

MINUTES – ACCESS GROUP MEETING
County Hall, Haverfordwest
8th October 2015 at 2.00pm

1. At the meeting:

B Thomas Cleaver	E Rich	R Codd
A Hunt	M Baron	M Jakeway
B Cleevely	F Heasman	

2. Could not attend the meeting:

H Langen, J McNamara, L Cartwright, T Mills, Cllr S Hancock, C Cavill, A Thomas, M Pope, A Peter, M Phillips

3. Welcome.

Beryl welcomed everyone to the meeting in Henry's absence.

4. Minutes of the meeting on 10th September 2015.

a. It was agreed that the minutes were a true record.

5. Matters Arising (things people wanted to talk about from the minutes of the last meeting).

a. Beryl said we should send a card to Henry wishing him a speedy recovery. Alan said he would arrange this.

b. Bluestone visit to be arranged for early November. Alan will arrange this.

- c. Rex suggested it would be cheaper if the Direct Payments sub-group could meet in Haverfordwest because of the cost of taxi fares.

- d. Alan will look into the possibility of a new ramp to the beach at West Angle Bay to make it easier to get the beach wheelchair on to the beach.

- e. Beryl thought that putting a new Changing Places toilet on Haverfordwest riverside when the library moves there would be too long and a suitable site should be found where the toilet could be built now.

- f. Beryl asked who Danfo, the company now managing the public toilets, are. Alan said he would find out.

6. Treasurers Report (the person in charge of the group's money).

- a. We now have £1196.76 in the bank.

- b. A check has been received from Pembrokeshire County Council as a one-off contribution to Group funds. The Council has said that they will not be giving the Group any more money.

- c. Beryl suggested asking the Council Finance Officer or the Head of Business Services to the next meeting.

7. Correspondence (Any letters or emails received since the last meeting).

a. An email was received from Liz Cartwright about a newspaper article in The County Echo saying that tourism guides seem to ignore disabled people. Workers at Clynyfw met deputy minister for sport, culture and tourism and raised this issue with him. Also at the recent beach wheelchair launch in Angle, Liz Weedon from Bluestone said that they could be missing a trick by not advertising their facilities more to disabled people.

b. An email was received from Cleopatra Brown who runs Celtic Quest Coasteering about the services they provide for disabled people. A report from a wheelchair user who has been to Celtic Quest Coasteering is attached to these minutes.

c. Information received about a Welsh Government Health Service Green Paper called "**Our Health, Our Health Service**".

This is open for public consultation and Disability Wales is holding an event to give people an opportunity to have a say:

When: Thursday 12th November – 9:00 am – 4:45pm
(lunch and refreshments provided)

Where: The Halliwell Centre

University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Carmarthen Campus
Carmarthen
SA31 3EP

d. Letter from Newport Gate B&B about their purpose built accessible "Arctic Cabins". Alan to contact them to see if we can visit.

e. Beryl brought along a copy of the Milford Mercury which had an article about the new beach wheelchair at Angle.

f. Frank told us about the Small World Theatre in Ceredigion which he supports. They put on events on beaches and might do something in Pembrokeshire next year because we have beach wheelchairs which would allow more people to enjoy Small World Theatre's events.

8. Citizen Led Co operative

a. The sub-group will be attending the first workshop with Wales Co operative Centre on Friday 16th October where it is hoped that what we need to do to set up a co operative will be made clearer.

12. Beach Wheelchairs.

- a. The new beach wheelchair was officially delivered to the Wavecrest Cafe at West Angle last Friday 2nd October and a Photo shoot was arranged to publicise the event.

13. Chairman's Report

- a. There was no report this month.

14. Access Officer's Report

- a. Alan and Tracy Martin-Smith had a meeting with the Council's digital communications officer to talk about how the Council's website could be made easier for disabled people to use. Alan showed us the Council website and how to set up an account to make it easier to find any information we might want. It is possible to find out about all sorts of things like getting a blue badge for instance, or how to report a broken street light or report dog fouling. It is also possible to get a weekly email to remind you which rubbish to put out. Rex said it would be easier if there was a large button on the main council web page to take people to information about disability issues.

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

- a. There was no other business.

Meeting finished: 3:50pm.

Next meeting: 12th December 2015 at 2pm, County Hall.

REMINDER

Our AGM will be on November 12th at 1:30pm.