

# Voices 4 Choices

**Minutes from the 25 January 2024 meeting**



**People at the meeting Sue, Chester Day Services, Ellesmere Port and Neston Day Services, and Northwich Day Services.**

**Welcome to Gemma and Steph, Gemma is here standing in for Michael who couldn't come.**

**Apologies from Winsford Day Services, Alistair, Beth and Abby, Northwich Supported Living.**

## Updates

We spoke about the minutes of the last meeting.

### Christmas Meal

We all agreed that we enjoyed the Christmas meal and would like to do it again this year.

**The Christmas Decoration Competition** was fantastic, the decorations were great, showing lots of imagination turning rubbish into wonderful things. We would like to do it again this year, with prizes for different categories.

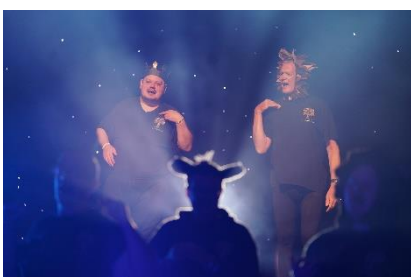
## Events

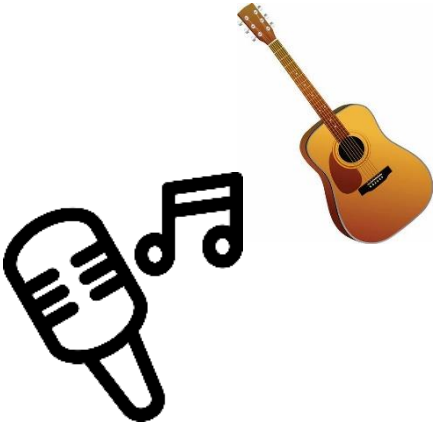
### Music and Arts Festival

Everyone agreed it was fun and that they would like another one this year. We need to decide, When, around July.

Where, several venues were discussed.

What, we said what things we would like to do at the festival. We would like to see more things for people who are not as mobile.





- Singing
- Music
- Dancing
- Guitar playing
- Structured dance class
- Winners of Vivo's got talent
- Makaton Choir
- Flash Mob
- Yoga and sensory relaxation
- Poetry reading
- Stalls
- Drumming group

### **Vivo's got Talent**

We are hoping to run this around May time, so get practicing now. Winners will appear on stage at the Festival.

### **Sports Event**

We must decide, when and where it is to be held. We discussed what we would like to do, here are some of our suggestions.

- Snooker
- Darts
- Basketball
- Football
- Boccia
- Running race
- Horse racing(virtual)
- Bowling alley
- It's a Knockout
- Taekwondo

### **Disability Conference**

We are thinking of having the Conference once every two years, so the next one will be 2025. Important decision makers from the council attend, we can meet them and ask questions. We will look at attending the Blackpool Conference this year.

### **Cafés**

Our cafés across the borough are all doing well.



## Grow your own Sunflower Competition

We would like to do this this year.

### Day out

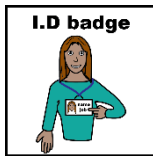
We would like to have another picnic, someone suggested at the zoo, or at one of the plays at the open-air theatre in Chester.

### Shoebox for Christmas

We would like to make shoeboxes up for the children of Ukraine.



**The Advisory Board 12 February**  
**Champion Representative Kathryn**  
**To talk about Shared Lives services with Gail and Andy, and about Respite at Dorin Court.**



## Any Other Business

### ID Badges

Could you please bring along your ID Badges and Personal Files to the meeting.

### Staffing issues

Ben spoke about not being able to go out because of Staffing Levels at his house. Sue will contact his social worker about this.

### Plus Bus

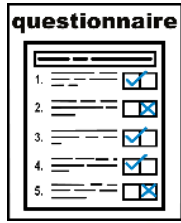
Kathryn, spoke about people using the Plus Bus service, they are not able to attend a 9.30 exercise session because the bus won't take them there. Sue will make enquiries.

### Recycling at the Day centres

Why don't we do it? Can we do it?

### GoodSAM

Gemma told us about a new app to have on our mobile phones to keep us safe. She said she would make an easy read document to share with us  
Thank you Gemma.



**WHAT'S ON**

gg9354235 GdInpH.com

### **PCSO visit**

Lynne to try to arrange for a PCSO to visit.

### **Service Feedback forms**

We had a great response, Karen will send Lynne some more forms to upload.

### **What's On**

News about things happening in your area.



**Happy Retirement!**



### **Some of our Personal Achievements**

Congratulations to Neil, who started working at the cafés, Diverse Dine and Chat and Chill, this is paid employment.

Congratulations to Mark who will be retiring, he is hoping to be able to get out and about more, thank you Mark for all your hard work and being a valued member of Voices 4 Choices. Have a very happy retirement Mark.

Well done, Ben now works at the Stanlaw and Neston allotments.



### **Next Meeting Thursday 21 March**

**10.30 to 12.30**

**Jack Wardle Hall, St John's, Hartford.**