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**HCN Locality Network Open Mic Event**

**5th October 2021 on Zoom**

***Hastings Community Network is hosted by Hastings Voluntary Action and part funded by East Sussex County Council***

Carole Dixon (HCN Executive Chair) opened the event thanking everyone for taking part and spoke about how the Open Mic events have proved to be very popular. They are a simple idea to enable as many people to have their say and increase networking and collaboration**.** It isimportant that the HCN have regular opportunities to connect with local organisations. When we represent the sector it is important to us to be able to understand the issues that local groups face and celebrate the work they are doing.

**38 participants attended on the day from 35 local organisations from across the voluntary, community, public and independent sectors.**

**19 projects shared information as part of the Open Mic space**

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| **Participant** | **Organisation** |
| **Julie Abson** | **Lets Get Working SCDA** |
| **Debby Anderson** | **Hastings Voluntary Action** |
| **Teresa Andrew** | **HARC** |
| **Dawn Banforth** | **One You East Sussex** |
| **Laura Beerling** | **Hastings Opportunity Area** |
| **Godfrey Bevan** | **Hastings & St Leonards Mens Shed** |
| **Nicola Brocklehurst** | **Integrated Family Healthcare/PCN** |
| **Lisa Buckland** | **Optivo** |
| **Jane Caley** | **Association of Carers** |
| **Participant** | **Organisation** |
| **Sherry Clark** | **Transition Town Hastings & St Leonards** |
| **Andrew Colquhoun** | **HCN Executive** |
| **Alison Cooper** | **Hastings & Rother Mediation Service** |
| **Lucy Cross** | **Independent Visitor Service** |
| **Ann Marie Cox** | **Parenting Team ESCC** |
| **Richard Cuff** | **Little Gate Farm** |
| **Carole Dixon** | **Education Futures Trust** |
| **Sam Dook** | **Lifesize** |
| **Anya Ignatieva** | **Hand of Hope** |
| **Lisa Gentry** | **Integrated Family Healthcare** |
| **Fiona Hassen** | **East Sussex Hearing** |
| **Rachel Hesterbanks** | **XTrax Young Peoples Centre** |
| **Simon Hobson** | **Surviving Christmas** |
| **Sue Learoyd Smith** | **Groundwork South** |
| **Jacqui Le Put** | **Anchor Foster Care** |
| **Clementine Manning** | **Sussex Prisoners Families** |
| **Kate Moran** | **HOWCH** |
| **Tara Reddy** | **Arts on Prescription** |
| **Kate Richmond** | **Healthwatch East Sussex** |
| **Melanye Richmond** | **Hastings & St Leonards PCN** |
| **Tracey Rose** | **Fellowship of St Nicholas** |
| **Fay Thomas** | **ESCC** |
| **Virginia Vilela** | **West St Leonards Forum** |
| **Catherine Watson** | **ESCC** |
| **Marie White** | **Stroke Association** |
| **Meena Winter** | **18 Hours** |
| **Emily Wright** | **Locate East Sussex** |

**The Zoom Chat Room function was used by participants to share information and contact details. A copy was sent to participants after the event.**

**From the Evaluation Forms completed, we had some positive feedback**

***“Really good to hear about all the great work going on in Hastings despite the challenges”***

***“Already made contact with 5 of the organisations involved to link with our Hub project”***

***“It was very helpful to find out more about different services that are available, so that I can pass these on, as appropriate to the patients I work with”***

***“I have passed on a possible job for a friend, found out about the Optivo service possibly for our isolated clients- to signpost to and I will look into the free laptop and training offered (signposting for our clients too, as some can’t do Zoom mediation due to no computer or know how) and put the jobs available for Little Gate Farm up on FB!”***

***When the Open Mic session concluded, Steve Manwaring (HVA Director) informed everyone that the HVA AGM would take place on 16th November 2021.***

Andrew Colquhoun (HCN Executive) closed the event, thanking everyone for attending and speaking about their work and to the people that set up the event. He invited people to send any themes or ideas they would like to see highlighted at future HCN events to: [events@hastingsvoluntaryaction.org.uk](mailto:events@hastingsvoluntaryaction.org.uk)

**The next HCN event will be held on 14th January 2022**

**(Location & Theme TBC)**

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