

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Notes of a Meeting of the Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities held on Thursday 2 September 2010 at 2.30pm in Meeting Rooms 1, 2 & 3, King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn.

PRESENT:

Representing the Borough Council:

Councillors D Harwood (Chair), M Chenery of Horsbrugh, M Langwade, Mrs J Murphy, Mrs S Smeaton,

Representing People with Disabilities:

W Blades, J Darling, P French, T Gilder, G Henshaw,

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillors Mrs A Clery-Fox, J Legg, G Sandell, Mrs S Smeaton. R Cotton, S Pomeroy, S Smith, T Smith, K Warner

		ACTION
1.	<p><u>MINUTES</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2010 were agreed as a correct record.</p>	
2.	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA</u></p> <p><u>(i) Constitution</u></p> <p>The Secretary confirmed that she was still in the process of getting the amended constitution finalised.</p> <p><u>(ii) Aspergers Syndrome</u></p> <p>At the previous meeting the Committee were informed that funding had been withdrawn for the younger persons Aspergers Syndrome Group and the Secretary had agreed to write to the necessary Authority to highlight the importance of the group.</p> <p>The Secretary confirmed that she was still waiting for further information from Councillor Mrs Smeaton on the organisations involved.</p>	<p>RP</p> <p>SS</p>

(iii) Car Parking issues

The Secretary confirmed that she had brought to the attention of the Car Parking section at the Borough Council, the issues raised by the Committee at their previous meeting. She confirmed that she had not yet received a response.

(iv) RNIB REACT System

At the previous meeting Allison Bingham had been asked to investigate if key fobs for the system could be made available at the Green Quay and the Corn Exchange. Allison Bingham reported that the Green Quay did not form part of the Pilgrimage Trail so people would have to go off the trail to get a fob. She had contacted the Corn Exchange, which was along the trail, but was still waiting for a response. She agreed to keep the Committee updated on progress.

AB

(v) Open Britain

The Committee was reminded that at the previous meeting they were asked if they thought it was a good idea to advertise the online access guide in the Open Britain guide and website. The Committee felt that the money that it would cost to advertise in Open Britain would be better used to promote the guide locally. Allison Bingham confirmed that she had arranged for the online access guide to be advertised in Open Britain, but this had now come from the DDA budget, rather than the Committee's budget.

(vi) Online Access Guide

In response to a query raised at the previous meeting, Allison Bingham confirmed that the cost of publicising the online access guide on KLFM was approximately £400 per month. She explained that the KLFM adverts did increase usage of the website over the period it was running. Other noticeable increases in web hits included the periods just before school holidays and events, such as the up coming Tour of Britain.

Allison Bingham confirmed that the online access guide was promoted in the West Norfolk accommodation guide.

	<p><u>(vii) Annual General Meeting 2011</u></p> <p>The Chair asked the Committee to start giving consideration to guest speakers for the Committee's Annual General Meeting in 2011.</p> <p>Councillor Smeaton suggested the disabled person who had just cycled along Hadrian's Wall.</p> <p>The Committee also suggested that someone involved in the 2012 Olympics could be invited as Lynnsport was one of the pre-Olympics training camps.</p> <p><u>(viii) Crossing at Gaywood Clock</u></p> <p>The Secretary reminded the Committee that at the previous meeting, concerns had been raised regarding a wobbly slab at the crossing of Wootton Road near the chemist in Gaywood. The Secretary brought this to the attention of Norfolk County Council Highways, who had identified work at this area, which should have now been completed.</p> <p>Wendy Blades confirmed that she had used the crossing and the wobbly slab had been fixed.</p>	
3.	<p><u>PRESENTATION ON SWIFT RESPONSE AND HOME SHEILD</u></p> <p>This presentation was deferred until the Committee Meeting in November.</p>	
4.	<p><u>RNIB REACT SYSTEM</u></p> <p>Allison Bingham provided the group with an update on the RNIB REACT system. She informed the Committee that recordings for the boxes had been done by Kult Theatre Group. Recordings in other languages were still to be arranged.</p> <p>Leaflets promoting the system and the Pilgrimage Trail would be available at the Celebrate-Ability.</p> <p>Installation of the system along the trail was due to be completed late September and a launch event was being organised to coincide with the October half term so that the students from Kult Theatre group could attend.</p>	AB

	<p>If any members of the Committee had suggestions on arrangements for the launch event for the system they were to contact Allison Bingham.</p>	ALL
5.	<p><u>FREEBRIDGE COMMUNITY HOUSING UPDATE</u></p> <p>Sylvia Pomeroy had sent her apologies for the meeting, so this item was deferred until the next meeting in November.</p>	
6.	<p><u>ONLINE ACCESS GUIDE</u></p> <p>Allison Bingham provided the group with an update on the Access Guide. She explained that the guide had been advertised in the 2009/2010 West Norfolk Accommodation guide and would also feature in the 2010/2011 guide.</p> <p>There was a link to the guide on the Borough Council's tourism webpages.</p> <p>Allison Bingham explained that she would still like contributions from the Committee on articles and features to appear on the front page of the guide. She asked for details of future events or other information that could be included. It was suggested that the Tour of Britain could be promoted on the site.</p> <p>Allison Bingham explained that she was currently reviewing the guide to ensure that all information was up to date. She was also investigating the possibility of expanding the guide to include details of businesses on the Industrial Estates just outside of the town centre.</p> <p>In response to a query raised at the previous meeting, Allison Bingham explained that she had not found any suitable awards that the guide could be entered into. Councillor Langwade suggested contacting 'BBC Click' and Allison Bingham agreed to investigate.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>AB</p>
7.	<p><u>ANNUAL DISABILITY FORUM</u></p> <p>The Committee was reminded that the Celebrate-Ability event was taking place on 8th September 2010 from 1.00pm to 4.00pm in the Corn Exchange in King's Lynn. Organisations with stands were able to gain access to the Corn Exchange from 11.00am to set up.</p>	

	<p>The Chair felt that Allison Bingham and the Secretary had worked extremely hard in organising the event and thanked them both for their input.</p> <p>He explained that Hughes Electrical had kindly donated the use of TV for the event to use with the Wii fit. The Committee agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Hughes after the event.</p> <p>Allison Bingham explained that over 3000 leaflets and posters had been printed to promote the event. She still had a very limited supply available should members of the Committee require any.</p> <p>The event had been publicised on the Borough Council's website and the Online Access Guide. Details of the event also featured on the 'What's On' section of the Borough Council's website.</p> <p>Allison Bingham confirmed that so far 24 different organisations had indicated that they would like a stand at the event. She also informed the Committee that she hoped to have a stand promoting the work of the Advisory Committee, and sought volunteers to come and help man the stand throughout the event. The Committee's stand would provide information on the purpose of the Committee, and details of future meeting dates, along with information on the Access Guide. Members of the Committee who were prepared to assist by manning the Committee's stand for a short period during the event were to contact the Secretary with details of the times they would be available.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>ALL</p>
8.	<p><u>SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <p><u>(i) 'A' Boards</u></p> <p>The Secretary explained that she had received correspondence from Trevor and Sue Smith regarding the situation of 'A' Boards throughout the Town. The Secretary explained that she had brought this matter to the attention of the Town Centre Manager at the Borough Council who explained that the Committee should speak to Norfolk County Council. He also explained that the 'A' Boards on Vancouver Quarter land were classed as being on private property, not the highways, and therefore could not be removed. The Town Centre Manager suggested that the Committee contact the Vancouver Quarter Manager with their concerns.</p>	

	<p>The Secretary agreed to contact the Vancouver Quarter Manager, Norfolk County Council Highways, Borough Council Planning Department and the Borough Council's Environmental Health and Housing to provide guidance on this issue and report back to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>(ii) Parking opposite St James Pool</u></p> <p>The Secretary reminded the Committee that they had previously raised concerns regarding cars parking in the courtyard to the Estate Agents opposite St James Pool. The Secretary had emailed Norfolk County Council to highlight the issue, who explained that the blue bricked area was privately owned land, but Norfolk County Council Highways would remind the Estate Agents that they should not be obstructing the highway.</p>	RP
9.	<p><u>FUTURE ACTIVITIES</u></p> <p>The Chair reminded the Committee that they had previously discussed ways to assist vulnerable people during periods of bad weather.</p> <p>The Committee discussed this idea and determined that the best way forward would be to run a campaign to promote the 'good neighbour/friend' approach and encourage people to be aware of elderly or disabled people who may need their help during bad weather.</p> <p>Gene Henshaw explained that Age Concern had a scheme where people over the age of 50 could call a number if they required 'odd jobs' doing, such as changing a light bulb or putting up curtains etc.</p> <p>The Chair asked the Committee to think about the best way to take this forward and a further discussion would take place at the next meeting.</p>	ALL
9.	<p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p><u>(i) King's Lynn Town Centre – Food rubbish</u></p> <p>Gene Henshaw explained that she had experienced problems with her guide dog eating food that had been dropped on the street</p>	

<p>in the Town Centre. She had explained this issue to her guide dog trainer who explained that this issue had been commonplace in King's Lynn and resulted in guide dogs often putting on weight as they were eating the food dropped on the street.</p> <p>The Committee discussed how they could raise awareness of this issue and try and reduce the amount of food waste dropped on the street.</p> <p>They recognised that street sweepers did clean the streets in the town centre on a regular basis.</p> <p>The Chair asked the Secretary to bring this matter to the attention of the Leisure and Public Space department at the Council. The Chair also agreed to write a letter to the Lynn News on behalf of the Committee to bring attention to the issue.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy suggested that the Guide Dogs Association could work with schools to highlight this issue.</p> <p><u>(ii) Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People</u></p> <p>Allison Bingham explained that she had received correspondence from the Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People asking if the Committee would like to be involved in events to mark their 15th Anniversary.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that their details should be forwarded on to the Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People.</p> <p><u>(iii) Access Group Resources</u></p> <p>Allison Bingham explained that she had been made aware of an Access Group Resources website which listed all organisations which assisted people with disabilities.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that their details should be forwarded on for inclusion on the website.</p> <p><u>(iv) Gayton Road Health Centre</u></p> <p>Jill Darling explained that there was a large pot-hole in the car park outside of the Health Centre on Gayton Road.</p>	<p>RP</p> <p>DH</p> <p>AB</p> <p>AB</p>
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	<p>Allison Bingham explained that she was aware that the car park was to be re-surfaced in the near future to make it more accessible.</p>	
9.	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>The Committee was reminded that the Annual Disability Forum – Celebrate-Ability would take place on Wednesday 8 September 2010 from 1.00pm to 4.00pm in the Corn Exchange, King’s Lynn.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities would be held on Wednesday 10 November 2010 at 2.30pm in the Committee Suite, King’s Court, Chapel Street, King’s Lynn.</p>	

The meeting closed at 4.00pm