

Peers Connections Group NE Lincs.



Annual Report 2016 to 2017

5 June 2017



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Chairman's Statement



I am pleased to announce that this year 2016 to 2017 has been a fantastic year. Even though, with not calculating the number of hours that the volunteers would like to have been doing, but the progress of the group is doing quite well. Including; the attendance of the outreach venues, the organisational meetings that the group have been networking with and the committee members that has been growing over the last 12 months.

I have also attended many other organisational meetings, including; Friends around Weelsby, Friends of Welholme and NELDA (North East Lincolnshire Disability Access). Besides attending one off annual meetings.

I would also like to say, since the committee first began, and it had to be said, that they (the team of volunteers), have shown a huge commitment over the last 12 months. Without them, the group would not be able to go from strength to strength.

So, it gives me absolute great pleasure in giving a huge amount of thanks to the volunteers who have helped out at the events, the Information Centre in the Freeman Street Market and the outreach venues.

Phillip Dumbrell

Chairman
June 5, 2017

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To Our Members

Who are the Peers Connections Group and What Do They Do?

Peers Connections Group is an awareness and signposting group for those vulnerable adults and children in the North-East Lincolnshire area, raising the of local service issues in and around the communities for Learning Disabilities, mental health and on the Autistic Spectrum.

The Peers Connections Group is a local Volunteer campaigning group, who have a responsibility to go out into the communities, engaging with all relevant NHS Professionals and with those people that has Learning Disabilities including the people on the Autistic Spectrum and mental health spectrum. And by assisting them to access appropriate services in the borough, if it is needed to be put into place.

The group discusses any relevant problems and issues in strictest confidence, and with involving the appropriate NHS Professionals and those on these Spectrum disorders onto the Peer Connections Forum group. Therefore, receiving the feedback from both parties as to what those with people with Autism, LD & MH require, and what they would like to see happen for the future for the better, including supporting them, giving them hope, positivity and constructive steps forwards around the governments requirements around meeting the needs of all those on the Autistic Spectrum Implementation law and Mental Health Capacity Act.

The group also helps those on those spectrums by ways of advocating and supporting with links to other organisations in the area.

This report details the structure, governance and management of the Peers Connections Group. Together with its Activities and Achievements over the previous year. And its Aims and Objectives going forward.

Structure and Governance

Peers Connections Group is governed in accordance with the constitution. The membership of the group is open to all residents, agencies and organisations in the North East Lincolnshire area. Only full members are able to nominate representatives onto the Management Committee.

The group is also governed by Policies and Procedures together with a code of conduct.

Aims, Mission, Activity Achievements

Aims of the group

The aims of the Peers Connections Group that is within our constitution are as follows:

- ✓ Act as a link between the Agencies and the members on the Learning Disability Spectrum.
- ✓ Be a representative voice of the community and to gather the views of the wider community via North East Lincolnshire groups.
- ✓ To raise awareness of local issues which might have a negative impact on vulnerable people in North East Lincolnshire, including Elderly, Disabled and those who suffer with or are affected by mental health issues.
- ✓ To liaise and support local organisations and voluntary groups to improve services for local people with LD and Autism in North East Lincolnshire.
- ✓ To undertake research of services available for public benefit.
- ✓ To plan and organise local events to help combat health and wellbeing issues and social isolation.
- ✓ To carry out promotional activities by attending local events / public places.
- ✓ To raise funding to support their work in the community.
- ✓ To refresh the membership on a regular basis by working with the North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Safeguarding Adults, other voluntary organisations and the public membership scheme plus other local public membership schemes of the wider community.

Mission Statement

To spread the awareness of safeguarding issues of the elderly and vulnerable residents of North East Lincolnshire and give them a voice on relevant organisations, by having a say on the way that the services are delivered.

Peers Connections Group provide an independent forum, so that coherent community strategy can be achieved which provides a safer environment for the elderly and the vulnerable across the county.

To Our Members-Activity Achievements



Outreach

Over the last year (2016/17), the Peers Connections Group members have been out and about throughout the community.

They went to many venues including:



Grimsby Library

1st Tues per month
1pm-3pm

Cleethorpes Library

1st Wed per month
1pm-3pm



Ice House

2nd Wed per month
11am-1pm



Open Door

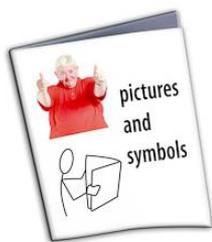
1st Thurs per month
10am-12pm



Freeman Street Market

Tues 10am – 3pm
Thurs 10am – 12pm
Fri 10am – 3pm
Sat 12pm – 3pm

Easy Read Literature



Further to the last report, the group have also helped out with more easy read literature. This includes:

- Hate Crime
- Rogue Traders
- Blood Pressure Checkers
- Mental Health Forum Flyers
- Mental Health Booklets
- Winter Planning

And more in the pipeline.



AGM (Annual General Meeting)

At the last AGM that was held at Open Door on the 04 July 2016, the members elected new Management to the Committee for the rest of the five-year term, in accordance in the constitution for the Peers Connections Group for Learning Disabilities, to take it forward and create sustainability.

Carry over of the results of the election of the management committee:



Chairperson.



Phillip Dumbrell



Vice Chairperson.



Ronald Bull



Secretary / Admin



Sara Noding



Treasurer



Phillip Dumbrell



Committee Members

Phillip asked if anybody would like to be committee members. In September, more members joined the group.

They were accepted on the committee thanks to the nominees and seconders on the forum.

So, since the start of June 2015 the Inaugural Committee of the Peers Connections Group that was voted in by the members of the Peers Connections Group were as follows:

Chair	Phillip Dumbrell
Vice Chair	Ronald Bull
Secretary	Sara Noding (from Sept 2016)
Treasurer	Phillip Dumbrell (from Sept 2015)
Committee Members	Alfred Dumbrell
	John Marsh
	Pauline Long
	Verona Inkson
	Susan Wright
	Christopher Shipway
	Verena Harris

None of the Management committee deemed to have any beneficial interest or advantage of the forum.

Management committee meetings have been held monthly throughout the committee year, with the occasional additional meeting as required.

The Management Committees Responsibility

The Management Committee hold the responsibility for making decisions on behalf of the group, which affect the running of and ongoing management of the Group.



The Committee member roles and their roles are as follows:

- ⇒ Alfred Dumbrell-Events Coordinator
- ⇒ John Marsh- Events Coordinator Assistant
- ⇒ Stephen Blackburn-Volunteer Co-Ordinator
- ⇒ Verona Inkson-Co Public Relations
- ⇒ Christopher Shipway-Public Relations Assistant
- ⇒ Susan Wright-Health and Safety Rep
- ⇒ Pauline Long-Researcher

Dismissal / Resignations



Since April 2017 Christopher Shipway was dismissed due to gross misconduct.

Sara Noding resigned due to the move to Lowerstoff.

The Members Forum Meetings



At present, the Members meetings are held monthly throughout the year, its attendance has been sustained with variance of the number of members and organisations.

They are at Open Door in Albion Street, 1st Monday of every month in the Emerald Suite, from 10am until 11:30am.



Guest speakers

Guest speakers are a regular and welcome addition to our meetings and have come from organisations such as:

Les Bonner from Friends of Welholme and Unit 5

Strategic Highlights

Information Centre

The Information Centre is in the Freeman Street Market, adjacent to the Thesiger St entrance, next to the Vine Café.

This was opened in October 2015.



Information

We have a wide range of other information leaflets on the following:



- Health
- Doorstep Crime
- Seasonal Planning
- Crime prevention
- Age related including Age UK
- Disability Information
- CAB

- Carers Support Service
- Safeguarding
- Business Cards
- Travel Information
- Energy Saving

And all the local issues that are relevant. If we don't have what you want at the time, we will do our best to get it through our network of partner agencies.

We also have many up to date Peers Connections Group information leaflets. These are as follows:



- ✚ History
- ✚ Peers Connections Group info with Member Application form
- ✚ Health Alerts
- ✚ Seasonal Planning
- ✚ Crime awareness and prevention
- ✚ Autism Awareness and Mental Health organisations / agencies
- ✚ Diabetes Awareness information
- ✚ Smoking Safety

- ✚ Blood Pressure Checkers



Under the auspices of the Health Tree Foundation, which is a charity registered with the Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital in Grimsby, Ronald and Phillip decided to find a way in bringing back the Big Red Heart Appeal.

The appeal was formally set up by the late Ron Kitchen, who was a senior governor of the NLaG (Northern Lincolnshire and Goole) NHS Trust. He then set up a charity shop on Freeman Street and called it the “Grimsby District Health Care” back in 2010. On from there, he went through a double heart bypass. He then decided that a further remodelling of the charity needed to be done. So, he decided to call it “The Big Red Heart Appeal”. This appeal was then set up to help those who need the specialist service.

After his departure back in June 2013, Phill and Ron decided that it was now time to bring back the appeal. It was then back in January 2017, Ron met officers to reboot the appeal.

Back in February 2017, they met up with Lauren Alexander, Community Champion of the Health Tree Foundation, based at the Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital. They then discussed the future plans in how to raise funds and the equipment they need. This was then accepted and both of them was awarded as “Chief Fundraisers” of the Appeal. Under the slightly smaller auspices of the Peers Connections Group.

There are many that have helped by holding a money collection box, and there are things that are happening like events as well as items that are on sale to raise funds for the appeal.

The total so far will be posted on the Facebook page and on the Information Centre in the Freeman Street Market.



Still have a Focal Point

We are still able to assist in the running of the Information Centre in the Freeman Street Market which is proving very popular.

It is a focal point based in the East Marsh, because it assists with the advertisement of the markets activities, as well as other agencies and organisations activity events. The other reason why it exists as a focal point was thanks to East Marsh Involve (Neighbourhood Forum), as there isn't an information centre in the area, except the library in Cleethorpes where the general public can pick up to date information including, Health and Wellbeing, Crime Prevention, Disability Groups, Travel information, carers support and advice organisations.

The Information Centre is open from the following days and times:

- Tuesday 9:30am until 3:00pm
- Thursday 9:30am until 12:00pm
- Friday 9:30am until 3:00pm
- Saturday 12:00pm until 3:00pm

All subject to availability.

And that's a wonderful commitment, cheerfully carried out by our wonderful volunteers



Website

We have our own website.

The following tabs are as follows:

- Check out our History
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- Seasonal Planning
- Photo Gallery
- Transport-Bus Time Tables and Train Time Tables
- Health and Wellbeing & Anti-Crime including videos
- Keep fit with Kelly
- Heart Beaters
- Psychic Reader
- Tide Times
- 4 Day Weather forecast
- Useful Contacts
- Join Peers Connections Group, Accord etc. via the website
- Calendar of events
 - And Much More

Please visit www.peersconnectionsgrrouponelincs.org



Activity Achievements

Group Activity Events & Projects

There were many events that the Peers Connections Group Committee and volunteers helped out with.

To begin with, we have been engaging with other organisations events, including:

- Decorating for the occasion
- Christmas raffle in December 2016
- Red Heart Appeal
- Easter Raffle
- Heart Beaters

Decorating for the occasion

A Spooooky feel Weekend at the Information Centre



Here are the photos of the Halloween weekend at the Freeman Street Market.





Christmas Activities



Also, the Peers Connections Group and the volunteers assisted with the Christmas Activities including decorating the information Centre and holding a Christmas raffle.



Christmas Raffle in December 2016



At the Freeman Street market, the Peers Connections Group helped with a Christmas Raffle, to raise funds for 2 local charities. These were in aid of the KDARs and the Cystic Fibrosis.



Prizes awaiting to be won



Security Guard Steve Wilson (not pictured), drew from the bucket the winning tickets



A donation of £30 each, was handed over to two local charities, KDARs and Cystic Fibrosis.



Easter Raffle

Peers Connections Group volunteers help to produce an Easter Raffle to raise vital funds for the Big Red Heart Appeal, on behalf of the Coronary Care units in Grimsby and Goole Hospitals.



Here are some of the prizes that were available to be won, including the knitted bunny produced by a local lady knitter.



With special thanks to the members, volunteers and community assistance, including; Phill Dumbrell, Ron Bull, Alf Dumbrell, Robert Dumbrell, Brian Redgriff, Hazel Abey (merchandise), Jessica Ironmonger and Kevin Guillatt.

The raffle raised a grand total (minus expenses), of £32 for the Big Red Heart Appeal.



Heart beaters



The N E Lincs Heart Beaters are a small group of dedicated trained Blood Pressure checkers. They are 4 trained individuals. Their names are Michael and Nona Inkson aswell as Kenneth and Mary Loraine. And they live in the East Marsh.

They have a table once a month to check the publics blood pressure, at the Freeman Street Market. This is at least the second Friday of the month from 10am.



They take your details and ask relevant questions, take your waist measurement and your blood pressure.



If they are not happy with your blood pressure reading they offer to make a referal to your G.P.

For more information, please contact Mick Inkson on 07789 993385.

Here is also the banner for the N E Lincs Heart Beaters.





Financial Highlights

Projected Financial Running Costs

Running Costs of Peers Connections Group

Basic

Description	Per Month	Half Yearly	Per Annum
Forum	£20.00		£120.00
Minutes for Forum including hand-outs	£12.00		£144.00
Committee Minutes	£1.20		£14.40
Annual Reports £3.75 each x 50	£0		£187.50
Advertising Inc. posters, and flyers	£30.00		£360.00
Advertising Inc. banners	£0		£120.00
Expenses-Car park & bus fare	£20.00		£240.00
Volunteers Expenses (6v x 3d x 4w x 12m)	£360.00		£4320.00
Total	£443.20		£5,438.40

Basic

Description	Per Month	Half Yearly	Per Annum
Events x 3	£150.00		£450.00
Event Transport -x 3	£100.00		£300.00
Advertising-Event Posters, Flyers	£35.00		£420.00
Business Expenses, car park	£1.20		£14.40
Website	£0		£720.00
Computer/Laptop Administration	£0		£160.00
Administration	£30.00		£360.00
Total	£316.20		£2,424.40



Total Volunteer Hours

Based on the approx. volunteer hours at the following events in 2016-17

Weelsby Woods	Christmas Raffle	Easter Raffle	Heart Beaters
35	35	30	72

Total Hours	Government Hourly Rate	Grand Total
172	£8.50	£1,462.00

Since June 2016, the volunteer hours are based on the following table:

The months are gridded up as follows:

Week Commence	Information Centre	Outreach Venues	Consultations / Meetings	Events	Secretarial	Research	Total	TTL Value
Mon 06 June 16 to Sun 04 June 17	2,964	198	456	172	1,560	104	5,454	£46,359.00
TTL Cost	£25,194.00	£1,683.00	£3,876.00	£1,462.00	£13,260.00	£884.00	£46,359.00	

	Total Hours	Hourly Rate	Grand Total
Information Centre	2,964	£8.50	£25,194.00
Outreach Venues	198	£8.50	£1,683.00
Consultations / Meetings	456	£8.50	£3,876.00
Events	172	£8.50	£1,462.00
Secretarial	1,560	£8.50	£13,260.00
Research	104	£8.50	£884.00
Grand Total	5,454	£8.50	£46,359.00

GRAND TOTAL = 5,454 HRS X £8.50 = £46,359.00

Looking Ahead-The Future of Peers Connections Group

“Over the last 12 months, I think we can safely say, that it has been a better than expected, even though that we did not obtain any lottery money in this financial year. And with special thanks to our volunteers, that went out and about in all weather conditions, and engaged with the public on behalf of a range of agencies such as FOCUS, the Older Peoples Health and Wellbeing Collaboratives’, Healthwatch, Care Plus, NAVIGO and NELDA to name but a few.

We have potential planned events with up and coming tagalong organisations that we can spread the work of the Learning Disability Group.

These dates are available online on the website, Facebook, twitter and the Freeman Street Market Information Centre.

We are in the process in setting up a couple of things in the pipeline. These include; setting “Positively Disabled” and the Mental Health Support group. And looking to make another application towards the end of the year.

Contact Information



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