

## Sandbach Town Council 8 March 2023

### Dementia Friendly Sandbach Town Council update report

#### Introduction

- 1 The full Council at its meeting on the 14/12/2022 fully supported the objective of becoming a Dementia Friendly Town Council.
- 2 The Council recognises the challenges facing people with Dementia, both Diagnosed or un diagnosed, and wishes to show Community Leadership Locally to ensure the residents of Sandbach with Dementia have access to information and support about this disease for which there is currently no cure.
- 3 There are 197 Adults over 65 living in Sandbach with a diagnosis of Dementia but we suspect this number is much larger for Adults who have not been diagnosed.

#### Progress to Date and way forward

- 4 Following the recommendations of a Task and Finish group we have used the 5 Domains identified by the Local Government Association (LGA) on Dementia guidance for Local Councils. The Domains are **Voices,Place,People ,Resources and Network**.
- 5 We recognise that by using these 5 Domains as our guiding principles we are also protecting the rights of Vulnerable people to live in a safe Community. This can include the Council improving street pavement access for disabled users and a review of street lighting to ensure residents feel safe particularly at night.
- 6 We have been guided by Dave Whitworth (Chair Dementia Friendly Sandbach) who has facilitated Dementia Friends sessions for both Staff and Councillors. The take up of these session has been met with enthusiasm by both Staff and Councillors and continues to be available for future participants.
- 7 The next step is to submit a recognition pledge to the Alzheimer's Society to progress recognition. Since the Council has shown good progress against the action plan D. Whitworth would be happy as an Alzheimer's Ambassador to recommend recognition by the society which will entitle the Council to receive the recognition stickers
- 8 The Alzheimer's Society recognition lasts for 12 months and our on going challenge will be to review and update our action plans. We have a named Officer in the Council who is taking the lead on Dementia matters which will assist our monitoring and review processes.

## **Recommendations**

- 1 That the Council supports the submission of a recognition pledge to the Alzheimer's Society and if accepted we declare that we are a Dementia Friendly Council.

Councillor Donal Hegarty  
Chair of Task group