

Yvonne Evans – Age Concern Bucks
Good Neighbour Scheme Project Facilitator in The Ivers and
Wexham

A SUMMARY FROM 08/03/10 to 15/06/10

1) Networking & recruiting Stakeholders

Identified my role and described the 'GNS' to as many points of contact throughout The Ivers and Wexham. These contacts are outlined below:

- Church Leaders and members of the various church groups throughout Iver and Wexham.
- Parish Town Clerks and Parish Magazine Editors.
- Parish, District and County Councillors.
- Neighbourhood Specialist Police Officers and the Thames Valley Community Messaging Service.
- The Locality Services Area Coordinator.

Contact with Key Workers within the area network including:

- Neighbourhood Action Groups
- Local Resident Associations
- Key Charity Workers
- Youth Workers
- Rotary Clubs
- Community Colleges
- Sports Centres

Links with local community 'hot-spots such as:

- Doctors/Dental surgeries and Pharmacies.
- Post Offices, Convenience Stores and Garden Centres.

2) Questionnaires

All of the above contacts were used in the organisation and distribution of the 'GNS' Research Questionnaires to reach out to as many people and households within my catchment area.

Approximate distribution so far estimated at 7,000

The evaluation of the Questionnaire feedback is in progress.

At present the numbers of 'Service users' greatly outnumbers the 'Volunteers.'

As the success of the 'GNS' depends on a pool of volunteers to service the scheme, a specific leaflet has been created. This is designed to attract more volunteers to the scheme and will be distributed using the contacts I have made.

As 'GNS Community Project Facilitator' I attended the Local Priorities Workshop on 9th June, where shared local priorities were discussed and then listed for the areas represented.

3) Plans for the next six months

Following on from the Local Priorities Workshop, I will be attending the Local Area Forum meeting on 30th June

All volunteers who apply for the 'GNS' will be assessed and CRB checked.

All contacts will be approached to try and recruit stakeholders for the 'GNS' project.

Invite all volunteers/stakeholders to an open meeting, where the 'GNS' project will be discussed in greater detail and where we hope to recruit a Steering Committee.

Hold a Steering Group Committee meeting(s) to:

- agree constitution
- elect officers
- plan to set up a bank account
- source public liability insurance
- make sure all CRB checks on volunteers are done
- plan launch
- budget for basic running costs
- appoint 'GNS' Coordinator

It is important to note that this 'time-line' of events could take longer than six months to achieve, and that for the project to reach the goal of being successfully up and run on its own in the community, it will need further funding.

4) Budget

The Budget has been used to pay for the Good Neighbour Facilitator's salary, recruitment and training, travel costs, postage, telephone, & stationery, printing and distribution of 7000 leaflets, admin support, insurance.

Yvonne Evans
Good Neighbour Facilitator Ivers & Wexham
Age Concern Bucks.
15/6/2010