

Email of 1 September from Tracey Pollard of the Rural Community Council

Hello Mr Littlejohns,

I hope you are very well.

I have recently joined the Rural Community Council to work on a new NHS Charities Together Funded project called Changing Connections.

The RCC is a community development charity which works to create stronger and more connected communities across Leicestershire, Rutland and surrounding rural areas.

Myself and my colleague, Sarah Callister will run the project for 2 years and will support adults living in Melton and Rutland who are currently over accessing and overusing NHS healthcare services.

The purpose of the project is to provide 1:2:1 support for individuals within their own community setting. By understanding their specific needs we will work with the individual to produce a personal action plan using local community groups and resources to help them to engage more with their local area therefore improving their health and wellbeing, which in turn will hopefully reduce their need to rely on local NHS services / GP surgeries for appointments which may not be medical in nature. This will of course benefit local NHS Services and GP practices by freeing up appointments and ensuring that we make our health services even better for those who need it the most.

We are looking in great detail at each parish of Rutland and Melton, assessing the support networks available in the local community from good neighbour schemes, village halls to shops and post offices and are building a picture of what's available in each of the parishes giving us the knowledge to be able to support your local parishioners either in their own parish or nearby areas.

We would like to ask the Barrowden Parish Council for their support in putting up posters in your local halls / hubs and notice boards to ensure that parishioners are aware of our project, including our contact details and dates for our coffee van visits to the area.

At the moment we have the coffee connect van pencilled in for two dates in October and if possible, one of the dates we would like to be at Barrowden Village Hall – I am hoping to speak to the Village Hall to discuss this with them but am unable to find any contact information on the website, does this query go through the parish council? Please do let me know as I'd like to speak to someone as soon as possible.

If you are able to support us with this project we would be extremely grateful and hope that you will, in time, see the benefits of our support – our aim is to work alongside the parish councils to enhance the good work they already do, and to be there to help & support parishioners as and when they need us.

I have attached our copy of the Changing Connections poster and once dates & locations are confirmed these can be filled in and put up in your local areas.

Please do call me on the below number if you'd like to speak to me in more detail about the project, or feel free to reply to this email.

Thank you for your time and I hope to hear from you soon,

Take care,
Tracey.
(Mobile : 07752 183055)