

## **Horsham District Dementia Action Alliance**

On 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017 North Horsham Parish Council joined the Horsham District Dementia Action Alliance. The Dementia Action Alliance is a movement with one simple aim: to bring about a society-wide response to dementia. It encourages and supports communities and organisations across England to take practical actions to enable people to live well with dementia and reduce the risk of costly crisis intervention.

The National Dementia Declaration lists seven outcomes that the DAA are seeking to achieve for people with dementia and their carers. In brief these are:-

1. Personal choice and control of influence over personal decisions.
2. Services that are designed to support the needs of those with dementia.
3. Support to promote independent living.
4. Being informed of where to get information.
5. Living in an enabling and supportive environment where those with dementia feel valued and understood.
6. Having a sense of belonging and being valued as part of family, community and civic life.
7. To recognize that research is delivering changes in how the disease can be managed and providing hope for the future.

North Horsham Parish Council has agreed an Action Plan to support the outcomes within the National Dementia Declaration as follows:-

- Some staff and Councillors have been trained as Dementia Friends and they are encouraged to share their knowledge and techniques with others and lead by example.
- To recognize that those using the services and facilities provided by North Horsham Parish Council have diverse needs and to allow users the opportunity to take their time to communicate their needs.
- To provide clear user instructions/ directions.

- To take into consideration ways in which using the buildings could be made easier to use for those with dementia and/or other needs when undertaking any necessary work to the buildings.
- To work with other organisations to promote information that would be of use to those with dementia and other needs.
- To use a variety of ways of engaging with the community to ensure that as many residents as possible can become involved.

The challenges to delivering these outcomes are resources (especially time) and making people aware of the Parish Council's commitment to being as inclusive as possible to all residents.

Adopted 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017

To be reviewed in July 2019