

Bloxham Well-being Network – September Update

The Network held its fourth meeting on 4 September. Following discussions over our previous meetings, members formally agreed that the group will now be known as the **Bloxham Well-being Network**, and the proposed Network logo was adopted.



Further work was undertaken on our mission statement. Members felt the previous draft was too lengthy and agreed a more concise version for wider review:

“The Network aims to improve access to information and opportunities and help identify gaps in provision, by listening to residents and celebrating what already exists.”

We hope to finalise this at our next meeting so that it can help inform our developing relationship with **Community First Oxfordshire**.

Considerable time was also spent developing the idea of a future **Community Meet and Greet**. Members identified four main objectives: **Discover, Understand, Connect and Identify**.

The event would help us better understand the groups, services, skills and opportunities already available in Bloxham; their strengths and challenges; barriers to participation; and opportunities for groups to share resources or collaborate.

A number of possible formats were explored, including facilitated table discussions, rotating conversations between organisations, smaller themed meetings and a larger conference-style event. These are early ideas and further work is needed to determine the format, desired outcomes and how success would be measured.

Finally, members were introduced to a Draft Governance Framework for the Network. This considers issues including our independent community-led status and relationship with the Parish Council, membership, leadership roles, decision-making and the future development of appropriate safeguarding, data protection and financial arrangements. Members will review the draft before further discussion.

Overall, after four meetings the Network is beginning to move from its initial exploratory stage towards a clearer structure and practical programme of work. Our identity is now established, our purpose is becoming clearer, and we are beginning to translate the principle of connecting and enabling rather than duplicating existing provision into practical community engagement.

Representatives from **Community First Oxfordshire** will be attending our next meeting to help us explore the next stage of the Network's development. In particular, we will review the **Community Insight Profile** and **Community Led Plan** approaches and consider which elements of each may be most appropriate for Bloxham and the work we are seeking to undertake.

Our next meeting will be held on **Friday 2 October at 7pm in Jubilee Park Hall Meeting Room.**

Many thanks,

Alex

Bloxham Well-being Network