



Generations Working Together

East & Midlothian Network Meeting

Online Meeting Using Zoom

Date: 28th May 2020

In attendance: Nicola Shaw (GWT), Loreen Pardoe (Support from the start), Carey Douglas & Harry Kerr (Volunteer Midlothian)

Apologies: Dawn Irvine (Capital Theatres), Maureen Allan (Strive), Jordanne Grant (Haddington Care Home), Jane Hobbs (Haddington & Lammermuir Area Partnership)

Nicola welcomed everyone to the meeting, informal introductions from everyone.

- Nicola asked for permission to record – yes

Covid-19 Discussions were had about the halt of Intergenerational Projects since the Covid-19 outbreak, everyone agreed that encouraging people and to become reconnected is a necessity.

Connecting Digitally Nicola updated everyone about GWT funding from Scottish Government as part of this we will engage with network members, local communities, care homes, and look at practical ways to reconnect our younger and older generations in the face of the crisis.

Nicola reported GWT have produced a Directory, the first edition is now live. The directory will be a tool to connect people across local areas to existing projects, resources, safety tips and creative ideas.

It was advised that GWT are adapting and developing Intergenerational training to Online. The first of which will be ready to go live next month. There will be 7 courses in total and will be free of charge.

Nicola urged the group to keep a check on the GWT webpage for updates, and to use the resources and tools offered. Also to take a look at some of the successful stories and activities that are taking place which are shared.

Update and discussion

- Carey Douglas, reported on the halt to her gardening project and is now planning to join generations digitally through music. Carey has a group of older people who this will benefit and has great plans for the project. We discussed platforms to be used and how to get the best from the project.
Loreen suggested from her experience that 'Google Classroom' is a good platform for this.
Carey also advised us about a training programme for Digital CPR from Volunteer Midlothian. Aiming to build confidence in using digital devices.
Carey was pointed in the direction of the GWT Directory and to look out for Online Courses from GWT when they become available.
- Harry Kerr explained to the group about the start up of his intergenerational project between sheltered housing occupants and younger generations. Unfortunately this came to a halt with Covid-19 crisis, but he still has great plans for this project to go ahead from a distance. We discussed access to ipads and laptops and the Connected Scotland scheme.
- Loreen Pardoe gave us a great insight into all the Intergenerational Activities she is actively involved in at this time. Regular catch ups with Eden Project gave some fantastic and creative ideas for generations to come together and have fun digitally. We also talked about 'recipes and poem tress' and the pleasure not only the community but if placed outside a care home, can bring to people.

The overall feel of the meeting was very upbeat and we discussed the positive impact on generations becoming more engaged with technology will bring, not only now but for the future also.

Big Lunch 6/7th June 2020

We discussed previous and upcoming Eden Project Big Lunch. Nicola advised resources and packs are available on line from Eden Project.

<https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/thebiglunchhomepage>

Online Evaluation Form

Nicola advised the group of GWT new online Evaluation Form and how valuable it is to have this form completed by meeting attendees. GWT appreciate your feedback and it will assist us in looking at our practice and how we can best support our network and members at these meetings. A link to the form was put in the Zoom Chat and followed up by email after the meeting.

Other Activities and Information to Share from GWT

T.O.Y. Project – Together Old and Young <http://www.toyproject.net/>

Check out the TOY Project as there are lots of resources online.

Volunteers Week 1-7th June 2020 – Have you got plans to say thank you to your volunteers?

Generations Working Together is recruiting two enthusiastic, committed, dependable and proactive **Volunteer Trustees** to replace two board members who retired at our last AGM. We are looking for a new treasurer and a trustee who has experience of working in the voluntary, public or private sector who want to become actively involved in progressing intergenerational work across Scotland.

Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday 29th September 2020, 10.00-12.00. This may feel some way off, however please feel free to connect with us at anytime if you need support or guidance in setting up Intergenerational Projects.