



Hampshire Children and Families Forum c/o Hart Voluntary Action, Civic Offices,
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MINUTES FOR HCFF HART BRANCH MEETING
HELD AT YATELEY MEDICAL CENTRE
ON 13th JANUARY 2005

Present: Kate Philpot, HCFF Hart Co-ordinator, Joanna Whitfield - HCFF Area Manager North, Nickie Pocock - Yateley Area SENCO, Ann Norton - Fleet Area SENCO, Margaret Baldwin - Portage, Cay Byford - Contact a Family, Allan Gibson - Fleet Hants.com Website, Janet Turnbull - Health Visitor, Sharon Weaver - Health Visitor, Shelia Company - Health Visitor, Audrey Wood - Health Visitor, Maggie Woodcock - Health Visitor, Clare Jenkins - Student Health Visitor, Simon Teague - Student Nurse, Evelyn Ball - Hart Voluntary Action

Apologies: Jeanette McCormack - Spring Playgroup, Gillian Beaumont - Pre School Learning Alliance, Kandy Redwood - Young Carers, Mark Blackwell - Hart & Rushmoor Youth Office, Jules Roome - Parent, Mary Strudley - Health Visitor, Jo Valler - Childminder Network.

The meeting was opened by Joanna who explained that she would continue to chair the Hart Branch meeting until a new chair was found.

Hart Co-ordinators Report

Kate went through the coordinators report, which everybody had a copy of (please see attached).

Sure Start Programme

Kate explained that she had the preliminary results from Q2 consultation on the Children's Information Service for the North area is anyone wished to look at them during the meeting. The countywide results of this consultation will be available on the HCFF website shortly.

Results of the Q3 consultation on Delayed Admissions to Year R are currently being analysed.

The Q4 consultation topic is services for children 10 -13 years. Kate asked for help in targeting parents of children in this age range and ideas received included: Hampshire music service, guides/scouts, football matches, swimming classes, school newsletter, parents evenings, school website.

Website Issues

Kate asked for any items for the website to be sent to her and also mentioned that the minutes of the meeting will be available on the website.

Proposed Constitutional Change

Joanna explained the reasons behind the proposed increase in the age range covered by HCFF to 19 and addressed some concerns relating to the position paper which everyone had read. The main concern for branch members was the increase in workload and related time constraints on co-ordinators. Jo explained that it was proposed to increase the number of co-ordinators per branch to two, one covering 0 – 11 and one covering 12 – 19. This would allow the co-ordinators to specialise but still work closely together.

A vote was taken and branch members voted 13 for and 0 against the proposal. The branch agreed to appoint Anne Hammond to vote at the EGM on their behalf.

Focus Day

Kate mentioned that the next HCFF Focus Day would be held on Wednesday 20th April and the subject would be 'How Children Learn'. Kate explained that places were limited and needed to be booked in advance, and asked all present to publicise the event to colleagues and parents/carers. If anyone would like more hard copies of the Focus Day leaflet please let Kate know.

Evelyn Ball – Yateley Families Matter

Evelyn made a short presentation on the Yateley Families Matter project.

Evelyn explained her role within Hart Voluntary Action and discussed recent achievements such as the sunshine and showers groups to support people suffering from depression and the two new business forums.

Evelyn outlined the background to Yateley Families Matter and discussed the planned sessions on parenting for spring/summer. It is hoped these will cover subjects such as feeding a fussy eater, toddler tantrums, story sacks, baby massage, relationships and road/car seat safety. The health visitors were particularly interested in this, as they have recently lost funding to run parenting courses.

It was agreed that Kate and Evelyn would meet with the health visitors separately to discuss the possibility of working together to run sessions throughout the Hart area. The health visitors said that they had the expertise to run some of the sessions but needed assistance with administration, venues and funding. Sharon Weaver invited Evelyn and Kate to attend the next Health Visitors away day on 21st February.

Items for the Newsletter

Kate explained that the deadline for articles will be 21st January 2005.

Local Issues/Information Exchange

Cay Byford talked about new CAF posters targeting Dads which are available from CAF head office. She also mentioned a Special Needs Information day planned for Saturday 16th April at Queen Mary's College in Basingstoke from 10am to 3pm. For further information on the day

please contact Cay at cay@cafamily.org. Copies of the posters are available from Contact a Family on 0808 808 3555 or at <http://www.cafamily.org.uk>

Allan Gibson gave the dates of Fleet Carnival for 2005. He mentioned that next years carnival will be the 50th celebration and that the format will change so that the Children's procession and fun day are moved to separate days. He said that the main procession would be on 9th July 2005 and the fun day on 10th July 2005, with the children's procession on the 2nd July. Free stalls are available for charities at the funday and if anyone would like further information on this, please contact Allan at community@fleethants.com. Allan also mentioned that Prince Edward has been approached to open the funday!

Evelyn Ball said that a new Mental Health Worker had been appointed to Hart Voluntary Action who would chair the Mental Health forum and take over the running of the sunshine and showers groups.

It was good to see you all at the meeting and I hope to see you all again next term. The details for the next meeting are as follows:

Date: Thursday 28th April 2005
Time: 10.15am - 11.30am
Place: Yateley Medical Centre



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