



Hampshire Children and Families Forum c/o Hart Voluntary Action, Civic Offices,
Harlington Way, Fleet, Hants GU51 4AE Tel: 01252 624036 Email: Hart@hcff.org.uk

MINUTES FOR HCFF HART BRANCH MEETING
HELD AT YATELEY MEDICAL CENTRE
ON 28th April 2005

Present: Kate Philpot, HCFF Hart Co-ordinator, Niki 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, Jo Valler – Childminder Network, Helen Butler – NCT, Alison Lovell – Job Centre Plus.

Apologies: Kandy Redwood – Young Carers, Mark Blackwell – Hart & Rushmoor Youth Office, Jules Roome – Parent, Evelyn Ball – HVA, Gillian Beaumont – PLA, Rhian Lane – Fleet Library, David Price – Church on the Heath.

The meeting was opened by Kate who explained that Joanna was unavailable to chair the meeting that day and a Hart Branch chair has still not been 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 the current consultation is dealing with provision of dental health services and that next term's consultation would look at issues affecting families with special needs children.

Kate had no feedback or results from previous consultations to share.

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.

Items for the Newsletter

Kate explained that the deadline for articles was 6th May 2005.

Local Issues/Information Exchange

Focus Day

Kate mentioned that the HCFF Focus Day had been held on Wednesday 20th April and the subject was how 'How Children Learn'. Kate said that the focus day has been a huge success with 250 attendees and very good feedback.

Cay Byford has attended the focus day as an exhibitor and found it a great success and very useful, she said that she has even run out of leaflets.

Kate Philpot - Health Visitor Review

Kate reminded the branch meeting that an area of particular concern that had been raised at the previous meeting were the proposed cuts to the Health Visiting service.

Kate explained to the meeting the steps she had taken to find out further information in order to report to the branch.

Kate reported that she has attended a public meeting of the Patient and Public Involvement in Health Forum and also the Joint Board Meeting of the Blackwater Valley and Hart PCT and North Hampshire PCT, both during the second half of April.

During the PPI meeting Kate said that Debbie Glenn, Chief Exec of the PCT had given a short presentation which informed the meeting that the Blackwater Valley and Hart PCT had a considerable deficit this year which would not be able to be carried over to the next financial year and therefore this would affect services and headcount. No more specific information was given although questions regarding the effect on the Health Visiting and other children's services were taken from the floor and the PPI forum said that cuts in preventative services such as these were of great concern to them and would be monitored.

A member of the PPI Forum also brought to attention cuts in the Sexual Health Clinics for young people in the area. Local clinics are no longer running and young people now have to travel to Frimley park Hospital or visit their own GP for this service. The PPI forum and member of the public expressed concern about this.

The final paper concerning the Health Visitor Review was presented to the Joint Board Meeting and Kate showed the paper to the meeting.

Copies of the final paper can be downloaded from the PCT website as follows.

http://www.northhampshire.nhs.uk/pdf/nhpct_board/april05/bvh05_58.pdf

A PDF file of the paper is also attached to these minutes.

The meeting expressed a great deal of concern at the cuts and proposed cuts in preventative services concerning children and young people, believing this will lead to an increase usage of acute services.

Kate will continue to monitor the situation .

Kate Philpot - Yateley Families Matter

Kate said that she had heard from the Local Network Fund and that her application for funding has been successful and therefore the Yateley Families Matter group would be organising a series of workshops during the Summer and Autumn. Kate explained that these would cover

various areas of parental interest such as story sacks, baby massage, feeding a fussy eater, tantrums etc. Kate mentioned that some speakers will be needed and also said that she would be contacting branch members for attendee referrals.

Cay Byford

Cay reported that the recent Special Needs information day was a great success and had over 200 attendees.

Cay informed the meeting about a Fun day for people with disabilities and their families and helpers. The free fun packed day will take place on Sunday 26th June 2005 between 11.30am and 4pm, at Calthorpe Park School, Fleet and Hart Leisure Centre

Further information and entry forms available from Sue Jackson Tel: 01252 626341 Email: suejackson2@aol.com

Jo Valler

Jo introduced herself at the National Childminding Association Network Co-ordinator for NE Hants and explained her role to the meeting.

Jo explained that The National Childminding Association (NCMA) is a national charity and membership organisation that speaks on behalf of registered childminders. The NCMA promotes quality registered childminding so that children, families and communities can benefit from the best in childcare and education. The NCMA ensures that every registered childminder has access to services, training, information and support.

Jo talked about a Community Childminding Scheme whereby it is possible to arrange emergency childcare for families in need. Jo asked that anyone requiring more information on this contact her on 0773089120 or email: Joanne.Valler@ncma.org.uk.

Alison Lovell

Alison introduced herself and explained her role of Lone Parent Advisor at Farnborough Job Centre (which covers most parts of Hart). Alison explained that she gave advice and help to lone parents on finding a job, financial help available, training and childcare, and mentioned New Deal for Lone Parents, a special programme for lone parents who are interested in working.

Helen Butler

Helen introduced herself as the NCT NE Branch secretary. She mentioned that the NE branch was currently running a number of antenatal classes, although no post natal groups at present. Helen mentioned some upcoming NCT sales and asked the branch attendees to publicise these.

Allan Gibson

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 fun day and if anyone would like further information on this, please contact Allan at community@fleethants.com .

Allan also mentioned that he requires a face painter for the fun day. Members of the meeting were able to put him in touch with a face painter via contacts at Yateley Centre.

Julie Walker

Julie mentioned some of the new courses which will be running at the Yateley Centre, including a SPOT course (Supporting Parents of Teenagers) and various family courses. All courses are free and open to parents and families through out Hart. Further details of courses or leaflets can be obtained from Julie at Yateley Centre. (yateley.centre@yateley.hants.sch.uk)

Health Visitors - Shelia Company, Sharon Weaver, Janet Turnbull and Audrey Wood

All Health Visitors present reported being extremely short staffed (particularly in Fleet and Hartley Witney) and expressed concern regarding the Health Visitor review and knock on effects as had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

Janet Turnbull informed the meeting that a Yateley dentist called Mr Sackey was offering 500 NHS places at his practice. Further information can be found by calling the dental helpline on 01256 312333 or 02380 338336.

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 15^h September 2005

Time: 10.15am - 11.30am

Place: Yateley Medical Centre

Early Years Development



Hampshire
County Council

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Childcare Partnership and Hampshire
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