

Disability & carer's action group meeting

Wednesday 23rd October

Minutes of Meeting

Present: Terry Swinney (TS), Chris McPhillips (CM), Edna Phillips (EP), Chinn Kylasapthy (CK), Peter Somerville (PS), Headley Brown (HB), J. Barrie Andrews (BA), Keith Ducker (KD), Stuart Long (SL), Sam Elliott (SE), Richlove Yeribu (RY).

1 Welcome

TS Welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies

Beryl Chapman.

3 Minutes of last meeting

Group approved of the minutes from last meeting and minutes from April.

4 Matters arising

KD Announced that the disability action focus group will not be joining with the sheltered focus group.

SL The turnout for the disability action focus group alone looks encouraging so wouldn't suggest that the two groups need to combine.

SE Responded by confirming that Maria informed her about the disability action focus group's intention to join with the sheltered focus group, however the issues discussed in the sheltered focus group are tailored to them specifically and will be of no use to the disability action focus group, combining the two will mean that the disability action focus group will have to sit through whilst these issues are discussed and dealt with before they can then propose their own topics within the group.

The group discussed the changes which have taken place and agreed to work on increasing numbers of the focus group rather than merge with Sheltered.

TS Advised that more promotion needs to be put out to support the group in other schemes both KD and SL agreed.

SE Added that, it's best to go through staff in terms of promotion.

SE Then introduced Accessible tourist and suggested inviting them to the next meeting, with the aim that they will come and promote services available

Group agreed.

Action

- TS Received a phone call and asked KD to take over chairman as he has to go.
- SL Asked the group to consider the purpose of the Disability FG and its aim. Group will also need to take responsibility for promotion to other residents.
- KD Responded that it is meant to be for the residents, a platform that will allow various agencies to promote services that are available for residents and for this information to be promoted to the wider community.
- SL Added that it is also an opportunity for residents to feedback to this group any disability related issues they have experienced for the group to raise with appropriate agencies on their behalf.

The group discussed options for guest speakers:

Accessible Tourism

Kamil Pachalko (Southend Borough Council Transformation Team)

Emergency Services

Hospital

David Halliday (aid and adaptations)

Maxine Nutkins (Southend Carers and various borough wide initiatives)

Southend Healthwatch

5 **Plan for next year**

- KD Suggested that they could have a raffle for the summer utilising the items stored at Chaucer house which they could use. Tickets can be sold around the schemes and staff offices.
- CP Suggested the group becoming more established before thinking about members taking on roles i.e. selling raffle tickets, obtaining raffle prizes.

A discussion took place regarding the group holding a raffle next year utilising the items already provided by contractors for this purpose and gaining more items from shops in the local area etc.

The group agreed to hold a raffle next year though further consideration needed to be had on who would obtain the additional items, who would sell the tickets, where the money would be stored and when the raffle would be held.

6. **Any other business**

- SE Reminded them of the WW2 events which will be taking place in sheltered.

7. **Date of next meeting**

Group agreed to change date of future meetings to last Monday of the month at 11:00am, next meeting to take place 26th November 2019.