

Minutes of the H.C.F.F. meeting
Wednesday 29th September 2004
Ringwood library

Attendees:

Julie Hinton	St Mary's P/S
Rose Browne	Stepping Stones p/s
Viki Earth	Stepping Stones p/s
Debbie Grace	Community First NF
Cara Frost-Jones	Parish Church
Erica Arnold	First Steps Bransgore
Ros Smith	Fordingbridge infants School
Janet Keith	EECU
Cindy White	New Forest Portage Service
Emma Ostler	HC Library Service
Helen Giles	HC Library Service
Annette Mogg	Health Visitor Ringwood Health Centre
Debbie Simpkins	Woodgreen p/s
Suzie Orchiton	Woodgreen p/s
Lorraine Hams	First Steps
Sue Little	NFDC
Jane Finan	Youth Service
Kirsty Noakes	
Jeanette Dowden	Ringwood Day Nursery
Sue McBrearty	Ringwood Day Nursery
Basia Smith	Ringwood Waldorf School
Philippa Walker	Health Visitor Fordingbridge surgery
Janice Lidbetter	Ringwood Waldorf School
Jill Barnett	Salisbury Portage
Jim Day	Blashford Lakes Centre
Marian Frey	Parent/Chair

Apologies:

Sue Brinkman
 Rosie Tidby
 Debbie Millard
 Helen Tague
 Sue Draper
 Denise Wiltshire
 Kate Donahue
 Lyndsay Osman
 Nikki Terera

Welcome by Roz Bradbury Co-ordinator HCFF

Matters Arising:

Skate Park F/B now in place. New Forest Show successfully manned. Peter Cox evening on Emotional Intelligence very well attended. Other matters agenda items.

Chair's Report:

Marion reported on the very successful AGM and speakers that were present – Hilary Loder on inclusion and Robin Thomas from Education Department on restructure in light of The Children's Bill. She encouraged everyone to ensure they keep up to date with events as they roll out and to always question and express opinions!!

Co-ordinator's Report:

Discussion took place about HCFF being accountable to HCC as funded by them but not stressing that HCFF is a registered charity in its own right and we can act as an umbrella service organisation and feed back concerns and issues locally felt.

A recent consultation took place on the CIS and the public has fed information back as to the use and knowledge of this service.

This term's focus will be on reception children starting school – details to follow 0-19 proposal – Roz explained that HCFF looking at widening its remit with view to accessing funding: the Branch then discussed this:

need for specialist dealing with ages ranges i.e. someone employed to deal with 0-12 and another person maybe for the 12-19 yr group.

Would require extra staffing or time

The 0-14 stage from 0-8 went smoothly so this could well do the same

Concern that this age group being targeted right now because of current political motivation and things might change in the future – thus less funding about to support this new service

Clear overlap between age groups – makes sense from Youth Services provision perspective

Teenagers parents too

Funding discussed – extra resources would be vital

Issues maybe at School governor level?

All the above is just to be fed back at this very early stage – nothing will happen to enlarge the HCFF remit until at least next year's AGM when a statement change would have to take place.

Newsletters – wide distribution across the area. Now have 2500 printed on our behalf via HQ but Roz would like to see another 500 printed to ensure p/schools, special schools etc all get some copies. this would mean about £30 being spent from our own finances.

All in favour of this.

Encouraged to look at our web site www.hcff.org.uk

Directory update: publication soon! Recommended 6000 copies be printed and any surplus money would be the payment received by Mandy Robbins for the work she has put into the Directory.

Every Child Matters. Review of information Sharing – protocol to be agreed still
SPOT Training – Supporting Parents of Teenagers – there was a space for anyone wishing to take this training up.

Coach House Day Nursery now opened along with Kingswood Day Nursery at Alderholt.
Swaythling Housing Fordingbridge development: Roz has made contact as they have an obligation to provide some play facilities for families and she is linking with Dye Lockyer NFDC to pursue this.

Children's fund: The Forest Bus was allocated a grant from this fund which then enabled our local project to go ahead. Roz spoke of the summer play scheme that took place with over 230+ children visiting the 4 sites and culminating in a whole day out at Blashford Lakes with the children being taken there free of charge by mini bus!! Detailed report of the activities available. Good example of agencies working together.

November 3rd another Children's fund Event taking place at Staunton county Park for everyone including children 5- 13 2 – 4 pm and evening session/workshops 01730 235236 for more info.

Thanks were given to Progressive Resources of Ringwood for their kind offer of resources and equipment to the summer play scheme.

Roz has attended various local meetings including the Cluster Meeting of the HCFF when local co-ordinators and the Chairs get together for an overview of the Forest.

Family Learning Week takes place from 9th – 16th October – various family events taking place – all with free places. Posters and flyers were available.

A residential weekend is available for young men 14-19 at Avon Tyrell – more information was available.

Level 2 playwork course currently recruiting and spaces available at Totton College.

AOB:

A request came in from a pre-school for funds to support a child for ½ term. There were reservations: may people seeking this type of support/how might we decide in future cases? Also for were: children and families need support/funds are available/

A vote then took place and there were 13 yes 4 no and 9 abstained – 3 from Waldorf school who wished it noted that this was only due to their policy of young children not attending school and not this particular case.

It was also noted that pre-schools should accumulate 'back up' funds to cope with such situations, but then do have to rely on money to cover expenses.

Julie Hinton: now open to children 2yrs 6 months

Rose Browne: Christmas Sale on 4th December 9.30 –1pm at F/B Scout Hut

Debbie Grace: working in Bransgore targeting yr 6/7 age groups for youth club

Library: ticket available for children with special needs.

They are available for story time/rhyme time to p/t groups etc – please book them!

Christmas decorations, they have boards that need filling! If you want your group's children work to be displayed let them know please!!

Reading rollercoaster was great success 650+ children took part

New Baby Rhyme time starting in both R/w and F/B

Vacancy for an Early Years Worker advertised.

Cindy White: spoke about her portage work in the area and support work to p/schools

Janet Keith: spoke about physical handling of early years children policy coming into place.

Jane Finan: spoke about vacancies that exist for youth workers and need to support the local Ringwood Youth provision.

Jeanette Dowden: invited people to their open day to take place on 3/12 at old Avonlea School Site - now a new Day Nursery.

Debbie Simpkins: reported that p/s very busy, no spaces currently, holding a fashion show on 22/10

Annette Mogg: talked about the Health Centre redevelopment - in portacabins on Carvers. Linda Wiseman now retired and new Health Visitor Helen Lebburn in place.

Bookstart for new babies/packs available soon. 2 parenting groups currently running in Ringwood.

Sue Little: promoted the Scrapstore that has now opened in Totton - see newsletter for info!

Philippa Walker: the under 1's group very successful

Waldorf School Christmas Bazaar 4/12 10.30 - 4pm. Introductory mornings are held every ½ term also for anyone to come along and take a look at the school and how it operates - all are welcome.

Jill Barnett: £1900 raised at summer activities and Poulner Scouts bought a gas freezer for camping. Portage families would like more local coffee type mornings - there are 6 families.

Ashurst Hospital needs a 2nd base - looking at Ringwood or New Milton

Jim Day: Blashford Lakes Study Centre very busy, also spoke of 2 workshops highly recommended in Totton on Nature's wizards and Watchful Eyes both £50 per course contact Sam 02380 667929.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING NOW

Thursday 20th JANUARY

7.30PM

RINGWOOD LIBRARY IS THE VENUE

PLEASE ENCOURAGE ALL

SCHOOLS

PRE SCHOOLS

CLUBS

PARENTS

TO ATTEND THANKS!!

