

**Minutes of Meeting of FARNBOROUGH & ALDERSHOT BRANCHES  
held on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2006 at Council Offices, Farnborough Road,  
Farnborough.**

**Present:**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Debbie Wall      | Chairperson, Rushmoor Leisure            |
| Caroline Keith   | Co-ordinator                             |
| Audrey Greenway  | Secretary                                |
| Margaret Baldwin | NE Hants Portage                         |
| Heather Chalkley | PAG for Special Play                     |
| Niki Densley     | Area SENCO                               |
| Karen Evans      | NE Hants Domestic Violence Unit          |
| Chris Frankland  | Farnborough Grange N/I Com Sch. + EYC    |
| Sue Hathaway     | Rushmoor Voluntary Services              |
| Karen Ingala     | Farnborough Grange N/I Com Sch. + EYC    |
| Sarah Lees       | PAG, Insight                             |
| Holly McAuley    | Play and Childcare Development Worker    |
| Janet Morton     | Hampshire Educational Psychology Service |
| Linda Pearcey    | Early Years Education Adviser            |
| Irene Pollard    | Home-Start                               |
| Jo Valler        | NCMA                                     |
| Lorraine Yates   | Rushmoor Volunteer Bureau                |

**Apologies:**

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sue Dyer          | PAG Special Play/Afasic Hampshire |
| Alison Lovell     | Job Centre Plus                   |
| Ann Norton        | Area SENCO                        |
| Mandy Prentice    | EECU                              |
| Sue Riddlestone   | Church of the Good Shepherd       |
| Christine Whalley | Pre-school Development Worker     |

- 1) **Matters arising from Minutes of 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2005** – **Debbie** said £1,300 had been received from John Pippard, Captain of All Counties Golf Team for the KIDS Rushmoor Playscheme. Funding is now secure for this summer's playscheme as they have an extra £3000 from The Children's Fund. Further details and booking forms are now available for Hampshire Play Network's Conference to celebrate play being held at Neville Lovett School, Fareham on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 10 – 4, cost is £5 including buffet lunch. **Margaret** stated that the Numicon course at Yateley pre-school was not just for ex-Portage children.
- 2) **Co-ordinator's Report** – copy attached. Caroline added that Oak Farm School is running a Supporting Parents of Teenagers' Course (8 weeks) starting 30<sup>th</sup> January at the Prospect Centre (10-12), and 31<sup>st</sup> January at Oak Farm School (7-9). There is no crèche, 6 places are remaining on each course – contact Gail Hayward at Oak Farm School. This will be followed by 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in the month at Prospect Centre – coffee morning and hopefully more courses will follow, subject to funding.
- 3) **Any other business** – **Janet** said she was representing Sue Peters who is on maternity leave. Their Telephone Helpline on 01252-814801 every Monday between 12.30 and 4.30pm is now available to the staff of pre-school provision. Parent consultation sessions that last approx. 1 hour are held at Park Children's Centre, Aldershot – further details on enclosed leaflet. **Karen Ingala** introduced herself as Deputy Head at Farnborough Grange with the supporting role of Area SENCO. **Jo** distributed copies of the Hampshire Childminding Cluster Network Newsletter highlighting good practice and training and informed she has been working with Children's Centres to promote childminding. She has identified a safety issue at a Mother and Toddler Group run by a childminder but needs some funding to resolve this – it was suggested that she speak to RVS for details of possible funding opportunities. The Aldershot Childminders' Toy Library has moved to the Beaumont Pre-school and Childcare Centre.

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**Lorraine** stated she is searching for volunteers to enable the Clothes Exchange at the North Town Base to run on a weekly basis and will contact the over-50s who meet there. **Sue** informed that the new Voluntary Sector Forum will meet on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 10am-12 noon at the Council Offices for organisations to tell what they would like and encourage working together and to promote best practice. RVS have ordered a new community bus - a 14-seater with a tail lift. The Working Women, Children and Community Forum meets at the Church of the Good Shepherd and St. Peters. RVS have been working with volunteers to clear land at Moor Road and Rowhill Nature Reserve, the latter is managed by volunteers and are keen to be involved as improvements are needed – they also run sessions for local infant schools. A New Youth Forum, the formation of a Partnership Group to support work with young people aged 11-16 in the Mayfield area, will hold its next meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm at the Prospect Centre. For more details, contact Dave Harvey at Oak Farm School.

**Linda** explained her role is to work with Nursery, Infants and Junior schools. Hampshire is hosting a National Exhibition celebrating young children and people who work with them from the 20<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March. There will be a looped DVD presentation whilst one walks through an exhibition that runs alongside. An official Launch Day will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March to celebrate those across Hampshire who have received a qualification working with children from birth to 8 years – like a mini graduation ceremony and to include parents in Family Learning Groups. The Exhibition is open to the public, but for courses with speakers it will be necessary to book a space (details enclosed with the Minutes).

**Heather** informed that PAG are organising a family drop-in session of arts and crafts for special needs children and their families at the pavilion in the King George V Playing Fields on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February from 1-3.30pm. Additional helpers who are CRB checked are needed, please contact her on 01252 676317. **Chris** said funding has been secured for software for the Nepalese key pad and lap top which is available for use, but as one needs to understand the language to use it they propose training people up. They now have 2 part-time dual language speakers, 1 attends the family group in the Gurka Welfare Centre at Wren Way offering English and Parenting, and Educational support. The EYC now offers national qualifications - Level 1 working with children, which is a 12-week introductory course and in its third successful year. Level 2 certificate in early years practice is a one year course and is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> successful year. Both are full – level 1 has 20 students and Level 2 has 15 students. They are hoping to include Level 3 into next year's programme. These courses attract parents in the EYC, dinner ladies and speakers of other languages. At Easter they will trial accepting 3 year olds into the Playscheme. Their fees are minimal, 9am-4pm £8 per day. There is the possibility of becoming a Children's Centre, they should know by the end of February and if successful it will involve further building work. They have invited NCMA into the centre and would like to chat to PAG/Insight about the possibility of offering facilities.

**Holly** said she had received lots of calls regarding careers in childcare following recent publicity and can order more promotional CDs if necessary. At the Hampshire Play Network Conference on the 18<sup>th</sup> February there are workshops covering street dance, den building, drama, drumming and skipping. **Margaret** is encouraging Park Primary to host a Numicon course and then will look at a Farnborough venue.

**Irene** said they are often given quality clothes which she can gift to the Clothing Exchange at North Town. Their Manager Tina Hotson is leaving on the 1<sup>st</sup> February and her replacement should be in post during April. A 10-year Celebratory Ball is to be held which they hope will raise much needed funds as there is only funding for another year, so it is critical to apply for further funding. **Karen** is holding an Awareness Training Day in March, a new group offers support in Hook on a Tuesday morning. There is funding until March for the facilitator. **Debbie** stated that Awards for All is a Lottery grants scheme aimed at local communities. Grants are between £500 and £5000 and fund projects that enable people to take part in art, sport, heritage, and community activities as well as projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community. Application packs available by contacting [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk) or telephone 0845 6002040.

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

**Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2006, 12.30-1.30pm, Council Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough.**



