

## **CARERS FORUM JULY 11<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

Attended by 5 carers

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Chris regretted she couldn't attend because we have a great group here at Harrogate.

**LIZ'S VIDEO** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3ztX1BuUjg&t=3s>

Members of the forum found it very powerful and it showed a very heavy workload for Liz. Extensive responsibilities and commitment as Shirley's carer.

Liz said some things were too personal to be shown on the video and she felt that for the shortness of the video it showed too much of her sitting and not showing how full-on the day really is.

### **DISCUSSED ITEMS**

Launch of the impact report – Video was shown at the impact report event and it was found to be very powerful and got a fantastic response.

The tea party at Station View was a huge success. A very jolly event with more than 50 attendees.

### **CARERS WEEK SUGGESTIONS**

Encourage the radio stations to put snippets on about carers.

Cinemas may give a slot during trailers in Carers Week as a donation.

Suggestion of trips out but to bring the cared for too.

### **CARERS (ACTION PLAN) STRATEGY -**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/713781/carers-action-plan-2018-2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/713781/carers-action-plan-2018-2020.pdf)

General feedback of the plan was negative. Below are some the carers' concerns.

- Worried that the action plan will not be beneficial to the carer. Felt it was rushed and not thought through.
- No time scales on the plan and it was very generic and sketchy.
- Nothing practical – felt like nothing to progress forward and it almost feels like a step back.
- Felt it was a process rather than recognising carers' individual needs.

- Felt they needed some assurances from MPs that Carers Allowance won't be stopped.
- Also thought that MPs don't understand the benefits system.

General synopsis was that the document was not good enough.

### **CARERS RIGHTS DAY**

Carers Rights Day is on Friday November 30<sup>th</sup> at the Quaker Meeting House.

This year it will be professionals listening to carers.

Discussed suitable times and discussed how the short videos made a huge impact. Suggested a marketplace/workshop type of structure. Some carers may be contacted before October to do a short video or interview.

**Next carers forum Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup> 2 – 4pm.**