

Disability and Carers Action Group Minutes

Wednesday 10th April 2024 @ 11am Civic Centre

	<p>Those Present:</p> <p>Hedley Brown (HB), Barrie Andrews (BA), Keith Ducker (KD), Edna Phillips (EP), Robert McAllister (RA), From SEH Resident Involvement, Sarah Gallager (SG) & Laila Kricha (LK).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IMPORTANT: PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME, EMAIL OR ADDRESS ON THE ATTENDANCE SHEET, SO WE CAN SPELL YOUR NAMES CORRECTLY & SEND TO THE CORRECT ADDRESS.</p>	
		Actions
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Brenda Tilley, Chris Mc Phillips, Terry Swinney, Peter Sommerville, Elaine Turner.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest:</p> <p>None</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising from 12th July 2023:</p> <p>None</p>	
4.	<p>Election of Chair, Vice-Chair & Minute Taker:</p> <p>Still to be completed but it has been agreed that we will wait until we have visited some sheltered places before doing this, as we hope to get other residents involved. KD to stand as chair & minute producer for now. But this needs sorting very soon.</p>	Awaiting Volunteers
5.	<p>KD welcomed all to the meeting and said that it was a pity that more could not attend today. The group had a talk regarding how we are to get the message to residents that the Disability & Carers Action Group can help them get among other things, their entitlements. SG & LK said that they are always there to help us get information to residents. KD said that instead of posting out letters to residents could there not be a letter drop so to save money. RA said that as there is a SEH representative attending each scheme one day a week, surely, they could deliver a letter to every address within the scheme and if there are surveys then they could deliver them to each resident and inform them that they will collect them the following week, that would save postage and get more results returned. KD said he will put it to them and report back. The Results of the surveys sent out;</p>	KD

5.1	<p>Surveys asking if they would like the disability & Carers to hold a meeting at their schemes were sent to Nayland House, Great Mead, Kestrel House, Senier House, Crouchmans and The Jordans</p> <p>RA asked if it would be possible to sell poppies for Remembrance Day in the schemes say in the lounge and it could bring residents out to purchase their poppy and while they are purchasing information could be handed out regarding the Disability & Carers group. SG said it is something to explore but it could be difficult with a none resident of the schemes being there collecting for Remembrance Day. KD to ask if it's possible.</p> <p>EP asked if we could hold a disability and carers day at the civic as we did a few years ago. KD will speak to resident involvement manager (Sam Elliott), to see if it will be possible and what help we could get to organise and finance it.</p> <p>There was then a long discussion had with suggestions on how we are to go forward. Some of the suggestions were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend resident's coffee meetings to see if there is interest by handing out leaflets • Attending resident's events to do the same • Contacting the council and seeing if we could be invited to any events they are organising • Ask the council if we could use some of their building to plug the group to visitors • Contacting outside groups to see if we can attend their events or meetings. <p>KD said that he will take all the above to the correct departments and officers.</p> <p>KD told LK & SG that he is willing to attend residents meeting if he is free on the day, to be there for residents who wish to speak to him after their meeting, regarding anything that they wish to discuss in confidence. All he needs is the invite. LK & SG said that they would send him an invite going forward.</p> <p>Regarding the local bus companies. KD had a complaint from a resident about a bus driver at a bus stop not getting close to the curb and refusing to put the ramp down or helping the resident off the bus using a rollator. The resident was able to produce the ticket showing all the information from the bus. KD contacted the bus company giving the information that they wanted and received a reply four days later saying that the driver had been reprimanded and all drivers have been reminded of the rules when a passenger gets on or off of the bus, especially disabled people.</p>	<p>KD</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p> <p>LK & SG</p>
6.	<p>Items for Future Meetings:</p> <p>Those present agreed that we should go back to meeting at the civic for the time being until we get the visits to the sheltered schemes worked out.</p>	
7.1	<p>Speaker's members would like for future meetings:</p> <p>Guest's who have agreed to be invited are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sylvia Overton – Southend Carers • Edna Deramchia & Chiquitta Bruce - Community Builders • Stuart Long – T (Achieve, Thrive & Flourish) • Graham Hart – SEH Fire Manager • Bus Company Managers – still awaiting response 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthwatch Southend • Age Concern • Southend City Council (Lucie Babbington) <p>KD said that there are lots of people from organisations who would come to our meetings and talk to residents. All we need is resident to come to the meetings to hear them and to find out useful information from them.</p>	
7.	<p>Any other Business:</p> <p>There was no other business</p>	
8.0	<p>Surveys:</p>	
8.1	<p>KD brought to the attention of those present surveys that are out at the moment that residents and staff should fill in. They are very important</p>	
8.2	<p>1. Carer's Consultation Survey by Southend City Council:</p> <p>You can go on to the SCC website southend.co.uk and type in the Search Box - Carer's Consultation Survey – then scroll down about halfway to find it.</p> <p>There are two showing but both are the same on only they have put it on their twice so click on either one and do the survey. Completing the survey will help so many carers and also their disabled person they look after.</p> <p>Even if your not a carer you should still fill it is as you never know if your going to need one in the future as none of us know the future.</p> <p>Hopefully we can find more of these that need our support, so if you find one and think it would be beneficial to residents to do, please let us know.</p>	

10.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>8th May 2024 11am at the Civic Centre</p>																					
11.	<p>Future Meeting Dates and Venues:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Civic Centre</th> <th>Sheltered Unit's 2024 @ the times below.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>17th January 11am R5</td> <td>14th February - Nicholson House, G/F Lounge 11am</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13th March - Trevett House. 11.30am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10th April 11am room 3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>08th May 11am room</td> <td>19th June -</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10th July -</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14th Aug -</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>11th Sept -</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9th Oct 11am room</td> <td>13th Nov -</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>08 Jan 25 -</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Civic Centre	Sheltered Unit's 2024 @ the times below.	17 th January 11am R5	14 th February - Nicholson House, G/F Lounge 11am		13 th March - Trevett House. 11.30am	10 th April 11am room 3		08 th May 11am room	19 th June -		10 th July -		14 th Aug -		11 th Sept -	9 th Oct 11am room	13 th Nov -		08 Jan 25 -	
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12.	<p>A very Important Reminder:</p> <p>Please provide me with an email address if you have one, as it cost a lot to send through the post. A copy of the agenda and minutes will be available at meetings, so no worry about printing.</p>																					

13.	Meeting Agenda.	
13.1	<p>At all meetings there is a set agenda but you can bring anything that has to do with disability or a carer to the meeting. We welcome any concerns or ideas you have and will discuss anything that is of concern or worry to you as a disabled resident or carer within the city.</p> <p>After the meeting you will have time to bring to our attention anything that is not disability or carer related.</p>	
14	Contact details:	
14.1	<p>Keith Ducker on 01702 309064 or by email: kthjac@gmail.com If you require any information on the Disability & Carers Group.</p>	
14.2	<p>If you are having a problem that you can not solve yourself or with the assistance of SEH officers. We may be able to advise or help on your behalf.</p>	