

Minutes of FARNBOROUGH & ALDERSHOT BRANCHES
Meeting held on Friday, 14th January, 2005 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
Alison Cooper Parity for Disability
Sue Hathaway Rushmoor Voluntary Services
Lisa Hodge Tanner & Taylor, Solicitors
Sarah Lees Insight/PAG
Holly McAuley Rushmoor B.C.
Ann Norton Area SENCO
Niki Pocock Area SENCO
Rachel Tallon Disability Challengers

Apologies:

Gillian Beaumont Pre-school Learning Alliance
Cay Byford Contact-a-Family
Karen Evans NE Hants Domestic Violence Unit
Chris Frankland Farnborough Grange N/I Com Sch. + EYC
Liz Jones " " " " " "
Mandy Prentice EECU

- 1) Matters arising from Minutes of 17th September, 2004 –
Debbie stated that the Green and Global Fun Day was successful; she had heard from the Headmaster of Henry Tyndale School that he was happy to have the Kids Rushmoor Playscheme back next summer. 12 children are attending Disability Soccer at Fernhill School on Wednesdays between 6 and 7pm for children aged 8-16 years. Heather said there had been mixed feedback, some suggesting that the children should be divided by age. Debbie said the booking leaflet for the HCFF Focus Day on the 20th April had a misprint, Workshop 4 Creative Play - Hampshire Play Network should read children aged 5-15 years.

- 2) Co-ordinator's Report - copy attached. Caroline distributed a Discussion Paper explaining the proposal to extend the age range for HCFF to 19 years and this was approved by a unanimous vote of 13 for and 0 against the proposal.

She said Karen had obtained funding for a Domestic Violence Worker who will be based in Aldershot/Alton and who will support victims through the legal process. Farnborough Library re-opens on the 28th February following refurbishment.

Oak Farm Pre-school had received a glowing report from their recent OFSTED Inspection.

Chris has arranged several courses at Farnborough Early Years Centre - Level 1 child care (12 weeks) starting 19th January 1-3pm for those who are interested in the possibility of working with children, Play and Language (2 weeks) starting 18th January, Confident Parents Confident Kids 2 courses of 8 weeks - 1st starting 17th January 1-3pm and 2nd starting 18th April 1-3pm, IT Beginners (5 weeks) starting 21st February 1-3pm and IT Improvers (5 weeks) starting 21st April 1-3pm. Also a 6-week course starting on the 21st February 1-3pm entitled Next Steps, inviting various people to do presentations that will offer information and guidance to those who are either looking to return to work or education or who find themselves with spare time to fill in the voluntary sector. Gillian Beaumont is organising a similar 10-week springboard course at the Aldershot Early Years Centre Bumps and Babes Group and would welcome contact from people willing to talk at the sessions there.

3) Any other business -

Heather said they had sold 435 tickets for the Princes Hall pantomime performance for children with special needs and had received positive feedback.

PAG are planning an interactive workshop for children 0-19 years at Easter with music, dance, touch etc. that will be held at the Ark, Crowthorne.

Heller who administers the Local Network Fund is positively encouraging people to apply for funding - the deadline is the 2nd March.

With Rachel they are planning a Youth Club for special needs young people that will run weekly at the Capricorn Centre and have applied for money from the Youth Service, hoping to start in September. Rachel said next week they are hoping to produce information to be advertised about their groups for all dates across the year. Sue said information about Tanner & Taylor's free advice sessions had been included in their Newsletter.

RVS were working with the Mayfield Community Partnership and hoping to organise a Fun Day for children in June, perhaps a joint venture with Pavilion Housing Association. She visualised an old-style Fayre with community groups running stalls. They also would also like to reinstate the Fun Run next year.

There will be a Regional Enterprise Exhibition on the 29th January 10am-5.30pm at the Princes Hall to help community groups to think in business terms. RVS have a promotion stand. They are running 2 voluntary sector days, on the 7th June - a theme of volunteering, and the 11th October in Hart - on depression.

Margaret said Portage Plus for children with behavioural difficulties has received one more year's funding. Alison stated that the Special Needs Information Day

for parents and carers of children with special needs and professionals involved in supporting them will be held on Saturday 16th April, 10am-3pm at Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke. For further information and to book places tel: 01962 845794.

Lisa said Tanner and Taylor are offering at their Farnborough offices each Monday between 2 and 5 pm fifteen minutes of free advice for issues that involve children and families. If their Farnborough office is difficult to reach, this could be available at their other offices by appointment.

Sarah said their Insight group meets on the last Monday of each month. Mencap are planning a Fun Day on 11th June.

Holly said she is involved at the Mayfield Prospect Centre with a Peer Play Project headed by Steve Green that is following a model in East Hants. Older children can access free training to work with younger children. There is a meeting at the Council Offices next Tuesday at 2.30pm to get a Steering Group. There are also plans to create more opportunities at the Capricorn Club in the evenings. She is working with several schools including Park and Fernhill to set up Breakfast Clubs and interested parties could contact her. Hampshire Play Network AGM & Conference will be held on the 26th November with the theme Festivals Around the World. Play Day 2005 'Fit for Play' is on August 5th.

Debbie said the What's On Guide and Hampshire Sport Guide are newly printed and available from the Council Offices.

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

Friday, 20th May, 2005, 12.30-1.30pm, Council Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough.

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