



Wealden View

Newsletter for the Community and Voluntary Sector in Wealden

Provided by the SDCVS/EAVS Wealden Support Partnership

Moving forward together

During times of financial downturn and potential hardship it is important for the voluntary & community sector to pull together to try and reduce any knock on effects for communities or individuals in need. Two examples of partnership working are highlighted in this issue of Wealden View.

Future of the SDCVS/EAVS Wealden Support Partnership
Both SDCVS and EAVS recently held AGMs where they unveiled the thinking behind proposals that aim to secure the support for groups in Wealden in 2009 and beyond. SDCVS and EAVS have worked well together to fill the gap left in Wealden when its own Council for Voluntary Service (WFVO) closed in 2006. It has been increasingly clear that greater benefits could emerge from the creation of one body to work across the three

areas of Wealden, Lewes district and Eastbourne. The aim is to maximise existing resources; provide consistency of service and ensure greater sustainability. Consultation runs until 2 March 09 after which a decision will be made by members at an EGM. If approved, "convergence" will occur during 2009/10. For more information see go to:

www.southdownscvs.org.uk or www.eavs.org. If your group is not a member of either SDCVS or EAVS please join either and have your say.

East Sussex Compact gets national recognition

The East Sussex Compact was a finalist in the national Compact Awards which formed part of this year's Compact Week 1-8 November.

The East Sussex Compact Steering Group was singled out for its work in implementing the Compact at a local level; integrating the Compact into local strategies and processes; undertaking reviews and carrying out an excellent campaign to promote its use. For more about the local Compact see page 6.

Death of a Community Champion

The Chairman of Lime Aid has written to inform us of the sad death of Mike Benians on 13 October 2008. The new contact is Dr Martyn Stenning e: m.j.stenning@sussex.ac.uk or t: 01273 872758 (work) 01825 762893 (home). There is a fitting tribute to Mike's life and work on the website: <http://limetreeavenue.co.uk/default.aspx>



Celebrating the East Sussex award, Sir Bert Massie CBE, Commissioner for the Compact (centre) with (left to right) Ivan Rudd (Hastings & Rother & East Sussex Downs & Weald PCTs); Jill Ferguson (HVA), Alison Maconochie (EAVS) and Paul Rideout (ESCC)



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Seasons Greetings and a Peaceful New Year to all our readers

2 Outreach

Successful Funding Surgeries!

Two recent funding surgeries at Nutley and Heathfield, run with the Wealden District Council Community Grants Officer, attracted 24 local voluntary and community groups, of whom an encouraging 50% were groups who had not previously accessed the Wealden Community Support service.

The surgeries focus on providing up-to-date information and guidance on a range of current funding programmes and offer an ideal opportunity for groups to discuss specific funding needs in detail. Karl Parks, Wealden Community Support Officer, is planning to hold the next surgeries in Uckfield, Crowborough & Herstmonceux in early 2009. Contact Karl on 01825 765136, e: wealdencommunity@btconnect.com



Wealden Support Partnership:

EAVS

Chief Executive: Adam Chugg
01323 639373
Wealden Community Support Officer: Karl Parks, Uckfield
Volunteer Bureau 01825 765136
wealdencommunity@btconnect.com
Community Development Co-ordinator: Marie Tomblin 01323 419788

SDCVS

Director: Debby Matthews
Information Officer: Kim Lanning
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Core Funders:

East Sussex County Council
East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT
Wealden District Council

AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT

Setting up a Community Interest Company

If you want to develop a business while putting something back into your community, you could set up a Community Interest Company - a model that enables you to make profits while giving others a helping hand. The range of activities can be huge - from fair-trade food production to employing people with special needs. Social enterprises like these can be Community Interest Companies (CICs). A form of limited liability company, they enjoy the flexibility of the company form but with some features to ensure their assets are used for the benefit of the community, not just the owners and employees.

Pros and Cons of a CIC

CICs sit somewhere between a charity and a conventional limited company: like a charity, you can dedicate yourself to socially beneficial work; unlike a charity, you can make profits, although you will also have to pay full business rates. Like a limited company, you can pay dividends to shareholders; unlike a limited company, you can apply for funding and grants aimed at social enterprises. There are also investment advantages. The Government is providing CICs with preferential access to equity finance through its Enterprise Capital Funds. Leading financial institutions, backed by the Bank of England, may be more willing to provide finance to CICs than to small limited companies. You will also be a more attractive investment package to investors, as CIC directors receive community

investment relief of 5% per annum on their assets.

The asset lock: CICs are obliged to comply with company law, including rules on insolvency, accountancy and governance. They have directors and members like any other company and are obliged to file annual accounts and reports at Companies House. But CIC directors cannot siphon off profits for other purposes, such as investing in other businesses. Instead, the mechanism that underpins CICs is a legal 'lock' that ensures assets and profits will be used for the community interest. Although this asset lock allows for 'reasonable' payments to directors and shareholders, it ensures that upon winding up assets will only be used to benefit the community.

How to do it: You can either set up as a CIC from the outset or to convert an existing limited company to a CIC. You will have to register with the CIC Regulator at Companies House; pass a community interest test showing that your business is socially motivated; ensure your company memorandum and articles show that you intend to benefit the community and (if you are already in business) prove that your stakeholders agree to the change. You must also provide an annual community interest report to the regulator, outlining what you have done to provide public benefit and involve your stakeholders in your work. To find out more go to the CIC Regulator website at: www.cicregulator.gov.uk or telephone 029 20346228.

Government Funding for Three Years

Charities, voluntary groups and social enterprises all stand to benefit from new guidance published by the Government, ensuring every Whitehall department offers three year funding to third sector organisations in all but exceptional cases. The guidance document, published jointly by the Office of the Third Sector (OTS) in the Cabinet Office and the Treasury, sends a clear message across Government that, where appropriate, funding for the third sector must be for a minimum of three years.

Throughout the next three years, departments will have to report their progress to the Minister for the Third Sector by the end of October, who will in turn report that progress to the Treasury and to Parliament as part of the annual review of the Compact.

This is the first in a series of concrete steps towards making three year funding the norm rather than the exception, and – with the reassurance they will not lose funding from one year to the next – aims to help third sector organisations to be: more sustainable – to engage in longer-term planning, borrowing and investment; more innovative – with more time to develop and demonstrate the impact of new services and activities; provide better value for money – reducing time spent on year-on-year fundraising, freeing up staff to concentrate on delivering long-term outcomes. There are instances where shorter-term funding may be more appropriate, for instance if a department is funding one off events or for very specific pilot projects.

Download the Three Year Funding - guidance for government departments from:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/080903_funding.aspx

The Lottery's Small Grants Scheme - Set for Change

Following a review of the Awards for All England programme, changes are to be made to the small grants scheme's existing format when it comes to an end in March 2009.

Currently Awards for All England is a joint Lottery grants programme supported by Arts Council England, Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England. From 1 April 2009 each of the lottery distributors supporting the scheme will have their own small grants programmes up and running. Applications can still be made under the current arrangements until 31 March 2009. The distributors will each run their own small grants programme as follows:

- Big Lottery Fund will launch a new small grants programme on 1 April 2009 awarding grants of £300 to £10,000 to local communities in 2009-2010.
- Sport England will provide small grants for sports ranging from £300 - £10,000 from 1 April 2009.
- Arts Council England will provide small grants through their existing 'Grants for the arts' programme, supporting awards between £1,000 and £100,000.
- Heritage Lottery Fund small grants will be provided through the existing 'Your Heritage' (£3,000 to £50,000) and 'Young Roots' (£3,000 to £25,000) schemes.

Advice line 0845 600 2040,
www.awardsforall.org.uk/england/index.html

B&Q One Planet Living Awards (OPL)

B&Q awards are launched every January. The One Planet Living Awards (OPL) will allow community-based projects to secure up to £10,000 of B&Q products under the scheme if they can demonstrate how their activities will support one of the following themes:

The Environment/energy saving;
Natural habitats and wildlife;
Local culture/heritage.

For more information on the themes and to apply for an award, visit their website to download an application form, or alternatively, call the B&Q application hotline number Tel: 0845 300 1001. Website: www.diy.com/awards

Mind - £7.5m Grants Initiative

Mental health charity Mind has launched a £7.5m grant-giving programme to fund environmental projects that work with people who have mental health problems. Ecominds, funded by the Big Lottery Fund's environment programme, Changing Spaces, will distribute funds to 125 projects from community groups, schools and businesses in England over the next five years. To apply, visit www.mind.org.uk/ecominds

Futurebuilders Tender Fund

The Tender Fund is a new Futurebuilders programme offering interest-free three year loans of between £3,000 and £50,000 to community and voluntary sector organisations who need relatively small sums of money to help them tender successfully for specific public service delivery contracts. www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk/our-products/our-products/product-menu/

4 Training & Conferences

South Downs CVS Training Opportunities

Lone Working - With Di Morgan
Thursday 29 January 2009, 9.30 – 12.30pm, at South Downs CVS, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG
This course will look at: What is Lone Working?; What are the risks involved?: taking responsibility for your own safety; a simple risk assessment; avoiding and minimising risks; diffusing difficult situations; working off site; accidents and reporting; professional boundaries; supervision of lone workers. Cost £25 - £35 depending on status. Closing date for bookings Thursday 15 January 2008.

Developing a Fundraising Strategy - with Graham Allen
Wednesday 11 February 2009, 9.30am - 4.30pm (light lunch included) at South Downs CVS, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG. This one-day course will help you develop a fundraising strategy based on your organisation's strategic and business plans. It will help you decide your funding needs and priorities, and set strategic fundraising goals Cost £35 - £55 depending on status. Closing date for bookings Wednesday 28 January 2009

Introduction to working with the Media - with McCrudden Training – Madeleine Mayhew
This two half day course takes place on Tuesday 17 March 2009, 9.30am - 12.30pm and Tuesday 24 March 2009, 9.30am - 12.30pm at South Downs CVS, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG.
Every voluntary organisation needs to get their message across – with their staff,

volunteers and service beneficiaries, as well as with the 'outside world'. This workshop will give delegates an understanding of the role of both internal and external communications. It will explore how to promote your organisation with succinct and clear promotional messages and publicise good news. Managing communication for your organisation is about more than just writing a good advert. (This course is run over two half days to allow delegates time to draft a press release and review it in the second session). Cost £45 - £60 depending on status. Closing date for bookings: Tuesday 3 March 2009.

The current 2008/09 training programme can be found at: www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training. For further details of the above courses, booking form etc., or if you would like to discuss your training requirements contact: Julia on 01273 483832, email: info@southdownscvs.org.uk

GOVERNANCE Report on Charity Law Event

Along with colleagues from Eastbourne Association of Voluntary Services South Downs CVS held a very successful information session on Charity Law on 7 October in St John's Church Hall, Polegate.



Nearly 50 people, mostly volunteer trustees, came and listened to Christine Rigby, from Bates Wells and Braithwaite and Malcolm Preece from Price & Co explaining details of the Charity Act 2006 and how this impacts on their organisations. Members of the audience were able to ask questions throughout, and judging by the very positive feedback all those who attended found this to be a most useful and beneficial session.

We very much hope that we will be able to do something similar in the future and would welcome topic suggestions and locations for future sessions.

National Association for Voluntary & Community Action (NAVCA) to deliver an "Empowering the Voluntary Sector" workshop in conjunction with South Downs CVS

The Empowering the Voluntary Sector project brings together the Public Law Project (PLP) to support the voluntary and community sector to understand the principles and framework of public law. A national programme of one-day workshops on the principles of public law has been taking place and feedback from people attending has been very positive - over 98% rate the training highly.

NAVCA in conjunction with South Downs CVS are holding a workshop on 18 March 2009 in room 3, The Hub at Uckfield Civic Centre, Uckfield. Further details and booking form can be found on the website at: <http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/training.php>

Attendance will be limited to 15 participants, so early booking is advisable.

This is a website resource aimed at the third sector, for those who are looking for a trainer, consultant, temporary/project manager or non-managerial supervisor to assist in your organisation. You can search for people, organisations by region & specialist topic areas.

www.how2fundraise.org

A comprehensive, FREE on-line resource for the UK's volunteer fundraisers, from the Institute of Fundraising. Supported by The Vodafone UK Foundation and The Office of the Third Sector.

www.eastsussexolderpeopleweb.org.uk

East Sussex Older People's Web is a website with news of and links to numerous County & regional sites about all aspects of older people's interests, needs & welfare.

NOS for Management of Volunteers

Do you manage or support volunteers? The UK Workforce Hub has published "Management of Volunteers. National Occupational Standards 2008" (August 2008). The aim of the NOS is to assist those with a responsibility for the development and implementation of the volunteering strategy. They specify the standards of performance to which people recruiting and supporting volunteers should be working. The standards are broken down into a number of units. You can download the individual units from: www.ukworkforcehub.org.uk/DisplayPage.asp?pageid=12457. You can buy a hard copy of the NOS online at: www.ncvol.org.uk/publications/showall.asp?id=1472

Social Enterprise in the Balance Challenges for the Voluntary Sector

A report of a two-year research project, aiming to explore the policy and practice challenges of developing social enterprise activity within voluntary and community organisations.

The report answers questions about the extent to which social enterprise provides a model for sustainable development, how social enterprise training might be developed and the provision of guidance to different types of funders in deciding how best to support such an organisation. Postage and packaging (£2.75). To order visit: www.dsc.org.uk/Publications/Sectorpolicyandcampaigns/@16025

TOPICAL TIPS**Minimum Age for Company Directors**

From 1 October 2008 company directors must be at least 16 years old. They can be appointed before they reach age 16, provided the appointment does not take effect until they are 16 or provided the appointment is for specified reasons that will be set out in regulations. The register of directors has to be amended accordingly, but Companies House does not have to be notified (Companies Act 2006 ss.157-159).

(Source Legal Update www.sandy-a.co.uk)

Conflict of Interest Duties of Directors

In the past it was often enough for a company director with a conflict of interest or a conflict of loyalties simply to declare the conflict, have the declaration minuted or entered in a register of directors' interests, and not take part in discussions or

decisions affected by the conflict. This is no longer the case, and from 1 October 2008 new rules govern authorisation and approval in conflict of interest situations. (For further details go to www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#codir-conflict). The Charity Commission's *Guide to conflict of interest for trustees*, (accessible at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/supportingcharities/conflicts.asp) has not yet been updated to cover the new requirements for charitable companies, but provides a useful starting point for thinking through the issues and developing a conflict of interest policy.

The Companies (Trading Disclosures) Regulations 2008

From 1 October 2008 the Companies (Trading Disclosures) Regulations 2008 set out new rules for what must be disclosed on HM Revenue company documents. These are very similar to the pre-

vious provisions, but make clear that any reference to a document includes hard copy (paper), electronic or any other form, and any reference to a website includes not only the company's own website, but also any other website relating to the company that the company has caused or authorised to appear. All disclosures must be large enough to be read by the naked eye - so no tiny print. A new requirement is for the name to be on all applications by the company for licences to carry on a trade or activity, and all other forms of its business correspondence and documentation. This basically means the registered name must be on just about everything, both paper and electronic, unless it is purely internal within the company. Further details of particulars to appear in business letters, order forms and websites and disclosure of names of directors can be found at: www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/uksi_20080495_en_1

Compact news

Compact Week coincided with the tenth anniversary of the Compact, The East Sussex Compact Annual Event: "Bringing the Compact to Life" recently took place to celebrate this milestone. Nationally this work has been recognised by the nomination for a National Excellence Award. This was presented to a contingent from the county on behalf of the good work of all partners at a reception at 11 Downing Street on 5 November 2008, (see front page).

The county event in Uckfield worked on the 6 Codes of Practice that underpin the Compact. Following on from this the steering group will take the East Sussex Compact Action Plan forward.

The Compact Steering Group is always seeking more people to become Compact Champions. A Compact Champion is a person with responsibility for promoting and assisting in the implementation of the East Sussex Compact within their own organisation/agency or networks of organisations. If you are interested please contact Seema Kapila (Policy and Development Officer) at SDCVS. She is a member of the Compact Steering Group and is available for compact information generally. Contact her on 483832 on Tuesdays or Fridays or policy@southdownscvs.org.uk

National Equality Partnership:

The time is right to talk about and, even better, to take action on equality, diversity and human rights in England. The equality legislation is being harmonised, the financing and operational environment in which the third sector functions is radically changing, and marginalised groups in the UK feel the need for their voices to be heard as never before.

The diversity of the third sector is one of its greatest strengths and the National Equality Partnership has been set up in this context, to help third sector support providers (umbrella bodies and infrastructure organisations) champion equality, diversity and human rights in England. It is a new three-year project funded by Capacitybuilders under the 'Improving Support' banner, which also includes support projects in other areas relevant to the work of third sector organisations, such as marketing and communications, income generation and performance management. To know more about the Improving Support programme, visit: www.improvingsupport.org.uk. For further information about the National Equality Partnership please contact the National Equality Partnership team, based at Women's Resource Centre www.improvingsupport.org.uk/equality or call 020 7324 3048 (Source: NAVCA Circulation Oct/Nov 2008)

Parliamentary Outreach Service

Does your organisation have something to say? Do your members want to have their voices heard? Have you ever wondered how laws are made and initiatives created? Would you like the chance to get involved? This summer a new Parliamentary Outreach Service has been launched to help the third sector engage with Parliament. This outreach service is active within two regions – Yorkshire and the Humber and East of England – and next year it is intended that the service will expand across the rest of England. So, if you think that your organisation has something to say which Parliament needs to hear then why not contact the outreach service to see how they can help you get your voice heard. Please contact: parliamentaryoutreach@parliament.uk or call 020 7219 6664. (Source: NACVA Circulation Oct/Nov 2008)

Disability Discrimination Act - new access requirements - tax guidance

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) requires service providers to make 'reasonable adjustments' to their premises to tackle any physical features that prevent disabled people from using their services. What is reasonable will vary in different situations. It may depend on the type of service being provided and the size and resources of the service provider. It could be as simple as using contrasting colours to help visually impaired people distinguish walls from doors, lowering a counter to make it more accessible to a wheelchair user or providing better lighting and clearer signs. For more information about the new duties visit the Equality & Human Rights Commission website www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/Pages/default.aspx You can also contact the helpline by voice, text, fax, post or email. You can speak to an operator at any time between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm, Monday to Friday. Telephone: 0845 604 6610 Textphone: 0845 604 6620 Fax: 0845 604 6630 Email: englandhelpline@equalityhumanrights.com

Many of the adjustments potentially needed in relation to new duties under the DDA will already qualify for tax relief, either as a revenue expense, or through capital allowances. details of tax relief are at: www.hmrc.gov.uk/specialist/disability-act-guidance.htm. For more information on disability issues visit Directgov at www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/index.htm

Wealden Community Network (ComNet) provides representatives to sit on different partnership bodies or planning groups. It holds an annual review and runs events on health improvement related topics. It is supported by East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT

World Mental Health Day – 10 October 2008, Uckfield

92 representatives from 40 organisations attended this very successful event. Feedback was positive, with the majority saying they liked the variety of the day (which included poetry reading and music promotion) and found that the event was informative, insightful and provided good opportunities to network. A number of organisations had displays, including poets Majorie Holmes and Dean Thorpe. The Referrals, a band who make music for their own enjoyment and to improve their well-being, were valued very highly on the evaluation form by at least 25% of people. Matthew Stone (Children & Adolescent Mental Health Services), Ian Watling (Sussex Partnership Trust) and Jane Lawrence (Rethink) spoke about just some of the important issues that affect people they work with who have mental health needs. Five different workshops, facilitated by Ian Watling, Steve Jones (Clinical Psychologist), Claire Pooley (Rethink), East Sussex Disability Association (Reg McLaughlin) and Polly Summers (Rethink) focused on various areas surrounding mental well – being.

Key Points Raised by Speakers and

Workshop facilitators: Mental distress could be reduced if issues such as poverty, unemployment and social exclusion are addressed; provision of good quality information in different formats; get groups of people together to share experiences and exchange ideas; Importance of trust, confidentiality, respect and being listened to – develop and build up relationships based on these; listen to the issues and discuss choices with people; empower people and give them the tools to support themselves so they have control over their care and life. If you would like a report of this event, contact Val Biggs on 01273 483832 or email: comnet@southdownscvs.org.uk

Wealden ComNet Annual Review

Representatives attending the Wealden ComNet AGM, on 24th November, discussed different health themes for ComNet to focus on for the year 2008/9. The majority decided that getting active

and eating well would be a valuable focus for ComNet, however, within the present economic climate, the expense of activities was discussed and therefore, finding cheaper alternatives would be useful. This could include: promoting health walks; possibly working in partnership with Country Alliance or British Trust for Conservation Volunteers; compiling a directory of different activities going on in Wealden; healthy eating on low incomes and many more ideas. These suggestions will be taken to the Wealden ComNet steering group at the next meeting on Tuesday 9 December to discuss further. For more information, see contact details above.

ComNet and LSP looking for representatives

Wealden District ComNet Steering Group is currently seeking to identify: a) a new ComNet Chair and b) a ComNet representative (of a voluntary organisation) to sit on the Wealden Local Strategic Partnership (LSP Wealden). The whole purpose of ComNet representation is to feed ComNet views into the LSP and views of LSP into ComNet. For further info contact: Debby Matthews on director@southdownscvs.org.uk

Farewell - I'm on my way

After 4 ½ years of working for South Downs CVS as development worker, Val Biggs is leaving 5 December and will be joining ESCC Adult Social Care 8 December. She is looking forward to her new role as Race Equality in Mental Health Service worker and will be working with different minority ethnic communities, agencies and organisations across East Sussex.

Val says: "I have loved working with everyone at SDCVS, and value all the support of Wealden ComNet steering group, and other organisations. I hope that my future role will involve some crossover and working together". South Downs CVS welcomes back Ralph Taylor in Val's place in the interim. Ralph previously held the post before Val joined SDCVS. Debby Matthews says "on behalf of everyone here I would like to say how much we will all miss Val but wish her well in the future."

Wealden Area News

Recent funding success through Grassroots!

Herstmonceux Cricket Club is based in an area with few local leisure facilities and so is in great demand. They have been awarded £5,000 towards a new engine for their roller (used to roll the cricket green), training new volunteers and they hope to attract new members. Pevensey Activity Club - the only children's group in the area and over-subscribed - have been awarded £4461 towards venue hire, sports equipment, art materials, instructors and rent. This will help the Activity Club continue its work. London House Open Door, Mayfield have been awarded £1000 towards the cost of a CAB adviser, to give specialist advice debt advice, benefits, consumer and legal issues. The Friends of Beechgrove Unit run different clubs at the unit catering for diverse needs and interests. They have been awarded £5000

towards hall fees, tutors' fees and publicity costs. To find out more about grassroots funding, contact Karl Parks, Wealden Community Support Officer, e: wealdencommunity@btconnect.com t: 01825 765136, attend the next funding surgery or go to www.sussexgiving.org.uk and click on grassroots.

Victim Support - new Hate Crime Service

Victim Support in conjunction with the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership will be managing a new service offering help and support to individuals and communities suffering hate crime. Hate crime includes any crime or incident motivated by virtue of a person's race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity or disability. Crimes include assault, harassment, threats, intimidation or damage to property and are particularly insidious because victims are often vulnerable and feel isolated. Amanda Bigden, Hate Crime Service Manager recognises how important community groups are to making this service a success: "Victim Support alone cannot deliver this service. We will be working very closely with the many local community groups, who already work with victims suffering hate crime. I have been inspired already by the support offered to me by many diverse community groups, and Victim Support is committed to building on those relationships. Victims need to feel confident to come forward and seek help, and their first contact may well be to somebody locally who they know and trust." Any victim of hate crime can contact Victim

Support on 0845 38 99 528 – phones are staffed from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday.

Wealden Voluntary & Community Sector Networking event – 24 November Hailsham

More than 30 people gathered in Hailsham East Community Centre to network over sandwiches, hear from Sussex Community Foundation, Victim Support, LiNK and from your local CVS' about proposed changes to the support you receive in the future (see page one). Workshops focused on IT for funding, Grassroots grants (see above) and how to make a successful funding bid. Networking continued long after the close of the meeting! The next event will be held on 9th February 2009, focusing on support for Wealden Voluntary and Community Groups. The following event is planned for Uckfield in March 2009.

DIARY

January

21 Wealden LSP Heathfield Community Centre **26** ESCC Cabinet Meeting 10.30am County Hall **29** East Sussex Downs & Weald PCT board meeting 1pm (for venue call 01424 735641)

February

9 Wealden Community Network event Heathfield, **18** Wealden LSP event **18** NCVO Annual Conference 2009 (call 020 7520 3160)

March

10 ESCC Cabinet Meeting 10.30am County Hall **11** Wealden LSP Herstmonceux Community Centre

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Notices of publications, events and services do not necessarily carry an endorsement by SDCVS/EAVS, nor do they represent the CVS' views.

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