

Welcome!

- Before we start:
 - Check your audio
 - If you are seeing this then you are seeing slides on the screen!
 - You will not need your mic
 - Any questions please enter in chat pane
 - This session will be recorded



Welcome to:

Leominster Meeting Centre - Reflections on the first 4 Years







Shirley Evans – Trustee (Treasurer – Funding and Projects)

Joy Valentini – Trustee and Manager

Cheryl Poole – Trustee and Safeguarding

How did we start?

- Part of the Association for Dementia Studies at the University of Worcester MeetingDem project 2014 to 2017 looking at the implementation and benefits of Meeting Centres in the UK, Italy, Poland.
- European funding was for the evaluation – not for the Meeting Centres
- Droitwich Spa first Meeting Centre in the UK underway in 2014 (opened Sept 2015) as part of the project – funded by the Alzheimer's Society.
- Leominster identified as a possible venue for another Centre to be included in the project but time of the essence.
- Meeting with Director of Adult Services Herefordshire Council – proposal written – funding available very quickly.

First Steps

- Community Engagement Event Sept 2015 at Grange Court over 70 people attended.
- Planning Group set up - met three times before launch.
- Leominster Meeting Centre opened on 1st Feb 2016 run by Alzheimer's Society 3 days a week.
- Located at the Multi-Agency Offices subsidised by Herefordshire Council.



Planning Group

2gether NHS Foundation Trust
Alzheimer's Society
Architectronicus
Association for Dementia Studies
Beat it Percussion
Brecon and Hay Dementia Supportive County
Courtyard Theatre
Crossroads Care
F.H. Dale
Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support
Service

Halo Leisure
Harrison Clark Rickerbys Ltd
Herefordshire Carers
Herefordshire Carers Support
Herefordshire Council
Herefordshire Housing Group
Services for Independent Living (SIL)
St Michael's Hospice
Taurus Healthcare
The Music Pool
West Mercia Police

Early stages

- Herefordshire Council funding ended Jan 2017
- Funded by Alzheimer's Society from Feb to August 2017
- Leominster Meeting Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation set up in June 2017 – 6 Trustees
- Charity took over the governance and running of the Centre 1st September 2017
- Three key challenges.....

Who was going to Manage it?

Joy

Runner up Herefordshire
Health and Social Care
Awards Dementia Team -
2019



How could we increase our numbers?

Cheryl

Winner of the
Herefordshire Health and
Social Care Good Nurse
Award - 2019



How do we fund it?

1st Year

- £ 10 K Leominster Community Fund (European)
- Released a pledge of £ 6K from Dales Structural Steelwork
- £ 25 K via Italian partner in MeetingDem (also Droitwich) – game changer
- £ 10 K Childwick; Eveson Trust and EF Bulmer
- Membership fees

Aim was to bring in 33% grants; 33% memberships; 33% community fundraising

2nd/3rd Years

- NLCF - £ 30 K for 3 years; £ 24 K membership fees; rest community fundraising



Where are we now?

- Great premises after a rocky start – early enforced move.
- Open 4 days a week – could open for more.
- 30 pairs of paying members.
- Embedded in the local community and leading the way in dementia support across the County.
- Involved in various projects such as the UK Meeting Centres Support Programme
- Welcoming visitors from all over the UK and beyond – as part of the UK Meeting Centres Support Programme Project.
- Collecting data on a regular basis to feed into the project.





Sustainability

- Involved with UK MCSP National Reference Group – looking to influence policy.
- Participating in research projects which show the benefits.
- Plugged into community initiatives across Herefordshire.
- Working with Dementia Matters Here (fordshire) to initiate other Centres and similar interventions across Herefordshire.
- Reviewing our business plan on a regular basis.
- Continuing to make a massive impact to people affected by dementia in our community.



Thank you for listening

Any Questions?

Contact

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Next webinar Friday 28th February 2020 same time but not quite the same place (different link) check out Association for Dementia Studies website or watch your emails for invite.