**Wiltshire Autism Partnership Forum**

**Tuesday 5th July 2016@ Monkton Park, Chippenham.**

**Attendees: Peter, Caroline, Laurine, Nick, James, Matthew.**

**Louise and Jen (WSUN)**

**Feedback from the WAP to the Forum regarding previous issues and questions.**

Conference on Criminal Justice

The confirmed date for this is 29th November and it will take place between 10am and 1pm at the Corn Exchange in Devizes. There will be a play, written by Richard Conlon, several speakers (to be confirmed) and a short film. Invitations are due to be sent out in September.

**Questions from the Forum to WAP**

Conference on Criminal Justice

Question: Can invitations be sent out to the MOD (Ministry of Defence) Police?

The Forum Members also said that they would like to take part in the Conference and have a stall in the group gathering area at the end of the Conference so the delegates can meet people on the Autistic Spectrum.

Forum Logo

Both Caroline and Laurine spent time creating suggestions for the Logo. This was very much appreciated by the members. The group felt that although Laurine’s “infinity” logo was easier to reproduce, Caroline’s two logo pictures had such good detail and care taken, that they too should also be used on the website. The Logo’s will be brought to the next Forum for further discussion.

Website update:

Laurine showed us her updated version of the website. She invited members of the forum to contribute to the “blog” either by being filmed (if they wanted to) or by recorded words and something written down. Several members said they would be interested to take part. Laurine said very clearly that the website should be a very simple design to begin with so that it could be a success.

**Further Items on the agenda**

The Autism Pathway

This is a document that Wiltshire Council (WC) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have created to give information and guidance to professionals, adults and families about Autism.

This document is now being looked at again by WC and CCG to see what is working and what needs to be improved. They want to hear from people what they think the gaps in the service are and how things could be improved. There will be a consultation taking place over the summer. This will be online.

The Forum members made the following points for consideration:

* An “Easy Read” version of the Pathway document is needed.
* The consultation will be online. For those people who don’t use the internet or need support, WSUN will help with this.
* The Forum will need the web address for the consultation. WSUN will make people aware of the address when it is available.
* Concerns were raised about training of front line staff about Autism. By this, we mean in ALL settings even if they were not Autism specific. Examples were given about settings for Older people, who may not have a diagnosis and their needs going unrecognised. The Partnership meeting afterwards said that they would raise awareness of their online training on Autism Awareness to professionals.
* Concerns were raised about possible lack of support for those who are either transitioning from education to the work place (18-24 age group) or reaching retirement age.
* The Forum also wondered what provision was in place for parents on the Autistic Spectrum that were raising children of their own who may need parenting support.
* The forum also noted that for people on the Autistic Spectrum who did not have traditional care needs but did need mentoring throughout stages of their life, was there anything available?

**AOB**

The Forum members wished to say that the dates of the Forum keep changing and that they found this difficult.

**Next meeting date:**

**Thursday 8th September @ Trowbridge Fire Station BA14 7JB**