



Report to South Woodham Ferrers Town Council For Events Community & Leisure Committee Meeting on 4th November 2025

Since our last Report for the meeting held on 7th October 2025 there have been the following significant developments:

Crouch Vale Medical Centre's Wheelchairs restored! Thanks to three people for donating four wheelchairs to replace the ones which 'went missing'.

Two Flu and Covid vaccination clinics have been run on a couple of Saturdays in October at Crouch Vale Medical Centre. Many thanks to the volunteers who marshalled them.

Many thanks to SWF Town Council's Finance and Grants Committee for approving a grant to enable us to run two Mental Health Toolkit: Essentials (MHTK) workshops to the local community. These award-winning half-day sessions guide participants through the Mental Health Continuum – the spectrum we all move along and introduce the Emotional Needs & Resources approach. The MHTK key topics include: sleep and depression; security and trauma; how to meet emotional needs; and how to use innate resources to support wellbeing. Designed for everyone (families, friends, colleagues), the MHTK aims to create emotionally healthy environments and reduce stigma around mental health. A meeting to arrange delivery is arranged for Friday 31 October with the expert providers, Mind Mid & North East Essex.

A proposal is being prepared for another research project to be undertaken in conjunction with Warwick Medical School's MA Pathways to the Public Health Workplace Placement scheme. This is expected to be: "To: Research to identify how Essex Integrated Care System (EICS) should standardise its approach to Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs), starting with the SWF, Dengie & Maldon Central INT. "Neighbourhood Health" is a key aspect of the NHS 10-year Plan. What does this mean to local people/organisations and what is important to them when services are being designed? Priority to be given to individuals with more complex needs ie those with frailty or at the end of their lives, because data shows this is where most impact for local populations can be made." This will be submitted by Friday 31 October 2025 and we hope to be successful again in attracting a Masters' student to work with us on this.

Our Chair has recently been invited to join the relatively new ARU Medical School Primary Care Research Centre Steering Group. He has also been invited to a prior meeting about this with the ARU School of Medicine Research Lead and the School's Principal.

A recent meeting was held with the Chief Executive of Citizens Advice Chelmsford and others about possibly bringing sessions by CA and other agencies to the Town.

Developments continue towards the reorganisation of Mid & South Essex (MSE) Integrated Care Board (ICB) into the Essex ICB to take effect in April 2026.

The public inquiry into the mental health services in Essex continues.

The Group continues to represent SWF in Livewell Chelmsford and Culture Chelmsford, particularly with its priority of the link between culture and health. SWF Creatives is in partnership with Culture Chelmsford for three projects being delivered over 18 months, funded by Arts Council England, being Concrete Canvas, Chelmsford Museum Collectives and a Gaming Festival.

Our Chair continues his involvement in meetings across the NHS which directly impact on our local NHS. Our weekly newsletters continue to be e-circulated to over 300 subscribers. Our contribution to the monthly Issues of Focus is established as a regular item. Our weekly article is published on our website, the Town's social media and is included in our weekly newsletter.

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