

Community Action Group Meeting Sunday 8 November 2009 at 7.15pm at the DCC: Minutes

Present: Eve Bonham Cozens, Alison Corfield, Glenda Goddard and as visitors Ian and Christine Blackie and Ivy. Apologies received from Matthew Cook and Roger Frapwell

The meeting opened and closed in prayer.

Dorchester Friends in Deed:

- Glenda reported that a huge portfolio had been delivered in connection with the APS. They had conditionally given us approval subject to a little more paperwork to confirm things and this has to be done before January. A requirement was another supervision for the co-ordinator and this has been arranged. Glenda was thanked for her hard work. After last Sunday five people had approached her as wishing to volunteer to become befrienders. Glenda said she was hoping to have a training day by the end of November. The APS feedback had said that the training package was excellent and this was very encouraging. Ian said that the involvement of other churches in the scheme had been discussed at a leadership meeting but no decision had yet been taken. Glenda said that it was important to stress that the DFid was the DCC scheme. She also said that she was submitting the first stage of a grant application this week

Food Bank:

- This is a scheme set up by the Dorchester Baptist Church for offering help in a crisis and showing compassion to people in the local community who might experience crisis when money runs out and families go hungry. Various groups or organisation can refer recipients to the Food Bank and these groups, such as the CAG, will be voucher holders and the named signatories (those on our committee) will be referrers. We are the only people in the DCC who can refer people and if it comes to your notice that there are people in need we can submit a red form (from Glenda's pigeon hole) to the recipient who will then go direct to the Food Bank on the days and times shown in the leaflet. The donations of food come from supermarkets, commercial enterprises and individuals and the scheme will be run by Peter Johnston and the Rev Justyn Hopkins of the Baptist Church. All agreed that this was an excellent initiative and at the next meeting it would be discussed at to how the DCC might help with donations of food into the Food Bank. NB if any of the 5 signatories from the CAG feel they want to discuss a possible recipient they can do so but Glenda stressed that it would be possible to refer someone on our own

HUB:

- Ian had kindly delivered the items donated to the HUB which were collected by the DCC last Sunday. He said that they had been well received by the Hub and Eve said that there was a note in this weeks welcome sheet thanking everyone who had donated items. Glenda said that next time Liz Meech would print out some stickers so that these could be attached to the next collection. The date for this was fixed for Sunday 10th January.

Women's Refuge:

- Eve explained to the visitors that the CAG intend to make two collections for the Women's Refuge each year. The winter one which is for toiletries that have been gifted over Christmas and are not required by the recipients. These will be collected on Sunday 3rd January and Glenda will arrange delivery to the Women's Refuge. Eve is to inform Liz Meech about both this collection and the HUB collection so that it will go in the welcome sheet at the right times. Glenda is to be in touch with Grace about these dates going into the Honeycomb. The summer collection will be held in June and this is for items for children and babies - clothing, kit etc..

Migrant Workers:

- Nothing to report as Jon was not at the meeting

Other matters:

Christine said that the best way of promoting the work that we did and encouraging people to become involved was to stand up and tell people at meetings or services. Ian offered to stand up on the following Sunday 15th November and tell those present about the Food Bank scheme. He was thanked for this.

The meeting ended at 8.00pm and the next meeting will be on Sunday 10th January at 7.15pm after the service. It was decided that with so many activities going on in December that, as we did last year, there would be no meeting in December.