



Hampshire Children and Families Forum

SRN PARISHES BRANCH

(covering West End, Hedge End, Botley, Bursledon, Netley and Hamble.)

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Minutes of Branch Meeting Held 10th January 2006 10 a.m.–12 noon at Freegrounds Infants School, Hobb Lane, Hedge End

1 Welcome and Apologies

Present:

Bob Stewart (Chair)

Linda Knowles (HCFF Co-ordinator)

Lorraine Tate (Parentline Plus)

Heather Martin (YMCA Fairthorne Manor, Curdridge)

Bev Wickham (Early Years Co-ordinator, Hampshire Library Service)

Karen Davies (School Nurse, Southern Parishes)

Jacqueline Rolls (Child Development Officer, Eastleigh Borough Council)

Apologies:

Pat Statham, Sara Rinaldi, Anne Stevens, Hannah Plom, Debra McAndrew, Jennie Searle

2 Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising:

Correction: Apologies should have included Bob Stewart.

Question: BS asked about the results of the Fun Day meeting, October 21 2005. LK responded that the meeting had been productive and preparations are in hand for two fun days in 2006 (see Work plan).

3 Current Work plan: LK distributed the work plan and explained some features (Comments in bold):

A. County-wide Work

- Branch Meeting: 10th January 2006, Freegrounds Infants School
- Newsletter: deadline 27th January 2006. No CIS page this quarter so room for local news/information.
- Children's Information Service promotion: signposting enquirers; distributing leaflets etc. through local groups such as parent and toddlers
- Consultation: Support for young parents.
- Research: support pack on facilities/support available for young parents.

LK also circulated copies of past consultations which are now available on the website.

B. Work local to branch area

- Attend local meetings: including Eastleigh Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, Summer Playschemes Committee, Eastleigh Fundays Committee.

LK explained that at the October Fun Day meeting it was decided to form a committee to be known as the Eastleigh Fundays Group (EFG) which has received a charity shop grant of £200 from Eastleigh Community Services. Dates for the Fundays are:

Tuesday 6th June at Abbey Hall, Station Road, Netley and

Wednesday 21st June at the Bridge Education Centre, Eastleigh.

Both events run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

- New Projects: Possible Asbergers Support Group Information Event LK explained that two information events this term may make this project unnecessary.
- Answering queries from parents and professionals

C. Internal HCFF Work

- Area meeting Tuesday 21st February
- Write end of term reports by 24th March

Local Projects Not Funded by EECU

- Attend Local Implementation Groups (LIG) of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) acting as a liaison point between the Community and Voluntary Sector to provide a two-way conduit of news and views. BS explained the background to this initiative. [to be included]
LT and JR commented that parents of children with mental health problems often feel there is support is lacking. HCFF can get around the stigma involved in seeking support by providing a neutral contact point.

- 4 Information Events/Consultations: LK described last quarter's Extended Schools Workshop and a short discussion of the extended schools project followed during which concerns were expressed about the confusion about the agenda. JR and BS understand Extended schools as a means of making the school a community hub. LT pointed out that it is early days yet and that Parentline Plus is being trained to take the school out into the community using parenting courses. HM wanted to know how Fairthorne Manor could be involved as efforts to encourage local surgeries to use the facility had not been successful, and she would appreciate knowing how they could help.

5 Newsletter:

LK would like to merge the two branch newsletters, as the content is very similar. Also, as many people travel to events and activities across parish boundaries, it makes sense to include items of news from both parishes.

BS pointed out that this merger might need to be undone if the two parishes were no longer co-ordinated by one person. LK responded that this would be a matter of changing the masthead. The meeting had no objection, and the proposal will be put to readers for their information in the Spring issue. If there is no objection, the two newsletters will merge in September 2006.

BW would like a notice in the newsletter to promote her visits to Parent and Toddler Groups
HM would like to advertise the Fairthorne Manor Parent and Toddler group. LK will pass details on to Winchester branch for inclusion in that newsletter as well.

- 6 Website: LK reported that the Southern Parishes page was in the top 20 individual pages accessed in December, probably as a result of Parent and Toddler queries being directed there for access to the Directory. There is a link to Parentline Plus and other agencies. JR will send a link to Eastleigh Borough Council's Community pages which have been re-designed and updated.

7 Information Exchange and Any Other Business:

LT reported that Parentline Plus had collaborated in the production of the Drink and Drugs information packs (available at the meeting). Projects this quarter include a bullying project financed by DFES focused on bullying and fears of bullying during the transition to secondary school, a Lone Parents project financed by Barclays Bank, which involves events, courses and one-to-one sessions, and one-to-one parenting sessions funded by the Parenting Fund.

JR asked about support for mothers suffering from post-natal psychosis and LT assured her that there was help available through Parentline Plus, including telephone support linked to a named person.

HM distributed Fairthorne Manor leaflets.

BW reported that her contract was coming to an end and she did not know if it would be renewed after March. She has worked with all groups catering for children under five over a wide geographical area (from the New Forest almost to Salisbury) and built up a good network of relationships and does not like to think of the network being undone through lack of funding.

LK passed on the news that there would be no redundancies among Health Visitors in the new restructuring of the NHS Health Visiting service.

JR commented that she had never had more than a one-year contract. In her role as a Child Development Officer she supports any group working with children (5-14) and tries to be an information gateway so that should she leave the post, or the post cease to exist, clients would still have continuity. Her colleague Pat Statham has been promoting activities and manages the Mobile Crèche, a facility predominately taken up by things like training sessions.

JR and PS are trying to promote working with youth. They have links with the Youth Service and Solent Youth Action and are involved in a project for young people who want to volunteer in out of school care and trying to break down the barriers to young people volunteering. Any parent of a youngster wanting to go to an out of school or youth club but lacking confidence, perhaps because of a disability, can contact Donna Thornton at Solent Youth Action and she will try to provide a 'buddy' to accompany them. JR is also involved in the Fun Days which she spear-headed three years ago.

KD explained that as school nurse for Southern Parishes funding issues also affect her. She covers Hamble but can only offer a core service in health education, parenting, anger management and some drop-in sessions. Child protection is becoming a major issue. This year she is running a parenting course at Hamble Primary While Wendy Price in Eastleigh has waiting lists for parenting courses, Southern Parishes would benefit from more advertising. LK agreed to put a notice in the next newsletter for courses running from March onwards.

LT wanted to know if school nurses were duplicating Parentline Plus work. KD responded that they were trying not to; the course in Hamble was at the request of the school as there was a need among the parents. BS asked if Wendy Price could speak to LT about duplication and KD replied that she thought Wendy had.

LT: Parenting Education Forum needs to bring all this together.

JR: they are thinking of doing this, but there is a need for a central place or person to go to. CIS is too remote, and access is by telephone or website, whereas in Southampton it is possible to go into the Library and talk to a person. Interested agencies could put a post together but they are too stretched to do it at present.

LT: Citizen's Advice Bureau does this, but it only works if there is one in each area; local staff is needed.

At the end of March KD will move from Southampton to the new health centre in Hamble where she will be with the rest of the local health team.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 25th April 2006 at Freeground Infants School. 10a.m.-12 noon.

Speaker: Sam Barnes will talk about the new Millennium Volunteers Buddies project.

Early Years Development

& Childcare Partnership

 Hampshire
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Partnership and Hampshire
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