

**MINUTES – ACCESS GROUP MEETING**  
**County Hall, Haverfordwest**  
**12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 2.00pm**

**1. At the meeting:**

H Langen,	A Hunt.	E Rich,
B Cleevely,	R Codd,	M Pope,
C Mathias,	A Peter.	

**2. Could not attend the meeting:**

C Cavill, B Thomas-Cleaver, J De Wilton, S Merrit, K Chandler

**3. Welcome.**

Henry welcomed everyone and introduced Charlotte Mathias from the councils Licensing Section and Marilyn Pope who attended the group for the first time.

**4. Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015.**

Everyone agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct.

**5. New Taxi Fares – Charlotte Mathias.**

1. Charlotte explained that there is now only one rate whether the taxi is a small vehicle or a large one. The rate is £3 for the first mile and then £2.80 a mile. These are maximum rates and taxis operators can charge less if they want to.

2. People only pay for what is on the meter. The meter must be used by the taxi firm but if the meter is not turned on then you don't need to pay anything.
3. Charlotte will let us have a list of current wheelchair accessible taxi firms.

## **6. Matters Arising (things people wanted to talk about from the last meeting).**

### **a. Charging for Blue Badges.**

1. The council has said that there will be no charge for people applying for new blue badges or when they renew their badge.
2. The council is consulting on whether to charge £10 if people lose their badge or if the badge is stolen and they want a new one.

## **7. Treasurers Report (the person in charge of the group money).**

1. The money in the bank is the same as last month £2734.72.
2. Henry claimed travel expenses for collecting Rex and Rex claimed his taxi fares to attend meetings.
3. Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services sent us a letter to tell us that it was time to renew our membership. The cost will be £35 and everyone agreed that this should be paid.

## **8. Correspondence (Any information received since the last meeting).**

### **a. Changing Places Toilets.**

1. Email from the council to let us know that Richard Brown will be contacting us about choosing a good place for a changing places toilet.

### **b. Communities Together Seminar.**

1. Information received from Alcohol Concern about this event which being held at the Fishguard Bay Hotel on 22<sup>nd</sup> April between 10am and 4pm.

### **c. Clynfyw Carers Support Group.**

1. An email has been received to let us know that the next Clynfyw Carers Support Group meeting is on April 28<sup>th</sup> and will be about the elections which are being held in May.
2. Each political party will be there and there will be a question and answer session.

### **d. New ticket machines on First Cymru Buses**

1. Amy Barrett emailed to let us know that she had used these new machines and that they were really good and easy to use.
2. There was someone from First Buses on the bus to help people use the new machine. This was thought

to be a really good example of customer service from First Cymru.

**e. Advert in the Independent on Saturday newspaper.**

1. An email was received from the Independent on Saturday asking if we wanted to advertise in the newspaper as a one off at a reduced rate. The invitation arrived too late for us to take up the offer but it could be useful to keep the contact details for future advertising.

**f. Hywel Dda Health Board Draft Action Plan.**

1. An email was received from Dr Gareth Morgan of The Hywel Dda Health Board to let us know about their draft Action Plan for people with sensory loss (sight loss and hearing loss etc).
2. There are 5 standards:
  - Standard 1 – Identifying service users with sensory loss.
  - Standard 2 – assessing and meeting information & communication needs.
  - Standard 3 – Environmental considerations.
  - Standard 4 – Staff training & development.
  - Standard 5 – raising concerns & complaints.
3. A copy of the Action Plan is attached with these minutes.

### **g. Tardive Dyskinesia**

1. An email was received from drugwatch.com to let us know that the link we have on our website for Tardive Dyskinesia now goes to the drugwatch.com website because they are both now partnered together.

### **h. 50+ Forum Annual Conference**

1. An email was received from Rachel Gibby to let us know about the 50+ Forum Annual Conference at Letterston Hall on March 20<sup>th</sup> between 10.30am and 3.30pm. Lunch is included.

## **9. Centre for Independent Living.**

1. Alan Hunt told the group about a website called [accessiblederbyshire.org](http://accessiblederbyshire.org). This format of this site could be an excellent start for an online Centre for Independent Living (CIL).
2. Disability Wales (DW) is proposing to work with Pembrokeshire People First for the next round of the Planning Together programme. Some members were worried that we might not now get as much help from DW towards starting up a CIL as we had before. It was agreed that Alan should email Paul Swann to find out more about DW's plans.

### **10. Pembrokeshire People First Report.**

Apologies have been received from Pembrokeshire People First so there is no report this month.

### **11. International Day of Disabled People.**

1. The main topic for this year's celebration day has yet to be decided by the United Nations but Alan will speak to UCAN about possible dates and what might be done as soon as the theme is decided.

### **12. Beach wheelchairs / Face book page.**

1. The cafe at Angle has said they would like to have a beach wheelchair there. This is good news because the grant we have applied for from South Hook LNG can only be used for projects in their area and Angle is in the area they cover.

2. Anthony Richards has asked Nino to service all the beach wheelchairs which the National Park has before Easter.

3. Nino has not collected the wheelchair which was donated last month but will do so as soon as he can.

### **13. Chairman's Report**

1. Henry asked if a polite notice telling people not to park outside a disabled person's house could be sent to a lady in Llawhaden. Alan said he would do this.
2. There has been an enquiry from the secretary of Simon Hart MP about the lack of disabled access at a doctor's surgery in St Clears. Unfortunately this is outside our area so we are not able to help directly.
3. Henry will not be able to go to the Planning Together session in Saundersfoot next Wednesday because he will be representing West Wales at the thanksgiving service for Richard Attenborough at Westminster Abbey in London. Everyone congratulated Henry and hoped he has a safe and enjoyable trip.

### **14. Access Officer's Report.**

1. Alan would like to arrange a photo shoot and press release about the new section of path alongside the Western Cleddau at The Frolic, Haverfordwest. Alan will contact members with some dates.
2. It has been reported by a member of the public that the toilet in Liz's bakery in Narberth is always full of rubbish and bin bags. Some group members had also seen this. It was decided to write a letter to Liz's Bakery asking them to make sure that the toilet was kept clean.

**15. Any other business (any other things that need to be talked about).**

1. Annette said that the steps leading from Hamilton Terrace, Milford Haven down to the harbour needed some tactile paving at the top. Alan said he would have a look at it.

2. Eva reminded the Group about the event which Tracy Martin-Smith is having at Haverfordwest Rugby Club between 10am and 4pm on 9<sup>th</sup> April.

**Meeting finished:** 4:00pm.

**Next meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at County Hall.