**INTERGENERATIONAL HOUSING NETWORK**

**Notes of a zoom meeting, Wednesday 13 May 2020 2pm**

**Participants**

Stephen Burke, United for All Ages

Emma Garland, Hull City Council

Roland Karthaus, Matter Architecture

Sam Brandman, Two Generations

Simon Fenwick, East Riding Council

Susan Kay, Dunhill Medical Trust

Rachael Dutton, St Monica Trust

Deborah Fox, Homeshare UK

Ben Dunne, Homeshare UK

Andrew Llowarch, Llowarch Llowarch Architects

Jennifer Challinor, Crichton Trust

Clive Cook, St Johns Winchester

Micah Gold, Mobilise

George Lee, The Common Land

Pamela Knight-Davidson, Anglia Ruskin University

Frances Toomey, UK Cohousing Trust

Gita Prasad, Housing LIN

Anthony Hu, Matter Architecture

Jude Leighton, United St Saviour’s Charity

Deborah Wyatt, Oxford Brookes University

Alison Clyde, Generations Working Together

Jenny Harris, Time to Talk Befriending

Several apologies were received.

Grateful thanks to Roland Karthaus for both chairing and taking notes!

**1.Introductions and current experiences.**

Sam Brandman: Intergen activities had stopped, but started again as people realising that isolation is a serious problem.

Deborah Fox: Homeshare – most challenging in leadup to lockdown – people wanted people removing from parents’ homes – once lockdown started, people pleased to have people staying. On the whole has been positive – new enquiries and people wanting to share housing. Challenges for how they operate in new climate.

Alison Clyde: Everything came to a halt, but massive interest re-emerging. Additional emergency funding for a Covid response, able to provide more support into care homes. Working with digital tech companies – possible solution for doing it safely – can’t see young people on screen for protection reasons – working with Verizon. Pulling together catalogue of activities from all over to share experiences. Support from Tableau to formulate intergenerational database for Scotland. New short, free training courses on intergenerational work forthcoming. All in newsletter Generationsworkingtogether.

Georgina Lee: Noticed greatly increased appetite for community connections in her neighbourhood across all ages – need to find a way of capitalising on it. Technology being used across all the generations due to necessity. Technology not fit for purpose – working with Bath University to look at improving technology in this context. How can digital communication be better?

Jennifer Challinor: People in Scotland keen to use technology due to geography – connectivity is a major problem – how do we fix this in the future. Health and social care department more reluctant to think about intergenerational activity because of protection from infection.

Gita Prasad: Thinks that health commissioning is problematic because of frameworks and policies. Multi-generational living and institutions like prisons are behind the curve. Commissioners are still focused on intial situation

Jenny Harris: Most of their members shielding – lost 10 people so far. Cross tenure – how to keep them connected.

**2. Looking ahead**

Potential new software from GWT / Verizon may be shared soon.

Stephen – tech that works better for people of all ages. How do we maintain local networks? Big opportunities for developing homeshare. Student housing, care homes and high streets that may be coming empty – big opportunities – focus on who is going to take on which parts of the agenda.

Georgina – lack of good examples of intergenerational living. Focus on examples. APPG on social exclusion – too statistic based, not enough stories.

Roland – high streets – concern about their future and risk of development into residential undermining their purpose. Intergenerational housing could be ideal model as shared facilities can provide ‘shopfront’ at ground level, with residential above.

Jennifer – the stow project in Dumfries – new development in town centre – community-led project

Multi-generational family homes – developers not interested.

Gita – Marmalade Lane – intergenerational housing scheme in Cambridge

Preventative importance to delay enter care homes. Balance of types of care. Care homes in a difficult situation at the moment – working with care settings we currently have.

Deborah Wyatt – Masters at Oxford Brookes on design – dissertation on intergenerational living – works for west Oxfordshire district council

Jenny Harris – transition from home setting to care – under current circumstances dealing with dementia remotely is extremely challenging. Project called dying well – managing transition. Opportunity for policy lobbying?

Emma Garland- Looking at funding for the group. Application unsuccessful.

Gita – funding from Winston memorial funding – deadline today – possible opportunity there.

Policy – longterm plan – healthy new towns

Roland TCPA – healthy new towns policy – can link in if specific ideas.

Emma – everyone to think about what they would like to focus on and what we can get out of it – what can the network achieve collectively

Georgina – come across positive stories – share with the group

Gita – housing LIN – intergenerational housing

Stephen – student housing

Roland – issue that student housing often not built to permanent residential standards.

Jennifer – example of a project in Coventry to put older people into student accommodation

Micah – mobilise

Deborah – how homeshare taking things forward – looking at technology – current funding bid in. difficulty over next few weeks – waiting to see what happens. Positive at the moment – risk of isolation greatest risk in their view.

Stephen – how you’re building confidence and trust?

Deborah – matching people well – looking at people’s needs in depth. Assessing risks against COVID 19 issues. Testing – not been able to test sharers as yet. Minimising risk pending a vaccine.

Sam – isolation biggest health risk, minimising COVID risks as best they can. Can’t assume that a vaccine will make this go away and so longer term planning needed.

Stephen – same issues as before COVID – going to continue in the future – this is focus of the network: reducing loneliness, improving housing options, building stronger communities.

Emma – moving to East Riding Council

**From the chats (excluding technical issues!):**

From Susan Kay -

Resources developed by the #iwill pilot project for intergenerational linking: http://carehomefans.org/remote-intergenerational-linking/

From Frances Toomey to Everyone: 02:37 PM

One of the issues for CLH, particularly cohousing, is the challenge of how to use communal/shared facilities, which is fundamental to cohousing, in particular. OWCH are documenting how they are managing this - findings will be interesting when they are published.

From Sam Brandman to Everyone: 02:39 PM

Just to say on the tech point: we have setup a Facebook group for people to share practice on how to help isolate people: https://www.facebook.com/groups/588331862064840

From Frances Toomey to Everyone: 02:42 PM

The Trust is also represented on the steering committee of a research project, commissioned by MHCLG and being undertaken by LSE, on the positive impacts of cohousing on loneliness. The researchers have now added some questions on COVID19.

From Susan Kay - DMT to Everyone: 02:56 PM

I completely agree that we need BOTH the facts and figures AND the stories and narrative. The programmes we like to fund will have comprehensive evidence development elements built in. This will typically include a fiscal ROI, a social ROI and a 360 degree action-based learning (qualitative) piece.

From georginalee to Everyone: 03:01 PM

https://www.prp-co.uk/news/press-releases/multigenerational-house-commended-at-the-nla-awards.html

From Jennifer - Crichton Trust to Everyone: 03:01 PM

https://www.midsteeplequarter.org/

From Susan Kay - DMT to Everyone: 03:07 PM

Completely support that, Gita. We are currently funding a research project led by Dr Gemma Burgess at University of Cambridge entitled: How can ‘smart’ homes and new digital home technologies meet the needs of an ageing population? Partnering with Johnnie Johnson Homes (and others) to do some user testing.

From Frances Toomey to Everyone: 03:08 PM

Frances Wright, resident of Marmalade Lane, is also Head of Community Partnering at TOWN and a director of the UK Cohousing Network. She would be able to give you the lowdown on their experience with planning.

From Frances Toomey to Everyone: 03:15 PM

Marmalade Lane has received two RTPI awards and the Silver Jubilee Cup. It is also an entry for the RICS Social Impact awards.

From georginalee to Everyone: 03:17 PM

I am afraid I have to go. Great to meet you all. Very keen to find some specific projects we can all collaborate on. George x

From Jennifer - Crichton Trust to Everyone: 03:19 PM

https://www.greenpm.co.uk/news/major-double-announcement-coventry-mipim-2019