

# The Debenham Project

## (Dementia - Caring for the Carers)

### Progress:

1. Project Meeting (3 June 09) - Minutes attached. The project seems to be moving into the next phase in which the various proposed activities are beginning to be implemented. Various volunteers are becoming involved and others are expressing specific interests.

2. The High School have enthusiastically taken on the design of our logo and homepage. It is to be ready for the steering group to make its decision on the winner by mid July. We have the assistance of a professional graphics and advertising designer to provide guidance in the preliminary and final stages.

3. We have started moves towards Charitable Trust Status for the project. We need this to establish a professional identity, recover tax, and eliminate the cost of CRB checks. Some form of interim arrangements may be necessary.

4. Chris Bishop has set up a temporary website and we have sorted out its structure together with a broad picture of its likely contents - list attached.

5. Contacts have been established with important service providers eg Age Concern, Suffolk Family Carers, Alzheimer's Society, Suffolk Libraries. Eddy Alcock is pursuing contact with the County Council. I am also seeking to form a link with The Dementia Strategy which is being headed up by the NHS Suffolk Mental Health Trust.

6. Paddy Fielder was interviewed on Radio Suffolk (11.30 am June 16<sup>th</sup>) about the Debenham Project. You should be able to catch it as a "listen again" podcast on the Radio Suffolk website ([www.bbc.co.uk/suffolk/local\\_radio/index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/suffolk/local_radio/index.shtml)).

### Other matters:

1. The project seems to be developing very quickly so that we hope to have our initial activities launched in September. This means that we are looking for volunteers to 'sign up' for the activities with which they would like to help. This is especially important as we need to organise some training in various aspects of the activities. If you just want to help, but can't quite see how to, please let us know.

4. Don't forget to let us know about your attendance at our luncheon on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

Best wishes, Lynden