

Christchurch Community Partnership Limited
43 Barrack Road CHRISTCHURCH BH23 1PA

Homeless Help

Thursday 6 September 2018: Notes of Meeting

Present: Julian Spurr *CSK volunteer*, Maria Byrne *C&EDC Principal Housing Solutions Officer*, Ann Doughty *You Trust volunteer*, Sandra Prudom *CCP Chair*, Tracy Blick *Food Bank*, Andy Walker *CSK volunteer*, Irene Cradick *CCP Trustee* *APOLOGIES:* Kerry Mellor *Julian House*, Debbie Urquhart, *You Trust*

Christchurch Soup Kitchen is now a registered charity – more information on their Face Book page. They are open six days a week Mon-Sat: most evenings from 6-7 in the Saxon Square Car Park Lower Level, but 12-1 on Fridays, in a different location. Contact them for Friday referrals. Numbers vary between 4-20, not all are homeless, some are hungry, some lonely - some all of these. They continue to provide other much needed essentials, as well as advice and signposting to other agencies. They are in the process of acquiring storage space for their tables and chairs.

Christchurch Borough Council: Maria Byrne has replaced Richard Knott and comes from Purbeck with a wealth of experience. The principle of the new Act is good, particularly with having a fixed plan. Available provision remains the same, so Social Housing will not always be the end result.

The **You Trust** is now based at the Civic Centre, with Debbie's team providing help for those who need support with various issues, including housing needs, form filling, being aware of benefits available etc and can include elderly, rough sleepers and vulnerable people.

The **Food Bank Plus**, includes a Furniture Bank, Budget Help, Cooking courses and now includes a Homeless Drop in, Tuesdays 12-1pm providing coffee, help and assistance, both practical and material

People's Pantry: great success. Approach Tracy at the Food Bank for temporary membership for clients in need.

Bailey's Café is operating a suspended coffee and meal scheme.

Christchurch Community Partnership is in the process of reprinting the **Rough Sleeping** cards. Copies of these are included with these notes. Please look at your section and update it if necessary. If another organisation needs to be included, please let us know. As they are credit card sized the list of information is limited – so not too much, please!

The previous **Random Act of Kindness** meal card scheme is being relaunched. About 2000 were sold through the old scheme and most have been redeemed. Discussion centred round ways of ironing out glitches in the system. They will be relaunched in time for winter.

Each Christmas, homeless people and those living on their own join with volunteers to have Christmas Day lunch together. 67 people came together last year. We will only be able to repeat this, if we can find a volunteer cooking team or chef!

Julian House Assertive Homeless Outreach Team provide street-based support for people sleeping rough. They can be contacted on 01305 236585 or email dorset-outreach@julianhouse.org.uk. You can also refer to the team via Streetlink at www.streetlink.org.uk, tel 0300 5000 914. *The figure of rough sleepers varies but stands at around five.]*

Looking forward to the winter:

- there are hopes that a Sleepsafe scheme may be achieved for next year but needs premises

- the provision of showers and laundry is available at the CCP building but there is a need to work together more closely to achieve these consistently. The laundry in Bargates will accept tokens, and can achieve a result within the hour.
- hot breakfast provision for those who have been on the streets over night, could include laundry and showers. Initial discussions about providing breakfast three mornings a week is underway. Tracy, FB will look at putting a proposal together for the next meeting

Faithworks is a member of the Bournemouth & Poole Homelessness Action Collaborative. More than 18 agencies are committed to reducing rough sleeping across the conurbation through finding ways to do things together .

The first project, now supported by our local Councils, is www.streetsupport.net - all the info a rough sleeper might need to get off the street in one place. They are keen for people in our towns to use this site, including a new feature enabling a new easy way to give to rough sleepers.

Why not take a look?...

<https://faithworkswessex.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=bade5705f5dec49aac8fc64b8&id=0539369b26&e=dab015cd06>

ACTIONS:

1. Irene to send Rough Sleeper card details for correction. Please return by 21st September
2. ~~Maria to enquire whether cupboard in car park is available/suitable for CSK to store tables etc.~~
DONE!
3. Tracy and Sandra to plan breakfast provision (see above). CSK (male) volunteers willing to assist
4. Sandra to acquire replacement washing machine or get ours fixed. Any offers?
5. Look at the *streetsupport* site and make sure you are on it and your details are correct!

Next meeting: **Thursday 8th November** 2018 from 11-12 at 43 Barrack Road BH23 1PA.