

**Minutes of FARNBOROUGH & ALDERSHOT
BRANCHES Meeting held on Friday, 20th May, 2005
at Council Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough.**

Present:

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| Debbie Wall | Chairperson, Rushmoor Leisure |
| Caroline Keith | Co-ordinator |
| Audrey Greenway | Secretary |
| Margaret Baldwin | NE Hants Portage |
| Heather Chalkley | PAG for Special Play |
| Sue Dyer | PAG for Special Play/Afasic Hampshire |
| Karen Evans | NE Hants Domestic Violence Unit |
| Alison Lovell | Job Centre Plus |
| Angela Lythgoe | Church of the Good Shepherd |
| Niki Pocock | Area SENCO |
| Jo Valler | NCMA |

Apologies:

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| Cay Byford | Contact-a-Family |
| Alison Cooper | Parity for Disability |
| Chris Frankland | Farnborough Grange N/I Com Sch. + EYC |
| Sue Hathaway | Rushmoor Voluntary Services |
| Sarah Lees | Insight/PAG |
| Holly McAuley | Play and Childcare Development Worker |
| Ann Norton | Area SENCO |
| Julia Powell | Educational Psychologist |
| Mandy Prentice | EECU |

1) Matters arising from Minutes of 14th January, 2005 – none.

2) Co-ordinator's Report – copy attached. **Caroline** stated that a person should be nominated to represent our 2 branches at HCFE's EGM to vote on the proposed change to the Constitution to extend the age range from 0-14 years to 0-19 years, however, as no-one offered to attend a proxy form can be completed. Once the Constitution is changed a pilot project will trial 2 co-ordinators in an area to cover 0-13 and 14-19 years, this would be subject to funding and in partnership with other agencies. The Olive Branch Clothing Exchange in Farnborough is held on Thursdays 9.30am-12 noon, tea and coffee available. Park Early Years Centre is now running courses. An EXTEND Teacher Training Course to teach exercise to older adults and the less mobile within care homes and the community starts in September at The Prospect Centre, Farnborough. It is available free to those either on a low income, one-parent families, carers, older adults and those that are currently unemployed. The course will run over 12 Saturdays and finish in March 2006. Interested applicants should be committed and motivated and contact Carol White on 01252 398764 for an information pack. Telephone help is available from the Educational Psychology Service on Mondays from 12.30-4.30pm. Telephone: 01252 Farnborough Early Years Centre is holding a Jumble Sale from 10.00-12noon on the 2nd June. The BBC is helping with some communication workshops to be held there.

The Voluntary Sector Day which includes workshops will be held on the 7th June at the Princes Hall, Aldershot and the theme is Volunteering. The next one will be held at Hartley Wintney on the 11th October and will be organized by Hart Voluntary Action on the theme of Depression. The Green and Global Fun Day will be held at the Princes Hall on the 2nd October, 11am-4.30pm on the theme of Fair Trade and Make Poverty History. North Camp Summer Fair will be on the 16th July and supported by Eagle Radio Station. There will be a procession with the theme Sea World. Contact Sharon Lucas on 01252-373137 for stalls etc. Caroline had approached Barclays Bank for funding for the ? Hampshire Directory. Funds weren't available but they could offer staff time and volunteers to remove graffiti, painting, gardening etc. from Fleet/Yateley/Aldershot/Alton. Contact Karin Bevin, 01252-803201. From October/November time there will be a new tranche of Big Lottery Fund money available for Free to Access, Innovative outdoor play facilities. Local Authorities will be able to apply for this

money, as well as Community and Voluntary Organisations. You may wish to start planning your applications now. Malcolm Miles of Hampshire Playing Fields Association will be a source of creative thinking, and act as a referee. Contact Malcolm on 01962-857371. Caroline said HCFF is currently carrying out a dental questionnaire and the next one will be on special needs. She asked that Sue check the wording on the draft questionnaire prior to distribution.

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3) Any other business – Karen said a Lay Advocate Worker had been appointed who is able to give intensive support. They have funding available for a playscheme in the summer for children of families suffering domestic violence. A drop-in session for those suffering domestic violence is planned for the morning of 27th June from 9.30am at the Prospect Centre, Farnborough, and there is also a Support Group available. Sunshine and Showers is a support group for people experiencing depression and anxiety, contact Roz Sweeney at Hart Voluntary Action on 01252-815652. The Youth Counselling Service for 12-24 year olds in West Surrey and Rushmoor can be contacted on 0845-6002516.

Audrey updated on Beaumont Community Pre-school and Childcare Groups who were allotted grants from the NOF to carry out refurbishment and expand provision. Holiday Playschemes run for children up to 13 years and the Pre-school has extended its hours to be open at lunch time and in the afternoons. Pru the new Manager is very enthusiastic and she is re-advertising for staff to enable the Breakfast and After School Clubs to start up. It is hoped the balance of the NOF money will be released now the licence agreement has been produced by Rushmoor BC and this should enable the conversion of the cells to proceed.

Jo explained her role as the local Network Manager for the NCMA is to encourage childminders to obtain the Level 111 qualification so that once they become accredited, Early Years funding can be made available for 3 and 4 year olds in their care; and also to promote the Childminding Network by talking to groups to make parents aware, etc. She will be involved with the Sure Start event in Aldershot and a promotion event in Fleet. Childminders living in local Army Quarters are keen on additional training and are to help at the Army Show with a play area. There are more Aldershot childminders in the Network than from Farnborough. Childminders have been attending Portage courses, and 40 attended an autistic training day one Saturday. The community scheme provides childminders for children in need and emergency placements for Social Services which are funded. Jo can be contacted at the Basingstoke office on 07730689120.

Niki said the Sure Start promotion will be on the 9th June in the Wellington Centre, Aldershot from 10am-4pm. Sure Start carrier bags will be handed out to parents and inserts are still required; the PLA will be providing face-painting. Phone Mandy Prentice at the EECUnit on 01252-338124 for further information.

Heather informed that Barclays Bank had sponsored a Quiz Night which had raised £412 that will go towards the special needs playscheme. They are planning fund-raising events at Yateley Industries, North Camp Summer Fair and the Army Show (subject to resolving the cost of insurance). It was suggested she talk to Phil Stoneman at RBC. They hold their AGM next week and plan a summer event with BBQ and bouncy castle for families of children with disabilities. They already have tickets for the 20th December performance of this year's pantomime which will make planning and distribution of tickets easier and would welcome any help on the day. The Easter holiday Ark workshops of music, movement and drama were successful and they plan to set up a drama group once they have located a tutor. They are hoping to start a Youth Club in September in partnership with the Youth Service and Challengers which will meet in the Capricorn Youth Centre, Aldershot.

Margaret said the frozen post had been unfrozen and then allocated to New Forest as they had a longer waiting list but they now have a large waiting list which may reduce in September when some children start school. They are receiving very young baby referrals. **Sue** on behalf of Insight, a support group for parents and carers of children with autism, asked that people phone Sarah on 01252-332684 and not Carol. They meet at Brewer's Fayre, Aldershot – by Tesco, on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) at 8.00pm. Further details from Sarah or Julia on 01252-650658. Sue has joined the Committee of Afasic Hampshire to provide a presence in this part of Hampshire and to run events that are more accessible for children and young people with speech and language problems. An Activity Day was held at Marwell Zoo in April which was excellent.

Angela reported they are trialling a parents' course for those with children coming up to teenage years or older and which covers, discipline, conflict, getting to know each other better etc. and anticipate a

similar course will be held September/October time and open to anyone, there are also courses run at Oak Farm School by Gail. They are holding an Activity Week from the 25th – 29th July for ages 11-14 years, canoeing, climbing etc- full cost for the week £80, subsidised places are available. Phone 01252-543789/01252-375578.

Alison explained as Lone Parent Adviser she helps people back into work, although they are not forced down that path. It is useful to know what is available, and she has a display of leaflets available for parents. **Debbie** stated that KIDS Rushmoor Playscheme will run from the 1st-19th August at Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough from 10.00am-3.00pm. for 5-13 year olds. The cost is £10 per day, application forms have been sent to parents and should be returned by the 10th June. 'Soccer at 6' numbers are low, for children aged 5-12 years and running until the 26th August, 6.00-7.15pm on Mondays - Aldershot Park, Tuesdays – Oak Farm School, Wednesdays – Cove Green, Thursdays – King George V, Fridays – Queens Road Recreation Ground. Just turn up, cost per session £2.50 (£2.00 concessions). Further information from Debbie on 01252-398745. Aldershot Army Show is on Saturday, 2nd and Sunday 3rd July, 10.00am-6.00pm, Queens Avenue, Aldershot.

**NEXT MEETINGS OF THE HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN & FAMILIES FORUM –
FARNBOROUGH & ALDERSHOT BRANCHES:**

Friday, 30th September, 2005, 12.30-1.30pm, Council Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough.
Friday, 20th January, 2006, 12.30-1.30pm, Council Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough.

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