



Rushmoor Voluntary Sector Forum Notes: An Update on RVS

Wednesday 13th December Civic Offices, Farnborough

Welcome and Introduction

Donna Bone welcomed everyone and provided a recap on the last forum in September. Apologies will be noted in minutes of the meeting.

Donna started the meeting by reflecting on the June Forum, which focussed on Equalities. The quality speakers provided personal insight which is always valuable. Equalities will be an on-going thread of work potentially looking at anti-racism and supporting serving and veteran communities.

Donna acknowledged that many organisations are under extra financial pressure at the moment. This includes Frimley ICS and Hampshire County Council. RVS are not immune and we expect to be significantly affected by the cuts proposed under HCC's SP25 savings programme. More so, our local residents will be significantly affected by the proposed cuts so we ask that all groups support their members and users to engage in the consultations which will start in January.

Today's Forum will focus on what RVS currently offers. Most often, the information that we share with our members and stakeholders is about other groups. We are often asked about what else RVS do, so today we are going to showcase our projects and services not least because they exist to support you a groups and also your members and users, as residents of Rushmoor.

Presentations

The following notes are to be read in conjunction with the slide decks from the presenters.

Steve Manley, Senior Head of Engagement and Communications, NHS Frimley

Hazel Chant, Project Leader, Blooming Marvellous

Angela Wilson, RVS Community Support Worker

Beverley Jones, RVS Operations Manager

Gill Tootill, Home Help Team Leader

Nicola Norman, RVS Community Development Officer

Sarah Knott, NHS Patient & Public Involvement & Engagement Manager

Donna Bone, RVS CEO

Steve Manley, Senior Head of Engagement and Communications, NHS Frimley

Q. Is there a set end date for the Aldershot Urgent Care Centre?

A. It is a pilot project, maybe Feb/Mar 2024. If successful, will be rolled out.

Q. Have discussions started yet with the UNITE union rep about job cuts.

A. Yes, staff are under consultation.

Additional links that may be useful:

Support our messaging - download resources from our campaign resources page:

Make the right choice [Make the right choice | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Winter top tips [Winter top tips | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Virtual wards [Virtual wards | Frimley Health and Care](#)

NHS App [NHS App | Frimley Health and Care](#)

General Practice campaign [General Practice access and team | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Useful ICS webpages:

Stay well this winter [Stay well this winter | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Make the right choice [Choose the right service | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Aldershot Urgent Care Centre [Aldershot Urgent Care Centre | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Virtual wards [Virtual Wards | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Your GP Practice health team [Your GP practice health team | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Community panel [Community Panel | Frimley Health and Care](#)

Hazel Chant, Project Leader, Blooming Marvellous, RVS

Q. Does your support for community gardens include opportunities for roof gardens and ponds?

A. Yes, using natural resources responsibly that are sustainable.

If you have any green spaces connected to your projects that would benefit from our help, please contact Blooming Marvellous on bmgardening1@rvs.org.uk.

Angela Wilson, RVS Community Support Worker

If you would like to be involved and know more about the Rushmoor Green Spaces Forum, please contact Angela on angela.wilson@rvs.org.uk.

Beverley Jones, RVS Operations Manager

Comment - Southwood Country Park is difficult to get to as transport stops at 2pm. RVS charge for their minibuses and we want to keep it Free of charge.

Q. Can anyone with a B1 or D1 licence drive the minibuses?

A. MiDAS training is required in order to hire minibuses. Standard and accessible courses are fully booked up to March 2024. More information is available on the RVS website.

Q. Can anyone hire minibuses?

A. They are not available for the public to hire, only RVS members and affiliated members. RVS have a small pool of volunteer drivers.

Q. What are the fuel charges?

A. The cost to hire the minibus is £45 per day which includes 30 miles of travel. For longer distances, the cost is £1.40 per mile. A fuel card is provided.

Nicola Norman, RVS Community Development Officer

For more information about volunteering contact Nicola on volunteering@rvs.org.uk

Sarah Knott, NHS Patient & Public Involvement & Engagement Manager

Q. Have our government sold our bank of data? People are nervous/suspicious about having their data shared.

A. For this project data is anonymised and for research purposes only. This is why I want to talk to the public and engage with them and address their issues.

Comment – GDPR is fully supported, and security issues are managed.

Donna (on behalf of Heather Chalkley, RVS Community Development Manager)

Q. Will the Rushmoor Link have any social media element?

A. RBC will launch Rushmoor Link in January 2024 on their website. A link will be available, plus promotional posters and postcards.

Steve Masterson thanked RVS and Donna for the VSF and Donna thanked the RVS staff and volunteers.

We are planning Voluntary Sector Forums for 2024. We welcome your suggestions for themes and speakers. The next forum is 27th March 2024.

Apologies

Jim Storey	Fleet Pond Society
Bishnu Shrestha	Gurkha Chautari
Nikki Acott	Aldershot Garrison
Rachel Austen	Community Matters Partnership
Heather Pocock	Kerith Church
Bev Caldwell	Andover Mind
Gill Page	Farnborough Baptist Church
Lucy Crockford	Grainger PLC
Valerie Tigwell	Open Sight
Bob Lucas	3 Counties Dog Training
Calum Stewart	Citizens Advice Rushmoor
Jacqui Nicol	Children's Society
Sarah Magee	Army Welfare Service
Samena Mehmood	Army Welfare Service
Clive Ward	SSAFA