**Minutes of the Community CVS Network Meeting**

**Thursday 25th July 2024**

Clare Rigby – BwD Independent Living – clare.rigby@blackburn.gov.uk

Faxi Ass-Lancashire Fire and Rescue Support – fakharassi@lancsfirerescue.org.uk

Paul Walker – Bwd Diabetes Support Group – bwddiabetesgroup@outlook.com

Verity Gardner – Lagans Foundation – verity.gardner@lagans.org.uk

Jon Travena – Duke of Edinburgh Award – jon.travena@dofe.org

Rachel Coupe – Dance Syndrome – rachel@dancesyndrome.co.uk

Kev Smith – Duke of Edinburgh Award – Kevin.Smith@Dofe.org

Leah Harrison – Community CVS – Business Team – Leah.harrison@communitycvs.org.uk

John Livesey – Community Acupuncture UK CIC – LiveseyJ@outlook.com

Sophie Bailey - Lancashire Fire and Rescue Support – sophiebailey@lancsfirerescue.org.uk

Amanda Fletcher – Night safe – amanda.fletcher@nightsafe.org

Susie Veevers – Immanuel Scouts – ddrwdsmith@btinternet.com

Martin Nuttall – Blackpool IPS – martin.nuttall@blackpool.gov.uk

Angel Spratt – Blackpool IPS – angel.spratt@blackpool.gov.uk

Judith Houghton – Samaritans – samaritans105@gmail.com

Chris Durnan – Acer Lodge – chris.durnan@bracebridgecare.org

Samantha Blackburn – Lancashire Mind – samanthablackburn@lancashiremind.org.uk

Kiran Sadiq – BwD Carers Service – kiran.sadiq@bwdcarers.org.uk

Rosie Fenwick – BwD Active Health & Wellbeing – rosie.fenwick@blackburn.gov.uk

Karen Marsden – New Ground Together – karen.marsden@newground.co.uk

Sarah Parsons – Maggie's Still Birth Legacy – info@maggiesstillbirthlegacy.org.uk

Bev Marsden – Lancashire Women - beverly.marsden@lancashirewomen.org

**Apologies: Donna Talbot, Alan Scholes – Gecko Games, Anthony Carr – BwD Active Health & Wellbeing, Janine Smith – Blackburn College, Lisa Clarke – The Exchange Blackburn, Miffy Clegg – Community CVS, Philomena Strickland – Care Network, Sue Lancaster – Birchall Trust, Trudi Wilkinson – Inspira**

**Lancashire Fire and Rescue: Sophie and Faxi**

* Their services include bespoke home fire safety visits, environmental checks, and the distribution of free fire alarms and extension leads where needed (in collaboration with Together Housing).
* They also assist people dealing with hoarding, memory issues, and those who stay at home, helping prevent fire hazards and referring them to relevant services if needed.
* They can provide specialised fire safety help for individuals with hearing or mobility issues, offering solutions such as stickers, reminders, and timers.
* They also offer training to teams who visit similar settings to identify and prevent potential fire or safety issues.
* They have emailed you the relevant information to be distributed. Additionally, they follow a Herbert system that includes distributing keyrings or bracelets to vulnerable and elderly individuals.
* These items can be scanned to reveal important information, including next of kin details and significant locations, aiding communication, and assistance if the person is found or goes missing. This can be beneficial for the police and other departments involved.

[Your Community | Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (lancsfirerescue.org.uk)](https://www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/your-community)

 **Acer Lodge / Bracebridge Care: Chris**

* They offer care homes for individuals who may require more assistance or are at higher risk than typical care home residents.
* They also use the Herbert system for some clients and employ various techniques and technologies to prevent accidents and issues, particularly concerning dementia.
* These methods have proven effective, helping workers recognise challenges. For instance, a device can detect pain through facial muscle contractions, aiding in pain management.
* They are looking for volunteers to undergo training with the organisation. Volunteers can complete e-learning modules and, after probation, pursue an NVQ Level 2 or 3 qualification, with the possibility of progressing to a nursing level.
* The organisation may cover the cost if done correctly and benefits both parties.
* They also promote a family-like environment with a list of preferred terms to improve collaboration with residents.
* Networking opportunities are available, with some rooms rented out and involvement from a brain rehabilitation organisation.
* Additionally, they provide transport with an electric London cab for members to visit towns or other locations easily.

[Acer Lodge Care Home in Blackburn | Bracebridge Care](https://acerlodge.bracebridgecare.org/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=gmb)

**Maggie's Still Born Legacy: Sarah**

* Their presentation had a significant impact on everyone at the meeting.
* They seek funding but are not registered as a charity and do not wish to become one.
* They provide Cuddle Cots (£1000+ each) and Cuddle Blankets (£5000+ each) to preserve memories of deceased loved ones for about three days.
* Their primary focus is on Memory Boxes (£90-£120 each), containing items that meet UK, COSHH, and hospital standards. These boxes include two teddies for the baby and parent to swap at the funeral, preserving the child's scent.
* They host monthly craft sessions for mothers who have experienced loss and seek volunteers to lead craft knowledge at these sessions.
* The boxes also include items for fathers and siblings. Some hospices assist by knitting teddies, reducing costs, and providing activities for others.
* Maggie’s accepts referrals and supports women of any age dealing with loss, like a current 72-year-old member dealing with a 50-year-ago loss.
* They also support the community through food bank donations at Darwen market.

[(2) Maggie’s Stillbirth Legacy | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/442936182551976/)

**CANW (Child Action Northwest): Carl**

They are currently working on a project that started in 2023, aimed at 16-24-year-olds with mental health issues.

They provide training to professionals and service users, enhancing understanding of their experiences and the limited services often requiring travel to London. The goal is to raise awareness and offer perspective through the eyes of young people.

Training sessions are available online via Spring North website or in-person at their premises. Blackburn Community Trust and New Era have already networked with them. Sessions can be delivered at your organisation’s premises for groups of 10 learners or more, with a £50 per head charge for no-shows to cover food and other costs.

 The next sessions will be in August and September, continuing into next year.

[Home page - CANW](https://canw.org.uk/)

**Rachel - Dance Syndrome:**

* They offer dance sessions for ages 14-24 in Accrington or online, four times a week, with accessibility options.
* The Young Leader Award is an introduction to Dance Leadership for young people aged 16 - 25 and is accessible for those with or without a learning disability.
* Learners will look at ‘FAST (Fun, Activity, Safety, Teamwork) PACE (Participants, Area, Communication, Equipment)’ and how these areas are represented through leadership.
* Through games, activities, discussion, self-reflection, and peer to peer support learners will explore these introductory leadership themes & skills over three days of workshops.
* All learners who complete the award will receive a certificate of achievement through the Leadership Skills Foundation.
* This award is a brilliant stepping stone for individuals who may want to consider completing a Level 1 Dance Leadership qualification with Dance Syndrome in the future.

 The course is running:

When: Wed 7 Aug, 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Thu 8 Aug, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Fri 9 Aug, 10.00am - 4.00pm

 Where: Bangor Street Community Centre

Norwich St, Blackburn, BB1 6NZ

 Cost: £30 - this is heavily subsidised by Arts Council Funding.

 The link to book is: https://dancesyndrome.pembee.app/activity/66759cf0fb74ff426a8faafb

[Home | DanceSyndrome](https://dancesyndrome.co.uk/)

**Verity from Lagans Foundation:**

They are expanding their services to Lancashire, not just Merseyside or Greater Manchester. They seek volunteers to donate around two hours a week to support families and community groups. All training will be provided.

Apologies to Verity and the mix up with her email address – I have somehow managed to insert an Extra E – Verity's email is verity.gardner@lagans.org.uk ( I hope I have finally got it right!!)

[Welcome to Lagans Foundation](https://lagans.org.uk/)

**Donna – Community CVS**

Community Volunteer Awards 2024 are now open for nominations

We need nominations for: -

* Volunteers in your organisation/group
* Good Neighbours
* VCSFE groups/organisations who do an amazing job
* Businesses that support you and your charity and the community
* Young people
* There are several categories – you can complete the nomination forms online

[Community Volunteer Awards – Community CVS](https://www.communitycvs.org.uk/volunteer/volunteer-awards/)

* Nominations close on Friday 30th August @ 5.30pm
* Please nominate as many people as you can – last year we had over 700 nominations it would be great if we could increase this number this year

**Please Note there isn't a meeting in August – we all deserve a holiday 😊**

**Next Meeting**

**Thursday 26th September 2024**

**9:30am – 11:30am**

**The Boulevard Centre**

**45 Railway Road, Blackburn BB1 1EZ**

**For more info, please contact Donna Talbot 01254 583957**

**Donna.talbot@communitycvs.org.uk**

***Parking – please do NOT park on the car park next to the Community Hub – this is a private carpark, and you will be fined***

***You can now park on Morrisons for Free for 3 hours***