**Erosh Kent Network Event**

**Date and Time:** Monday 14th May 2018

12.30pm Tour of Scheme

1.00pm Lunch

1.30pm-4.00pm Meeting

**Venue**: Montgomery Court, Choir Close, Wainscott, Rochester, Kent ME38FP.

**Agenda**:

1. **Welcome, housekeeping, apologies and introductions**

Jo McTavish

1. **Kent PFI**

Lesley Green, Extra Care Services Manager, West Kent Housing Assn

Your questions and queries about Montgomery Court and other WKHA extra care schemes answered.

Discussion about current issues in Extra Care Housing

1. **Erosh Update**

Robin Deane, Chair erosh

1. **Planning future events-discussion All**

Members ideas/suggestions

Locations,timings, frequency of events etc

Suggested topics and speakers

1. **What’s happening in your area-sharing good practice**  **All**
2. **A new approach to resident involvement followed by Q/A’s and discussion**

Robin Deane, Head Of Older Peoples Services, Homes & Communities, Optivo

1. **Any other business**
2. **Date of next meeting**

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Jo McTavish,

Linda Lumsden - Optivo

Robin Deane – Optivo

Amanda Fairman -

Tina Mowat – Moat Housing

Viv Lyons – Independent Consultant Housing and Care

Di Cox – Scheme Manger - Centra

Tina Griffiths – Centra

Apologies:- Lesley Green, Alma York

Erosh meeting started with a very informative and interesting tour of Montgomery Court with Amanda Fairman Extra Care Manager.

Jo welcomed everyone and asked people to do introductions.

Questions for Amanda following tour. Discussion around self-funders – appreciate what they have – reasons that people choose not to buy related to future care needs. Discussed age limit and need of Extra Care. Most Housing Associations have a mixed tenure rental and sales as there appears to be a need for Part buy/Part Rent. Viv advised that there needs to be at least 60 flats to make a Scheme viable. Not all Local Authorities understand Extra Care and look at Schemes as a route for homeless people who don’t always need the Care.

Erosh Update. Robin Deane.

Robin gave a run through of the background of Erosh as Erosh is now 20 years old and plays an essential role in all sheltered Housing, Older People housing including in Wales and Northern Ireland – creates an invaluable network across the UK. Erosh held their AGM in Manchester recently. Silverline (Esther Rantzen) and Andy Burham Mayor of Manchester have been working together to offer support for Older People including Advice Service/Help line and befriending for Older People. Telephone no 0800 4708090. Silver Circles aim to bring people together with similar interests – get together through phone conferences – with the aim to get them to take it over. Silver Line also have volunteers who provide a pen pal service. Manchester is looking to dissolve boundaries between Social Care and NHS. Currently looking to pilot Year of Care aiming to keep people well and living independently. Erosh theme this year is Health and Well Being, loneliness and isolation. Esther Rantzen is supporting this.

There are lots of guides on Erosh website including Fire Safety, mobility Scooters and befriending. Robin asked the question – who is moving into our Schemes? New residents often have alcohol problems, relationship breakdowns and the last few years have been challenging in meeting their needs. Tina said that as long as they fit the age criteria local councils tend to steer them toward Extra Care which in turn can lead to mental health and depression as people don’t necessarily want to live in Extra Care. Viv said that one size does not fit all – Housing Associations need to be talking to Local Authorities. Viv asked whether Erosh could be taking on that role with LA’s. Possibly get a working group together. Robin to look at evidence to follow this up.

“Inside Housing” recently published an article that said that “Sheltered Housing is not needed”. It was agreed unanimously that this was a stupid thing to say as they are crucial to the Housing sector. There has been debate on bedsits and housing with wardens – putting lots of 70+ residents together is not necessary the best thing as there will be a lot of diverse needs with in this sector – need to take future needs into consideration as well.

4/. Planning Future Events.

The general consensus was that people did want Kent Erosh to continue. Everyone asked to look at promoting, inviting/notifying potential attendees to Kent Erosh. Database of names needs to be updated – look at all potential attendees. Robin has contact with Abbeyfields, Viv to try and get contacts for Town and Country – Tunbridge Wells.

Jo thanked everyone for attending and for such a positive start to reviving Kent Erosh.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 26 September

Venue

**Rogallo Extra Care Scheme**

Horsted, Chatham, Kent

ME1 2XQ

12.30 for tour of Scheme

Lunch 12.30 – 1pm

1pm – 4pm