



HCFF HAVANT BRANCH FORUM MEETING

23rd January 2006
10.00 am -12.00 noon
Mill Hill Early Years Centre

Minutes

Present:

Jayne Ashberry - Branch Co-ordinator (HCFF) havant@hcff.org.uk
Judith Woolley – Chairperson & Centre Manager (Trospacc Early Years Centre)
judith.woolley@trospac-eyc.hants.gov.uk
Wendy Harrison – Centre Family Link Worker (Sharps Copse EYC)
Anita Taylor – Centre Manager (Mill Hill EYC) anita.taylor@millhill-eyc.hants.gov.uk
Helen Noice – Family Support Worker (FASST -Trosnant Junior) helen.noice@trosnant-jun.hants.sch.uk
Emma Davis – Senior Development Officer (Children’s Fund) emma.davis@hants.gov.uk
Karen Cotton – Community Safety Unit (Havant Police)
Sue Viney – Community Development (Park Community School) community@pcs.hants.sch.uk
Alison Prentice – Scheme Co-ordinator (Havant HomeStart) alison.p@homestart-havant.org.uk
Alison Brooker – Disabled Children’s Team (Children & Families Services) alison.brooker@hants.gov.uk
Mary Jones – Early Years Library Co-ordinator mary.jones@hants.gov.uk
Sam Severe – Children’s Centre Co-ordinator (Link’s Children’s Centre) samantha.severe@hants.gov.uk
Caroline Devlin – Co-ordinator (PALS) caroline@wearepals.org.uk
Treena Westwood – Organiser (Usborne Books) treenawestwwod@hotmail.com

1. Welcome by Chairperson – Judith Woolley

JW welcomed everyone present.

2. Introduction & Apologies

Attendees introduced themselves. Apologies were received from: Liz Morley-Smith, Barbara Cooke, Jayne Dalley, Regina Ansah-Boateng, Anna Lewis, Lorraine Boyes, Alison Doody and Lorraine Grieves.

3. Minutes and Matters arising

Amendment to the previous minutes as follows: under Information exchange – Caroline Devlin PALS have not recruited two new members of staff. All action points were completed. The Minutes of the previous meeting were then agreed.

4. Branch Co-ordinator Report including Sure Start Programme, Consultations & 0-19 update

Jayne read her report (attached) explaining what she had undertaken since the last meeting.

No questions were raised.

5. Election of New Chairperson

Judith explained that due to personal & work commitments she now needed to stand down as Chairperson of Havant HCFF. Unfortunately no one has come forward to take on this role. If any one is interested attached to the minutes is the role specification. No election of new chairperson took place. Jayne thanked Judith for her support and encouragement over the past 2 ½ years.

ACTION for ALL: to consider the role and suggest a suitable person that Jayne could contact before the next meeting

NOTE: Since the meeting Jayne has talked to Jean Carrick who will be the new Chair for Havant HCFF

6. Information Exchange

Treena Westwood – explained that she was here today to raise the awareness of Usborne Books and that the range available goes from pre-school through to secondary school. She explained that World Book Day is being celebrated in the UK on Thursday 2nd March 2006. Every child aged from pre-school to secondary school age is entitled to a £1 book voucher, which can be redeemed against the cost of any book costing £1.99 or more, or can be used to purchase one of the six specially published £1 books which

can be found in all good bookshops. Token can still be redeemed with Usborne books from the 20th February until 30th April, unlike in bookshops, this is because Usborne is one of the publishers funding the event

Primary schools automatically have tokens sent out to them, however Pre-schools and Secondary schools do need to register. If they have not yet registered, then there is still time, using the downloadable registration form from the World Book Day website, www.worldbookday.com and send it off with the £10 registration fee.

Usborne Books At Home have over 1200 titles for you to choose from, suitable from birth up to Secondary school age at great prices, World Book Day is the perfect time to promote reading to children, whether it be classic novels, fabulous modern fiction, or reference books.

By holding a World Book Day event with Usborne Books At Home, not only are you celebrating books with children, but your organisation can also earn free books. An organiser will bring a wide range of titles for children to choose from, and take care of all the formalities, such as ordering, handling the money and returning the completed orders back to you. In return all you need to do is spend your commission in our 2006 catalogue.

If you are interested in holding a World Book Day event, or would like further information, then please contact Treena Westwood telephone 02380 420646 / 07708 078102, email: treenawestwood@hotmail.com or check out her website www.bookbods.co.uk .

Mary Jones – Has a contract until March 2006. She explained that there will be a FAMILY FUN EVENT - Healthy & Tasty Food for Families, AT WATERLOOVILLE LIBRARY on SATURDAY 4TH MARCH, 10AM TO 1PM stories, craft songs and games. Free tickets now available at the library. She also gave us details of the events during the Half Term, which are as follows:

REALLY WILD HALF TERM EVENTS

Havant Saturday 11th February 10am - 12 and 2 - 4pm Family Fun Event
Leigh Park - Tuesday 14th Feb 1 - 4 PM Family Fun Event
Emsworth - Wednesday 15th February - 10.30 - 11.30 AM Holiday Activity
Hayling Island - Thursday 16th February 10.30 - 11.30 AM Holiday Activity
Horndean - Friday 17th February 10.00-11.00 AM Holiday Activity

The FAMILY FUN events are drop-in sessions, and parents must remain with children, these are craft based events (no stories)

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES are free ticket only events for 5 - 10 year olds, they are craft and story events, parents may stay if they wish.

Mary explained that there were no fines for children under 18 and that People Network Terminals were currently being installed.

Mary asked whether she had heard that someone from this forum had a badge-making machine. Alison Prentice of HomeStart said that they had.

ACTION: Mary to talk to Alison about borrowing badge maker.

Alison Brooker – Social Services are now split into Child and Adult Services and have merged with Education. The Disability Unit will be moving to Oak Park Children's Centre, the rest of Child Services will remain at Townsend House. The unit is currently at full staffing levels.

Wendy Harrison – more families are using the centre. The Centre is looking to start a Parent Baby Club on a Friday morning as the Caterpillar Mother & Toddler group caters from aged 18 months. Wendy asked for names of people who had experience of younger than 18 mths age groups who could offer advice. Tracey Ahearn of Mill Hill, Catherine Row of Playaways and Pre-School Learning Alliance were all mentioned.

ACTION: Jayne to forward Catherine Row and Pre-School Learning Alliance telephone numbers to Wendy.

The Toy Library, called "Toy Box", within the Centre is now open and operates Monday 12.30 –2.30 pm and Wednesday 10.00am – 12 noon

The Centre now has a newsletter which gives details of the Confident Parent, Confident Kids course, Stop Smoking Support Group and much more. For further details contact the Centre on 023 9247 5101

Alison Prentice – Alison explained that she had recently taken over from Sandra Alexander. HomeStart are currently supporting 61 families, with 51 volunteers. 8 families are waiting support. In December there was a Christmas Party for the families. HomeStart are about to start a Healthy Trainers course for volunteers and a Volunteers preparation course is scheduled for new volunteers to start on 19th April 2006 (for 11 weeks), for more information on how to become a volunteer call 023 9224 1234. HomeStart Havant has secured £178,000, over 3 years, from the Big Lottery to support families in West Leigh, Central Leigh Park & Hayling Island. This will enable 3 part-time co-ordinators and 1 Family group co-ordinator to be recruited, and will support approximately a further 45 families. Lots of changes are afoot.

Anita Taylor – this summer there will be a major refurbishment of the Mill Hill Centre. A speech and Language early intervention program is coming to an end – this has been training pre-school practitioners to use Nursery Narrative. The program is to be taken to the whole of Hampshire and the work undertaken at Mill Hill will form the training model.

The following is being offered at Mill Hill:

For Early Year Practitioners:

Celebrating Diversity – Friday 3rd March 9.30 am – 3.00 pm
Write Dance and early writing skills – Thur 23rd March 12.45 – 2.45pm
'Wow! I'm going outside today' – Fri 21st April 9.30 am – 3 pm
Persona dolls – Tuesday 25th April 7.00 – 9.00 pm
Reggi Emilio – Wed 26th April – 7.00 – 9.00 pm
Books and Stories – Thurs 4th May 9.30 am – 2.45pm

Special Children, Special Parents – for parents and carers of a child with a disability, starts Monday 6th March through to 27th March and Wednesday 19th April – 24th May, 9.30 – 11.30 am
Memory Albums – Saturday 10.00 am – 4.00 pm, 18th March, 29th April, 17th June, 15th July, 18th Sept.
STEPS – Growing Together – Thurs 9.45 – 11.45am starts 23rd February for 8 weeks
Tackling Bullying – 15th March for 3 weeks 7 – 9 pm

Details of any of the above course can be obtained by calling 023 9224 0077 or email: kim.neve@millhill-eyc.hants.gov.uk

The centre is also working with Waite End School and the Waite End community to put together a Strawberry Fayre on Saturday 24th June 10.00 am – 4.00 pm and to create a small recreation park (School Landscaping Project) with funding from Havant Borough Council.

Sue Viney – newly recruited to park Community School as Community Development Officer. Told us about Family Learning Courses taking place at Park Community School, funded via ACLU. Discussion took place about under level 2 recruitment criteria and how this can restrict some people who want to attend. Sue told the group about Craft Workshops, creating your own cards, using beading, 3D, rubber stamping and glass painting. Four workshops 6-9pm Tuesday 21st, 28th Feb & 7th & 14th March, for more details call 023 9248 9811. Sue is also currently recruiting for a SPOT course (min. of 10 required)

Karen Cotton – based at Havant Police Station in the Community Safety Unit – responsible for Child Protection, Domestic abuse & Violent Sex Offenders. In the Child Protection Unit they manage and monitor children on the at risk register (approx 70) and work with children services on case conferences and joint visits. Karen is always looking for new information particularly for parents with teenagers.

ACTION: ALL to forward courses or workshops to Karen that they feel would be relevant
Karen discussed the ASBO's and dispersal area – explaining that if 3 or more people are causing anti-social behaviour they can be moved on.

Helen Noice – FASTT have 2 new members of staff making 9 in total, which deal with 450 referrals. There is a 2 week waiting list at present. The team will be moving offices within Staunton site. As usual very busy.

Sam Severe – explained that she is the Centre manager for the newly named Link Children's Centre – this centre links the Acorn centre, Wecock Community Flat, the site formerly know as Littlefolds and the local schools and pre-schools. The Front and back door will be reversed and a path will link the centre to the Acorn Centre. Squirrels Nursery will be the designated Full Day Care element and it is hoped to be fully

functioning as this by March. A parent Forum, constituted and with its own bank account has been formed to assist in the planning of the Children's Centre. Sam mentioned a course that is running for rising 5's, 1 hour for 12 weeks, for those children who will attend Meadowlands Infants. It is co-ordinated by 2 local parents and 2 staff members of Meadowlands. Those who attend the 1st 6 weeks receive the school t-shirt and cap and when they complete all 12 weeks they receive the school sweatshirt. There are plans to run a playscheme for the summer holidays for children 0-11 living in the Wecock area. Finally she added that the Links Children Centre would cater for 0-19 year olds and their families.

Emma Davis – currently planning Children's Fund funding for the next 2 years, there will be a 15% cut in 2006/7 and 15% in 2007/8. Sub group has met to discuss cuts and the decisions go to the board at the beginning of the February and will be finalised by mid- February, groups will then know their funding for the next 2 years. Emphasis has been given on those projects mainstreaming and sustainable. Emma mentioned that she now co-chairs the 0-19 Havant Strategy Group with Ria Emery. The strategic group will be giving a response to the CYPP and is an agenda item for the March meeting.

Discussions took place on how local groups will feedback on the CYPP, it was decided that it would be useful to run a local Workshop, Anita Taylor offered a room at Mill Hill and members felt that it would be good if HCFF could facilitate this event.

ACTION: Jayne to organise an workshop asap and feedback on it to Felicity Roe prior to consultation deadline

Judith Woolley – Trospacc is to be a Children Centre by March 2006!. Currently waiting for the go ahead on the building plans. She is currently consolidating services to ensure they tie in with the requirements of a Children's Centre. Many activities, for example, Breakfast Club, Afterschool Club, Homestart, infant massage etc, have been moved to the Community Hut on the site so that work can go ahead on the building. There is now a Havant Children's Centre group which is a partnership across the borough, currently doing a leaflet for Health Visitor and Mid-wives to hand out on the local Children's Centre's. Trospacc are currently working with the police and hope to have a student based within Trospacc – the emphasis being on the police getting back into the community and getting to know the area and families living in that area. It is hope that this will reduce crime and help families, there is likely to be a placement every year. Trospacc currently offer free toothpaste, toothbrushes and drinking cups (an exchange) to promote Dental health.

7. Any Other Business

Jayne asked whether the group would like any speakers invited to meetings and if so if there were any suggestions. The following were suggested.

- J Ken Bowen – Every Child Matters – the affect on the practitioners
- J Tracy Saunders from the Units to update us on the units work
- J Talker on Travellers Carole Smith was mentioned

ACTION: ALL if you have contact details for any of the speakers please forward to Jayne so that she can arrange.

8. Date of next meetings

24th April 2006 – 10.00 to 12 noon at Mill Hill Early Years Centre.

9. Network Opportunity

There was an opportunity for people to network at the end of the meeting.