



HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FORUM

Email: romsey@hcff.org.uk Web address: www.hcff.org.uk/Romsey.html

Minutes of Romsey branch Meeting
Monday 25th September 2006 at Romsey Library, Princes Road, Romsey

Present:

Camilla Campbell	Romsey Library and Chair HCFF Romsey
Nala McRobert	HCFF Romsey Branch Coordinator
Tony McGovern	MountBatten School
Elaine Grimwood	Tiddlywinks Parent and Toddler Group
Di Metters	Romsey Primary School Parent and Toddler Group
Marie Brewer	WACA Childcare Development Worker
Lyn Bird	Romsey Opportunity Group/Toy Library
Joan Stallwood	Romsey Family Support Group/ Romsey Opportunity Group
Lorna Wagner	NCMA – Childminding Development and Network Co-ordinator
Anne Meach	Romsey and District Carers Forum
Helen Powell	Pre-school Learning Alliance

Apologies:

Jane Parker
Jan Lefley
Mavis Watts
Nick Hutson

1) Welcome/Apologies

Everyone was welcomed and apologies were read.

2) Minutes of last meeting

Read and agreed – nothing arising

3) Talk by Tony McGovern – Extended Schools

T.M defined 'extended schools' and emphasised the core elements: high quality wrap around care, a wide and varied range of activities, parenting support, swift and easy referral, wider community access to ICT, sports, arts and adult learning.

T.M presented analysis of surveys conducted with pupils, parents, Head teachers, Partners and the Public in the Romsey Area.

Key Messages from the findings were identified as well as specific messages about the activities from pupils, parents, partners and schools points of views.

Next steps were identified:

- Clarification of some details to secure county funding to develop recommendations
- To formalise a partnership between schools and partners
- To take part in a formal workforce remodelling process (October 18th 2006)
- Coordinate a varied menu of provision across cluster schools
- Proposal to develop a website or directory of activities and facilities offered in different schools

Invitation to meeting in Wellow Golf Club – 18th October 2006

4) Branch Progress report – HCFF Work plan for QTR 2

Contacts – N.M has identified and made contact with a number of people representing local children's services

Parent Consultation – N.M identified that most people access information about childcare/early education/ working with children via the Internet but relied heavily on word of mouth and had a preference for receiving information in other ways including the post, via a health visitor, the library or in a paper directory.

Handling complaints – There will be a procedure to follow when handling complaints from parents about childcare and early education. Training will be given to staff at HCFF (QTR 3) on how to follow a set protocol.

Parental preference/ need/vulnerable children -I identified the need to extend list of services supporting 'vulnerable children' in the Romsey Area.

Children's Centres – I identified North Baddesley and Romsey Primary School as proposed Children's Centres. N.M to find out more about proposals in QTR 3.

Extended schools – N.M is developing awareness of Extended Schools and proposals in local area. Will attend meeting on the 18th October Wellow Golf Club.

HCFF Database – Data consent forms sent out to schools, some pre-schools and P&T groups, independent schools. Data is being entered as received. Schools will be listed with a contact number only (if consent forms not received) and parks and play areas will be listed with their location.

Meetings Attended - Eastleigh branch meeting was well attended, many children's services represented. Attended North and Central cluster meeting on Monday 11th September 2006.

CIS materials promoted as part of parent consultation and toy library opening times updated on the web

Training - with Area manager Jane Parker. Publisher training due at the end of October.

Other Tasks

News letter deadline - 29th September to N.M - my deadline 6th October

Newsletter to be distributed just after October Half term. Please send anything you feel might be relevant to romsey@hcff.org.uk

I identified need to extend the distribution list

5) Information exchange

Helen Powell - Pre-school Learning Alliance

Positive feed back on provision for children aged 0 to 5 in the local area.

Lyn Bird - Opportunity Group

Currently 18 helpers for 14, some children needing 2 to 3 helpers each. Specific services visit the centre on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Promoted 'Something Special' DVD using Macedon sign language available from BBC Website £18.99.

Toy Library - Good stock of toys. More users required.

Rock Solid - Vandalism in North Baddesley discussed. Benefits of police involvement discussed.

Di Metters - Romsey - Parent and Toddler Group/Usborne Books

Currently open four mornings a week. Group functioning well. Purpose built and set up in different areas of experience. £1. Generally well attended.

Elaine Grimwood Tiddly Winks

Previously known as Hundreds and Thousands. Low numbers. Need for a new committee addressed and potential committee members coming forward. Advert to be placed in HCFF newsletter. Competition with other groups on Thursday discussed.

Camilla Campbell - Romsey Library

Successful library re-opening. Successful Toddler time and Rhyme time every week. Story Teller on the 25th October (afternoon) - The Gruffalo - Julia Donaldson £2.00 per child. Older children's activities - Open evening for Teens - Wednesday the 1st November 7 - 9pm to consult about how they would like to use the library. Family Learning computing course - free introduction.

Marie Brewer - Out of School Development Worker

Promoted the Play work Recruitment Fair - 23rd October.

Lorna Wagner - NCMA

Out of 2800 registered childminders around 250 are on the network in Hampshire. Lorna works with 34 people on the network in Andover, Romsey and Winchester. Lorna is to promote the recruitment of more childminders in all areas. Recruitment event promoted.

Joan Stallwood - Family Support Group

Change in focus of the group. Referrals via the NHS and Health Visitors, Social Services in the Romsey Eastleigh Area. Group currently funded by Children in Need but some concern over how long funding will be available. More family support volunteers needed Monday morning 10 till 12 noon.

6) Any other business

None

7) Date and Time of Next meeting

Next meeting - Wednesday 10th January - 1 till 2.30pm at the Romsey Library, Princes Road,

N.M thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.