

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
H.C.F.F.
11TH January 2006
Held at Fordingbridge Junior School

Present:

Roz Bradbury
Marian Frey
Judi Strange
Lindsay Osman
Mark Saxby
Jill Barnett
Sue Brinkman
Jane Finan
Debbie Simpkins
Denise Wiltshire
Judith Urry
Steve Bailey
Lynne Rees
Philippa Walker
Denise Phillips
Nicola McKenna
Dye Lockyer
Lyn Belenger
Louise Pinder

Apologies:

Janet Keith
Bev Wickham
Jim Day
Rosie Tidby
Rose Brown
Helen Tague
Melissa
Sue Little

Co-ordinator Feedback – Roz Bradbury:

Great News: successful funding bid to the Network fund for Turn Up For Fun Holiday Playscheme - £12,000 over 2 years! Hope to deliver 3 days per week in both Ringwood and Fordingbridge Areas – venues and potential workers are sought...please contact Roz for more detail

Children's Centres information was available regarding 2 proposed Centres one in RW and one in FB on the 'graduated model'. These will eventually have lots of links with local parenting groups/health visitor information/clubs /local events/ and courses and all things related to families and children under 5 years of age. There is a questionnaire available for all to give information on what they would like to see included and where they would like these Centres to be - copies were made available and encouragement to complete it on-line too. Further information from Colin Payne at hants. Gov.uk 01962 813887. Closing date for feedback around 10th February.

Quarterly Consultations:

This round of consultation work is gathering information relating to young parents primarily under 19yrs. Services who in anyway connect with, or would like to connect with, young parents to be or young parents - then let Roz know. A leaflet will then be drawn up and some survey work done with YP to ensure it contains correct and helpful information before this piece of work is put forward for publication and printing. A good point was raised from the meeting that it would also be helpful to consult with those who had had experiences of being a young parent and see what in hindsight would have been helpful.

Information on previous consultations - After School Clubs and Dental Surveys were available at the meeting.

Parenting Courses

SPOT is to run in FB on Thursday evenings from 16th March this is for parents of 12-17yr olds.

Anyone interested in this or courses in RW, and those seeking Confident Parents Confident Kids - for parents of 18months - 6 year olds, to contact Roz for more info.

Funding is available for School to have Sex and Relationship Workshops in their schools - contact 02380 747422 for more information on this project.

Hampshire Play Network Conference is to take place on Saturday 18th February - details were available on this and workshops taking place during the conference

FB Toy Library has a new activity range for toddlers, next sessions 10.30 - 4.30 2nd February and 2nd March. Also a children's clothes sale is coming up and also a talk by a Nutritionist Diana Green for which tickets can be purchased at £3 including a glass of wine. More detail from Jacqui 01725 517379.

Details were given of large quantity of free wrapping paper that was available via Phoenix Cards - suitable for charity wrapping such things as Christmas boxes or such like. Contact was given.

Childcare recruitment sessions were taking place during February and an Autism Awareness Workshop is to take place on 16th February 02380 721208

22/24th March there is to be a Young Parents Free Day Out Event – to contain activities and information for young parents across the New Forest – those under 21years. YP along with their children and parent (i.e. grandparent) are invited to come along to this event and participate in a range of free activities such as trampolines/high walls etc plus creative workshop and beauty therapy alongside accessing a wide range of services and information – housing/ jobs/ connexions/sexual health / nutrition/college course etc...with the idea that young people can have a fun day out along with accessing a wide range of services in a non-threatening and fun way. Any service providers to PLEASE contact roz for a free stand on the day.

(this event has now been postponed until mid /end of April please note)

A Reminder to look at Hants Net for funding opportunities for a wide range of organisations

Phone numbers 0870 can be expensive look for an alternative on www.saynoto0870.com

HCFF hosted an Extended Schools Partners Event in November, which was well attended. Some very interesting and positive feedback came out of these workshops – and school are moving towards participating in this more and more. Look on the hcff website for full feedback. Roz encouraged all parents to ask their school what they are doing in regards to this initiative. It is NOT just about breakfast and after schools clubs – it's much wider and far-reaching and there are many examples of excellent practise working right now.

2 magazines were brought forward for attention Children Now and The Festivals Shop Brochure – both worth getting.

News share

Lynne Rees Lone Parent advisor at RW JC gave information about finance that is available and encouraged all to access their services

Nicola McKenna of Ringwood and District Childminding Group said there were vacancies in the area should parents be looking for childcare

Jill Barnett – Portage gave details of a workshop taking place 13-15th March jill.Barnett@salisbury-nhs.uk

Sue Brinkman – Scouts – they are bursting at the seams and desperately need more leaders to come forward!!

Parent and Toddler sessions take place in the Scout Hut on Tuesday 1.30pm – all welcome

Stepping Stones P/S FB – are very busy and investigating Children's Centre work and participation. Their P+T group is extremely busy and they are looking at expansion. There were queries around this need – as it has been highlighted due to little other provision in the area.

Denise Wiltshire – PLA said there were 3 supervisor vacancies in the local area for anyone with relevant experience/qualifications.

Debbie Simpkins Woodgreen P/S is extremely busy and have been newly re-accredited (well done!)

Jane Finan – Youth Services – explained how Children's Services were now an amalgamation of Education and Social Services departments at County Level.

Steve Bailey – Youth Steering Committee FB – gave a short presentation on the work being done to the children's play area in Whitsbury Road FB and also the work that has taken place over recent time on the skate park, and youth shelters and the proposals for a mobile cinema. He also explained that Sandy Balls Holiday Centre in FB/Godshill have allowed young people to access their swimming facilities all year round at a nominal costs of £15.0 – which is excellent news.

Philippa Walker HV Representative for FB and RW – told of the shortage of manpower across the whole area. No Under 1's group now due to lack of staff.

Mark Saxby – HT Western Downland Representing Avon Valley Head Teachers – talked about LSA and the emotional literacy support staff in place – extended schools programme and about 'homelink' workers appointed as outreach to families in the area. The Homelink workers are also under the banner of Kidzlink as a project.

Lyndsay Osman – EECU reported on the overseeing of the development of all the Children's Centres in the New Forest area (52) – she is based at Calmore Infants School.

If you access the Fordingbridge.gov.uk web site you can place any local events on the diary pages there.

A project called Homestart – which is supporting families from the birth of their new family – within their own home – is being investigated and a meeting is taking

place on 19th January at Community ~First RW. Anyone interesting in supporting this project to contact Debbie there.

Newsletters- ideally Roz reported that 3,000 were needed to ensure all families within primary settings along with those in p/s services are reached. The next issue is due out after ½ term and articles must be with Roz by 30th January. There is a DESPERATE NEED for funding for these, which are printed one per term. If ANYONE can help towards these costs or is able to print run a few hundred even once per year PLEASE contact Roz immediately....this is a great way to reach our local community and we must not loose this facility.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

THURSDAY 4TH MAY AT RINGWOOD.....
POULNER JUNIOR SCHOOL COMMUNITY BUILDING
(in their car park area)

Please do mark this date in your diary now....as already there is lots of information to be given out then!!
Last date before the summer holidays too, so bring any information of events going on at the end of the term or through the holidays that you wish to promote