



**Report to South Woodham Ferrers Town Council
For Events Community & Leisure Committee Meeting on 6 June 2023**

Since our last Report in March 2023 the Group has continued to be very active.

Still the most significant has been the ongoing work on engagement and development with the Integrated Care System in conjunction with the local NHS and welfare services. The first Mid Essex Area Community Engagement (MACE) meeting was held on 22 March and the second meeting will be held on 8 June. The Terms of Reference for the VCFSE (Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise) Assembly have been approved and this Assembly is now a full partner in the Mid & South Essex Integrated Care Partnership (MSE ICP). This will drive down to Alliance (Mid Essex) and neighbourhood levels (Dengie & SWF).

The regular reporting of Covid and influenza and advice to local residents through the media of the website and Focus has continued throughout the period. Recently the owners of Focus have advised us that they need to cut down on the space assigned to regular articles. We are pleased to report that we have negotiated a regular half page to keep residents informed about health & welfare matters. It is extremely important that folk who do not have access to the internet are constantly updated, particularly as they are likely to be those in most need of services. We are looking at further Social Media options for dissemination and communication. In the meantime the usual full version of our newsletter continues to be put on our website and made available to our mailing list.

The study being undertaken by the Masters student at the University of Warwick has continued at pace. A series of research questionnaires was made available online. Various groups including Town Councillors were invited to complete them. Considering the time constraints the response was very good. Two workshops were also held. These were also online. Unfortunately attendance was limited because of external circumstances (teacher strikes). However the output was useful in enabling the student to

put the questionnaire results and her earlier enquires into context. A draft report has been written and is under review. A shortened version may be a requirement of the University but we should get a full report which we hope to be able to publish during June.

As promised in our last report, the summary of our meeting with Sir John Whittingdale is published on our website.

At the request of Kingsway Surgery we supplied stewards to enable the smooth running of their Covid booster vaccination programme.

The Chairman continues to be involved in things including: the launch of the new Essex mental health response car by our Ambulance service; the development of the Chelmsford Cultural Strategy with one of its main aims being the part culture plays in healthy living; rehabilitation resources for Essex; Compassionate Communities; and the production of a video documentary about the impact of Covid restrictions on dying, death and bereavement which is scheduled to be filmed in August.

In conclusion we would like still to know if there are any further ways we can help the Town Council in meeting the health and social care of the population. Also we need to know the Council's requirements of us to ensure its continued support including financial should that become necessary.

<https://swfhealthsocial.co.uk/>

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