

Minutes of the Meeting

HCCF - September 15th 2005

Ringwood Junior School

- **Welcome** was made by co-ordinator Roz Bradbury and Marian Frey Chair of the Branch. This was followed by introductions from all those present

Marian Frey	Chair of Branch
Roz Bradbury	Co-ordinator
Marie Harding	Tiny tumblers / Ringwood p/s activity centre
Rose Browne	Stepping Stones p/s
Lyn Belenger	Stepping Stones p/s
Jodie Hood	Its Your Choice
Rosie Tidby	Busy Bees p/s + 3 rd Poulner Brownies
Sue Brinkman	Busy Bess p/s + New Forest West Scout District
Denise Wiltshire	Development Worker PLA
Tracey Blackmore	PLA
Janet Keith	Area SENCO – Early Education and Childcare Unit
Veronica Sullivan	Cllr. Ringwood Town Council
Cara Frost-Jones	Parenting
Dye Lockyer	New Forest District Council – Leisure Services
Sarah Newman	SCARF – supporting Special Children and their relations and friends
Denise Chesterman	New Forest PCT – Health Visitors
Debbie Grace	Community First NF
Jill Barnett	Portage + PLA tutor + Parent
Andre Frullo	Greyfriars p/s
Judi Strange	Jobcentre Plus
Kim Green	Children’s Service – Social Worker
Andrea Bourne	Martin p/s
Jane Finan	Hampshire County Youth Service
Simone Oliver	New Forest District council – Community Services
Michele Etheridge	German P/s

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- **Apologies were received from:**

Helen Tague Fordingbrdige Town Council
Jim Day Blashford Lakes Wildlife Environmental and Study Centre
Karen Etheridge National Childminding Association – Childminders Network
Lindsay Osman Early Education and Childcare Unit
Helen Giles Library Services
Hugh Brook-Hill Ellingham Nursery
Sue Little Play Network

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- **Co-ordinators Report** was given – Roz Bradbury

Roz informed the group of the various committees and groups she had attends on behalf of the group in our catchment area

A stall was planned to support the Ringwood Youth Club on Carnival Day. Setting up/stall and amusements were offered by Roz but in the end could not be taken up due to lack of other adult supervision on this occasion – due to short notice of the event. This will be picked up again and HCCF offers their on-going support to the club in order for them to

achieve their goals in fund-raising and operating a club, which will have broader appeal and more resources.

Young people's concessionary fares scheme was flagged up – vouchers being available to 14-17yr olds

Views were being sort by Community Action Network from young people – and there was encouragement for them to participate – survey forms were available.

The teenage pregnancy Local Implementation Team (LIT Group) is active in supporting young people. HCFF is still keen to assist in the setting up of a local group for young parents – anyone interested or knowing of a young person wishing to gain support from others in similar situations should contact Roz. One local initiative being discussed was the provision of a facility at Ringwood School for teen mums in order to return to education. A consultation was being currently carried out to look at the accessibility of leisure facilities for children with special needs and their siblings. Questionnaires were available for completion.

The next consultation to take place will look at parent and toddlers groups and their feasibility and sustainability and what parents and carers are seeking from them.

A report was given regarding Turn Up For fun TUFF – the Open Access Summer Playscheme running in Ringwood and Fordingbridge, which had 294 children accessing their play throughout the summer holidays. Further finance is being sort to ensure this project can continue. Assistance with finance/resources and trained play workers are always being sought.

Fordingbridge Town Council reported their play scheme was also a great success but felt there was need to look at the issue of children 10+ participating and being engaged in suitable activities.

Sweatford Stream Play Project is under way – the brief being to enhance the provision of play for small children at the end of Parsonage Park Fordingbridge. There is a group of people committed to fund raising and bringing play plans to fruition. Help with applications/funds always welcome.

People were encouraged to look at the HCFF Web site as its continually updated with relevant news and should any organisation or club wish to promote an event or spread news then they were asked to email Roz who would willingly forward for inclusion on the local web pages. Links to many other sites are available all related to Children's work/Playwork/Childcare/County and National Initiatives. Look at hcff.org.uk and click on Branches where you can go direct to North West Forest and then open many pages of info – have a go!!!!

Newsletters continue to be well received and funding for 2500 is standard – in our area 3000 is what is really required – so funding for 500 extra copies or the printing of 500 extras copies would be very welcome – any offers??

Father Christmas has an outfit only used on Christmas Eve – so should your group need one before that date please contact roz who has it and will loan out for a small fee. (after all he needs to keep purchasing those hot toddys to keep him warm!!)

A meeting is being called on 28th October at Totton youth Group for all young parents and their parents in order to decide how some funds may be spent in promoting an event for young parents – contact youth centre.

Notices were given out about Childcare Workshops that are taking place on an ongoing basis. These are to promote working with childcare via various different routes.

A £500 cheque had been received for the TUFF project, which is administered partly through HCFF – thanks were given for this generous donation towards their work. Fordingbrdige and villages are participating in a group who are operating a 'food bank' providing essential supplies to families in extreme circumstances. The health visitors FB are one of the contact points.

It was suggested people look at the Local Area Agreement on the Hampshire County Website.

New Forest Show – back in the summer was again really successful – with HCFF supplying the Lost Children's Tent Workers.

Coping with Chaos is a group based in Ferndown dealing with activities for children with special needs – info was given out.

Forth coming News – Focus on Families- Fun in the Forest is an event currently being planned between the 3 Forest HCFF Branches as event in June 2006. This will consist of a quality play and information day for all the family to participate in. This event will be held in a fab new centre on the edge of Totton and will have workshops/free info/play/freebies and much much more for children 2- 16yrs with their parents and carers. Watch this space for more info.....all depends on funding (of course!)

Flyers were given out regarding parenting groups and SPOT and CPCK.

Family Learning workshops were taking place through Brockenhurst College – all free of charge during October.

Jodie Hood – from Its Your Choices Drug and Alcohol Advisory Service then gave a talk about her work and the services their group can provide both to parents and young people.

Simone Oliver – from the Community + Drug Unit which aims to reduce crime in the community with children with anti-social behaviour then gave a short talk.. They work with parent link and set up practical projects to suit local groups.

Sarah Newman then spoke about her project and the holiday and leisure facilities they support and promote working with children with families who have a special needs child.

All 3 of our guest speakers gave us an excellent overview of the brilliant work they are doing within our local community and it was all extremely fascinating and illuminating. Our thanks were expressed to them all.

- Network:

Ringwood Health and Leisure – p/s activities for 100+ children. Wish to target working parents with a Saturday a.m. session and 2 special sessions during half term.

Scouts are DESPERATE for leaders...does anyone feel willing to get involved locally???

The Jobcentre flagged up that they were there to help parents who are in particular finding problems with their tax credits....please go in for assistance.

HCFF invite was given out for their AGM

Portage raised £1960 at a Scouts event during the summer. At Trinity Church Ringwood there are to be community lunches held on a Monday.

Community First flagged up mopeds were available for loan to young people and that's its supporting an LNF Grant application by a group in RW that HCFF brought together to enable them to apply for play provision.

Health Visitors gave thanks for the support HCFF has shown over the past few months of very difficult times - hours are now restricted and services are drastically reduced from previous levels. No fresh recruitment is to take place and those on sick/maternity leave will not be covered and those leaving the services will not be replaced therefore reducing their numbers on a voluntary basis rather than being made redundant.

Youth Service reported that an event Sugar and Spice is to take place for 14-19 yrs old at Avon Tyrell for £10. Also, a venue was being sort to house a climbing tower during half term...ideas for an outdoor location - must be big though!!!??

German speaking mother and toddler group meets in Christchurch on 1st and 3rd Wednesday 10-12 in the Baptist Church and then on 2nd and 4th at Castlepoint. Contact Cassandra for more info 01425 657669.

Martin Nursery is registered for 10 and is seeking qualified staff to take over the running of this group.

Janet Keith spoke of a new scheme for equipment funds for older children with special needs.

PLA shared info about new posts for Development Workers now covering 0-5 yrs olds. 5th October is the AGM and Mary Pye will be speaking on Accreditation. Bulk Buy is open to all on 2nd Thursday of each month at Greyfriars.

The directory is to be updated and all were asked to take responsibility to ensure the information contained is correct...please also highlight any missing details or information they would like to see included.

Sponsorship is also required for printing this free resource.

Date of next meeting:

11th January 2006 - Wednesday - Fordingbridge Junior School hall starting 7.30pm

