

Dementia Friendly Communities

Meeting Summary 6 August 2019

What is a dementia friendly community?

- Clear, readable signs
- More disabled toilets – family friendly - that helpers can also go into – ‘Community Access toilets’, ‘Assisted Access’
- Dementia friendly village – communal lunch and dinner – Uni students live there at low cost
- More disability car parks – not just for wheelchairs but walking also – ‘Where I can get a park indicates where I can go’
- Making people (staff – Specsavers, dentists) aware about dementia – give respect and time
- Digital exclusion (spoke to COTA – no lobby group)
 - Teach digital technology
 - It’s discrimination
 - Issues with buying theatre tickets – it will be all on-line
 - There needs to be legislation – companies **must** maintain a non-digital option

Why do we need to be dementia friendly?

- Not treated properly
- Self-respect / dignity
- People encouraged to stay living in own homes
- Living alone with dementia – victims – scams, paying bills
- Rely on shop keepers to be honest

How do we become a dementia friendly community?

- Dementia training (adequate training: consistent and continuous) – chemists, receptionists, health professionals
- What is needed - anti-discriminatory legislation to require organisations to retain a non-digital way for transactions
- Parks and gardens – sensory gardens (smell, hear, touch) access toilets, level area, seats
- Pedestrian crossings - light needs to be on ‘walk’ for longer
- Colours – use contrast colours to define doors etc

Highlighted: Area identified to focus on