

## **Community Connect - a new initiative**

Community Connect is a new initiative, started this year, covering the whole of the parish of Feock. It is a project of promise; one which will deliver by the end in 2021 a greater awareness in the community of local resources and social hubs which can make a difference to our everyday lives.

Initiatives come and go but this one co-funded by Feock Parish Council, Truro City Council and the NHS will leave a legacy which will help everyone to make choices in the future. A data base available on computers and tablets as well as in the Parish Office, will enable people to identify places and people in real time with whom they can enjoy their leisure time. It is called building a resilient community but to users it means having the means to easily find out what is going on day by day throughout the Parish. If you have an interest, eg, bee keeping, gardening or dance you can look this up in the data base and find a club or group of people with similar interests.

This work is being undertaken by a new appointment of a Community Navigator. The Navigator Sharon Nettleton is currently visiting clubs, GP surgeries, health professional, groups of people and individuals to identify existing facilities and to establish local needs. The project stems from a recognition that our well being significantly affects our general health.

No-one knows when they will be alone or need support and encouragement. The project will seek to connect people with each other based on their individual interests and needs. Sharing is sometimes a better option to being alone but information about making the right connections is sometimes difficult through lack of knowledge. In the future there will be no reason not to make connections if you want to.

In the meantime the Parish Council is looking at ways of improving the support infrastructure to help people to get round and about. The transport scheme which helps people get to events and destinations, making our footpaths safer for older people and supporting our village halls as social hubs are just three examples of work in progress. All Council decisions are 'well being' proofed to ensure wherever possible that our community is a safe, informed and good place to live in. The project is life affirming in intent. The Council believes that it has a role to play in sustaining the well being of the community. Community Connect is the current outcome of that belief. As our Navigator meets more members of the community and identifies their needs and ways of maintaining their well being we hope you will share that belief

Cllr Keith Hambly-Staite  
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