

## Friends without Borders Spring 2019 Update

The highlights from the AGM are:

- 1) FwB in one form or another has been going now for 25 years
- 2) The charity is very grateful for all the financial support it gets, which is mostly in small amounts without the corporate or governmental contributions which many charities receive. A moderate increase in donations this year has meant more support has been possible for some of the most vulnerable people in our society.
- 3) In practical terms this has included establishing temporary accommodation in a mobile home. This is so much better than living on the street which is the only alternative for some refugees and asylum seekers. The plan is to expand this provision into a small house as soon as one can be found to rent.
- 4) The Access to Justice project is still running after the sad loss of its key player, John Bingham but activity is down by 80%. This has reduced costs in that area but it means many cases which are richly deserving of legal support cannot be pursued.
- 5) English language classes are now well established in the refurbished premises at All Saints Church
- 6) Recreational activities are now beginning to be offered notably a football team is getting together after the Monday drop-in. We are looking for a qualified and enthusiastic coach (perhaps a sports student?) Also the community allotment provides some healthy exercise and some spiritual refreshment! A group of 60 drop-in members were able to enjoy a rare day out to Chichester recently.