

## **Carmarthenshire 50+ Forum      Bytes and Bites Project Coordinator**

Carmarthenshire 50+ Forum has received funding approval from the West Wales Care Partnership to run a cross-generational community project across several locations in Carmarthenshire. The purpose is to connect people who are 50+ with local young people to share learning and skills. The aim is to enrich lives through developing strong support networks, positively impact on health and wellbeing, and reduce social isolation and digital exclusion.

We wish to appoint a part time Bytes and Bites Coordinator to be responsible for all aspects of managing this project for a period of approximately 12 months. The role will be supported by the 50+ Steering Group, 50+ Community Engagement Lead and 3 bid partners who have been involved in testing the project process design. The Coordinator role will operate part time with a commitment of around 2 days per week, operating flexibly as required. The Coordinator will engage with Schools, Youth Clubs and Town and Community Councils across Carmarthenshire to resource sessions in a range of locations. Digital Communities Wales will train the young people in those locations and build a network of Digital Champions in the places we visit.

The approach will be to run regular informal sessions that are interactive, sociable and fun and provide new skills and useful, relevant information for those who take part. We seek to build a tangible sense of community and engage older people in inter-generational exchange with younger people at places like Community Halls and Youth Clubs. This will become a 2 way exchange of skills and experience with young people showing older folk how to use technology to access internet based services, and older folk helping young people develop skills like gardening, food preparation, cooking, and craft skills like mending bicycles and other items.

We have tested this model with our partners in Carmarthen – Dr Mz Youth Project, Digital Communities Wales, and Carmarthen Town Council. The first Bytes and Bites session saw 20 or so older people being coached by 10 Youth Project members on using their mobile devices and having an afternoon tea prepared by the young people. Our evaluations show it was a great success and there are requests to hold it in other localities. We expect that the process of sitting and having a snack meal together will also be beneficial in building mutual respect, forming cross generational relationships and enabling people to share their fears and challenges in a supportive setting.

Go to the Carmarthenshire 50+ website for a copy of the Job Description and Person Specification. <https://carmarthenshire50.org.uk/50-forum> Closing date for applications is 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Interviews are planned for March 18<sup>th</sup> 2020. Please send applications by email to..... [chairman.carms50plus@gmail.com](mailto:chairman.carms50plus@gmail.com) or by post to Carmarthenshire 50+ Forum, c/o Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Castle Hill, Carmarthen SA31 1JP.

For more information, please contact Wyn Llewellyn, Community Engagement Lead, Carmarthenshire 50+ Forum on 07702249644 or [wynmill@btinternet.com](mailto:wynmill@btinternet.com)

