

Bassetlaw Volunteer Co-ordinators Meeting

Thursday 7th September 2017 1pm at BCVS

Present:

John Wright – Youth Justice Service
Deb Morton – Healthwatch Nottingham & Nottinghamshire
Clara Taylor – Royal Voluntary Service
Chris Bates – Notts Wildlife Trust
Natasha Mellors – BCVS

Apologies:

Suzan Hyland – Contact the Elderly
Greg Herdman – Clarborough & Welham IT Group
Amy Chandler – Forestry Commission
Matt Pickering – New Roots
Sue Marriott – Literacy Volunteers
Stacey Smalley – Macmillan
Nick Rhodes – Forces Friends
Judith Keegan – AgeUK Nottingham & Notts
Richard Strickson – Retford Charter Day
Paula Howard – Bassetlaw Foodbank
Laura Palmer – Centre for Sport & learning
Judy Maher – Citizens Advice Bassetlaw
Michelle Shingler – Tesco
Ian Hall – Bassetlaw Hospice

Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising

Minutes of the last meeting agreed as a true record.

DBS checks – BCVS are now able to process DBS checks and ID verification for VCS organisations, with a competitive admin fee of £15 per check. Natasha shared the guidelines for this new service, which is working very well so far.

Bassetlaw Big Breakfast – the next session will be Wednesday 20th September, with a guest speaker from the DWP. Natasha shared the poster.

Volunteer Passport Training – we now have own training programme, in conjunction with Mansfield CVS and Inspire. The first course will take place at BCVS on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th October, 9.30-3.30. It is aimed at anyone wanting to get into volunteering, or who is already a volunteer and wants to increase their knowledge. Natasha shared the BCVS advertising poster, but the same course will be running in Mansfield the following week if people can get there instead.

National Volunteers Week

The event was very successful, thank you to everyone who helped out. Each organisation that supported the event got at least 1 good contact out of it, and BCVS had 12 people to follow up for brokerage. Positive comments about the location and 'being where people are', instead of expecting them to come and see us at a separate venue/event. However, the craft activity was not popular this year (make your own Father's Day card). Thanks also to Roger and his helpers who were out and about giving leaflets to the shoppers of Worksop, telling them we were available to talk about volunteering.

The banner we used, saying "Interested in Volunteering" can be borrowed for events if needed, email involve@bcvs.org.uk to book it.

Ideas for next year welcome!

Organisation Updates

The following round-table updates were shared....

- Youth Justice Service – is starting the next round of recruitment later this month, including following up from the contacts made during National Volunteers Week. Still looking for more Panel Members in the Bassetlaw area. **Action** - Natasha to advertise on social media.
- RVS – currently short of volunteers for driving and befriending, so services are at capacity. **Action** - Natasha to advertise on social media. Also looking for office space in Bassetlaw (suitable for 6 work stations) so if you know of any space for hire, please contact Clara.
- Healthwatch – going through some more changes in structure due to the Nottinghamshire/City merger. The official date for the merge is April 2018, but they are now located in the same building. Still looking for Enter & View volunteers.
- Notts Wildlife Trust (Idle Valley) – Chris is new to post and is setting up some conservation volunteering days, so will be looking to recruit to those.
- Forestry Commission – unable to attend, but sent this email update... still recruiting for practical sessions on Wednesday afternoons based around Ollerton, and Thursdays based around Mansfield. Shadow Ranger recruitment will start again in late September/early October.
- Bassetlaw Hospice – unable to attend, but would like to share details of a Challenge Walk event on the Welbeck Estate on 7th October, see separate poster for details.

Any Other Business

- Christmas volunteering – if anyone has any Christmas volunteering opportunities planned, or knows of any that we can advertise, please email involve@bcvs.org.uk
- Guest speakers – if there is a particular topic you would like to hear about at these network meetings, please email involve@bcvs.org.uk
- First Aid training – we received an email offering free first aid training to local organisations. Natasha shared details
- #iwill week – just a note that the national youth social action week, branded #iwill is to take place 20-24th November 2017.
- Health & Social Care Forum – Natasha handed out a poster for this new event.
- North Nottinghamshire Support Partnership – the official launch event of the evolution of 'Advice Bassetlaw' is taking place later this month. Natasha shared a poster.
- And finally.....if you have ANY comments on what value you get from this forum, or you have any ideas on how it could be changed/improved, please email involve@bcvs.org.uk

Dates of next meetings

Please cancel the next meeting date of 29th November, Natasha is leaving BCVS for a new role, so the organisation will be in touch in the new year to arrange a meeting, once a new Volunteer Co-ordinator is recruited. With this in mind, please keep involve@bcvs.org.uk in your email contact lists, as all future correspondence will come from this address.