within the fracture clinic in the hospital. Open 10am – 4pm every day. DJ enquired about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Assembly, which was originally planned to happen in November. AC updated that this will happen in January to link in the refresh of the Compact, progression of the Masterplan, and will have an overall theme of volunteering and social action.</p> <p>MD – Rough sleeper count meeting reported a figure of 21. This has quadrupled in 3 years. Likely linked to substance abuse issues, and less tolerance amongst landlords. The figure is large for Warrington, but still low compared to the North West region. Recent press regarding the homeless man murdering his partner in Warrington has not cast homelessness services in a good light. WBC are potentially going to start operating a ‘sit up’ service in Bank Park at night to keep people safe, warm and dry – but no bed facilities. On October 1<sup>st</sup> changes to Housing Benefit brought in minimum accommodation standards in order to claim. James Lee House meet the requirement, but RATI currently do not. They have been given 6 months to make the necessary changes. JLH’s art therapy group were offered a small exhibition as part of the Warrington Contemporary Arts</p>	

	<p>Festival, which really boosted the confidence and morale of the group. The group are planning on a touring exhibition as a result.</p> <p>DM – The Football Association have commissioned a company to do a 10 year strategy for pitches in Warrington inc. grass, 3G and recreational. There are three 3G pitches in Warrington, but there is potential to have more, as the membership and need is apparent. The aim is to spread funds across the country. Issues of ownership will need to be taken into consideration, but overall it's a positive development.</p> <p>Livewire, WYC and WBC Youth Service are working together on a large project in Orford Park at night, and will look at that being a prime location for WYC going forward. 2 members of WYC staff help to run Lymm Youth and Community association, at times that suit the young people. On Side are setting up a new development group to support the plans of the new Youth Zone, which will include members of the Youth Club, youth service stakeholders, and young people who are not engaged in any services. There will be a particular focus on youth from the Islamic community. AC to send DM her contacts from the community. The WYC Board received Prevent training which was well received, and prompted the Board to have useful conversations. DM and AC to discuss whether this training could be delivered to the wider sector. DM was recently introduced to a small volunteer-led farm in Penketh near Fiddler's Ferry. They have 4 disabled adults working with them, and are looking to partner with local agencies. DM suggested WVA and WDP should make contact, DM to send details over.</p> <p>MT – There will be a cancer awareness event ran by Liverpool advocates on November 13<sup>th</sup>. The SEND team will be leading a consultation on the refreshed Autism Strategy.</p> <p>WH – The Carers' Centre supported a young carers art exhibition at the Gateway which was really well received. Carers Uknitted have created 1061 poppies to represent the men from Warrington who fell during the First World War. These will be displayed in the Carers' Centre, then in London from November 10<sup>th</sup>. They have linked with various other poppy events, including the Veteran's Hub exhibition in the Gateway. The poppies will be sold with all proceeds going to the British Legion. WH spoke at the Carers Conference in London, and got good reactions. There was applause when she mentioned Warrington has a Carer's Centre, this shows how little there are across the UK. There is a petition for increase carers' allowance called 'Fairer for Carers'. Scotland have awarded an increase, but the rest of the UK is behind. WH asked everyone to sign the petition. Carers' Rights Day will have the theme 'caring for your future' about carer's own health and employment opportunities etc.</p> <p>EF – Town centre pavements and walkways are not visible for people with visual impairments, and could be marked better. OPEG is now a small committee which continues to meet with the Council to help steer future consultation with older people.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>AC/DM</p> <p>DM</p>
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	<p>AC – The Culture Board has appointed a sub group to refresh the Cultural Strategy, which needs to be updated with the recommendations from the Commission. There are issues around the Local Initiative Fund surrounding Cllr Tony Higgins doing a pre-sift preventing all bids reaching the panel, this is not an open and transparent process and best use of public funds. AC asked the Hub if she could forward a letter of concern to Cllr Higgins from the Hub rather than from WVA. All in agreement</p> <p>SW – The Culture Consortium met to discuss what the action plan should be for the next 12 months. The next few meetings will be facilitated by SW to draft a plan, which will then be presented to the Culture Board for comment.</p>	AC
11.	<b>AOB</b> – none	
12.	<p><b>Dates of Next Hub Meeting</b></p> <p>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Room 1</p>	