



Bristol Ageing Better Programme Board

Tuesday 25th February 2014

Age UK Bristol, Canningford House

Present: Judith Brown (Deputy Chair), Roy Hackett, Robin Means, Mirella Brittan, Brian Richards, Guy Robertson, Bob Maggs, Stacey Butterworth, Mark Baker, Geraldine Summers, Mandie Lewis

Apologies: Alan Carpenter, Rosa Hui, Richard Lyle, Ruth Richardson, Richard Jarratt, Heather Wright

1. Welcome and Introduction

Judith welcomed all to the meeting and confirmed she would be chairing the meeting in Alan's absence.

Keith shared that Mandie would be attending the meeting but will be arriving slightly later.

2. The minutes of meeting held 22nd January 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Mark recapped on the Vision and Strategy diagram that was introduced at the last meeting. The red items cover the work we are doing now, leading up to the big conference in March. The upcoming visit to Dorset and communication with Manchester were spoken about and Mark clarified that the partnership meeting (from the diagram) will be the opportunity to draw up the first draft after the conference.

Brian raised concerns that the people returning our surveys could be overwhelmed by coming to a big conference to speak in front of people, which may result in us not getting as good a response as we had hoped.

Mark confirmed that to address this, a lot of smaller meetings have been held and different tools have been used to get people to give feedback in a friendly way. The conference has workshops to share information, as opposed to talking to the group

as a whole. Judith added that the surveys were designed to enable people to express their opinion anonymously in the privacy of their own homes.

Brian expressed that he was unsure where doctors fit in the work we have been doing, as he has asked them without success so far. He hasn't seen that they have been contacted directly and wanted to discuss. Guy agreed this was a good point and has arranged a meeting with the chair of CCG. Judith and Bob agreed, feeling this is a serious issue to be addressed. It was agreed that the CCG representative on the board, Richard Lyle, be contacted and asked to send a substitute if he is unable to attend. This action was left with Mark and Guy to follow up and discuss at the next meeting.

3. Feedback from Partnership Meeting

Mark gave details about an important part of the meeting that had not been minuted, which focused on understanding what is happening on the ground and how people want to get involved. Information from this will feed into the upcoming conference.

Judith summarised that people and organisations are finding out about each other which is a very positive start. The networks will be there even if BAB doesn't win the lottery bid.

4. Feedback from BLF Workshop

Mark described the recent 2 day event that was held in Bristol for people that had been shortlisted, with the aim to think more creatively. This included a briefing about what is expected of the bid and how we can build this in to our submission. The evidence section was interesting and there is a further meeting in Exeter on 26th February to find out more about the evaluation process. There's power in the work we've already done and we need to focus on efficient evaluation.

Guy spoke about the upcoming trip to Dorset and how that will provide relevant information on evaluation. It was emphasised strengths will be in training and supporting people in the community to recognise when people are lonely and to be able to react in appropriate ways.

Mark described the 'health check on the strength of your partnership' exercise from the conference. When this has been sent out, it will be distributed to BAB partners to look at. Guy spoke about this in more detail and judged us to be high in a lot of areas measured and believes BAB come out as pretty healthy overall.

Mark related the involvement of a GP at this conference to the discussions that took place earlier in the meeting, as this is something that is perceived as being valuable.

Robin observed that the topic of health keeps coming back around and feels this should be followed up on as it is the only part that is currently lacking.

Mandie Lewis entered the meeting – she was welcomed and introduced to everyone present before being recapped on this meeting so far.

5. Progress Reports

Judith spoke about the conversations work so far, the Bristol Older Peoples Forum have sent out to all people involved and received almost 150 responses so far. Brian has also been involved in things going on around the city and thinks a good job has been done of distributing these surveys.

Keith spoke about an event planned for carers which is scheduled after our big conference and was greatly encouraged to use the information that comes from this for the BAB project.

Geraldine displayed the poster that has been used to promote BAB work through organisations including Voscur and the Multi Faith Forum. Guy emphasised the importance of keeping a record of all meetings that take place for the bid submission.

Mandie asked if groups for adults with learning difficulties have been contacted. Geraldine confirmed contact has been made with the learning disabilities forum and Mandie was thanked for this input as it is important for all equalities groups to be considered. There is a belief that older adults with learning difficulties are likely to be living in care homes whereas younger adults are more likely to be living independently.

Geraldine spoke about an upcoming event at the Southville Centre on 5th March that they are hoping George Ferguson will be attending. This cannot be confirmed but this would be a good opportunity for coverage and communication.

Collating all information was discussed, as strong collation and evaluation methods need to be used in order to do justice to all of the work that has taken place. Mirella believes the emphasis needs to be on being representative of the work done. Mark clarified that key themes will be identified from the surveys that are received. Our ambition is to receive between 1000 and 5000 responses and to have reached all of the groups that were previously identified. Judith mentioned the recent BOPF survey in which 843 members returned their completed questionnaires.

5b) Communication

Geraldine used information from Ruth to recap on the communications project – the logo has been agreed and how it will be used. It would be worth documenting a style guideline for future communication to ensure there is consistency. Mirella mentioned a document that she had received that was in a very small font and thinks the standard should be size 14. The Aardman characters are on hold for now but the thought is they will be used in the next stage. The vision and mission statements have been confirmed, the website has been created and is up and running and the Twitter page is active. The BBC are planning an older peoples week at the end of March – Geraldine will find out what she can about this and feed back to the group. It was agreed that BAB isn't just a plan or theory – it already exists and things are already happening.

5c) Research and evaluation

Robin shared that good progress is being made on recruiting volunteer researchers – Stacey confirmed that more than 10 people are currently registered for each of the two sessions. Robin described how he will be working to train these volunteers and he is currently working on costings for the project with Guy. Guy is keen to maximise the amount of matched funding we can include. Keith has similar experience and offered his help in this area of the project.

5d) 20k Development Funding

Mark shared detailed information on the budget information for discussion. The costs are currently in line with what was proposed and we can see that we have been spending money in the planned areas.

6. Structure and Rationale

Guy presented his Logic Model and talked through the different elements of the report and stressed the importance of making decisions in the next board meeting on what is being included in the final bid submission. This paper identifies that there is currently no means to identify lonely older people and do something about it. The aims of this report will be directly linked to our final outcomes and asked if these were suitable.

Brian felt we need some more specific figures to measure against and Judith shared information about a recent survey of over 800 people that she was aware of. These figures will be sourced and shared.

Guy felt the board should begin to think of the funding providing a 5 year programme and not a 6 year programme, to allow for a greater allowance each year. Bob asked where the matched funding is coming from and Guy confirmed this will be both in kind and in cash and suggested including volunteer time in this. Mirella asked

if the financial figures can include money saved from targeting lonely and isolated older people, but Guy did not believe the strategy that allows for this.

Feedback from the conversations conference will have a direct impact on this document and it will change. Guy spoke around the prospect of Bristol becoming classified as an age friendly city and believes the contributions of Aardman Animations has very high value. Guy summarised that the outcomes need to be asset-based – building on older peoples experience and interests rather than viewing older people as ‘needy’. There is more to the solution than just putting on some activities.

Bob asked how many initiatives are allowed to be included in the bid and Guy confirmed we can have up to 13. Bob asked if there was an advantage of having more/less but Guy felt we need to rank each initiative as a group. Sustainability should be a strong thought in our minds – volunteers will be essential but the board must make a decision about the use of programme managers (how many, how long for and how to ensure there are doing we set out to).

Mark surmised that we will want to support a wide number of organisations to do the best work. Robin raised the idea of putting a conflict of interest policy in place, which all agreed would be wise. Judith said this cannot be discussed at this time but it will be scheduled in for the future because it is very important.

7. Proposals for Conversations Conference

Mark talked everyone through a draft agenda for the conversations conference, in order to get the most out of people who are attending on the day. Brian strongly felt that everyday people would not stand up and share their ideas in front of a large number of professionals. The conference will include workshops to allow people to share their ideas in smaller, less formal groups. Several people raised the point that the role of the facilitator will be key, to encourage all people to talk.

Robin emphasised the importance of not keeping the research and consultation separate, as they will allow us to get different viewpoints on the same issue. Geraldine raised the issue of using examples of real people throughout the project to make it come alive for people. It was decided this will be taken on board for later parts of the project – Mandie made the point that you want to get people thinking but do not want to be too prescriptive.

8. Update on Key Issues

Mark did not feel there was a great deal to specifically update at this time on these areas. They should be kept in mind but we can come back to them at a later time.

Judith concluded that the biggest thing to consider is the involvement of NHS – Kay and Geraldine will be working on this. Judith opened the floor to further questions and ended the meeting as there were none.