

Presentation by Councillor Hobbs, Parish Conference 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Councillor Hobbs spoke about making communities 'Dementia Friendly', raising the profile of dementia within our communities and looking at a few simple steps that can be put in place to help the person with dementia carry out their day to day business.

Councillor Hobbs spoke about people with dementia entering into a room or a shop, if there is a door mat which is dark in colour at the entrance, this can sometimes be a barrier as the person may think this is a large black hole and try to go around it. If this is removed or a lighter colour used instead, it is very helpful to the person by removing this difficulty.

Council Hobbs spoke about raising the awareness of dementia and some of the signs for people to look out for and recognise, e.g. If a person is staggering, they may need some help or a seat to be offered to them. Within Ely, there has been some awareness raised within the local shops through training the staff. Within each store the ideal situation would be to train all staff members to recognise and be able to offer support to a person with dementia, some shops / organisations have already done this but there is still some more work to do.