

**MINUTES – ACCESS GROUP MEETING****County Hall, Haverfordwest****14<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 1.30pm****1. At the meeting:**

B Thomas Cleaver	Alan Hunt	Rex Codd
A Thomas	M Baron	A Peter
E Rich	B Cleevely	J De Wilton
S Merrit	K Chandler	A Moore
J Hatchett		

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

T Mills, H Langen, Cllr S Hancock, J McNamara, A Richards, M Pope, I Hatchett

**3. Welcome.**

Beryl welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**4. Dewis Able Employability.**

Jessica and Alison gave an overview of the Able Employability project which they are both working on at Dewis Advocacy in Milford Haven. The project is linked with Pembrokeshire College's Employability Project and allows people to question employers about employment. Everyone then had a go at answering some of the questions used in the first part of the Able Employability training so that Jessica and Alison could gather some information on the experiences of the Group.

The Group is not sure whether Pembrokeshire County Council is a two tick employer or not. The two ticks scheme

is a recognition given by Jobcentre Plus to employers who have agreed to take action to meet five commitments regarding the employment, retention, training and career development of disabled employees. Alan Hunt was not sure that council is signed up to the scheme. He will report back at the next meeting.

#### **5. Minutes of the meeting on 10th March, 2016.**

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

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

- a. Ian Eynon was not able to attend the meeting as hoped to talk about the Service Level Agreement. Alan Hunt will ask him for some dates and let the Group know.

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

- a. The Treasurer apologised for not being able to attend the last meeting.
- b. Balance at the bank is now £778-76.
- c. A cheque for £434-56 was written from the Community Voice Account to refund the Group for payments made while the new bank account was being set up.

- d. A Cheque for £237-60 was written for Red Target to pay for website domain registration and hosting.
- e. Margaret and Rex now share a taxi and the bill will be sent to us to pay.

## **8. Correspondence (Any letters or emails received since the last meeting).**

- a. Email from Carl Sargent AC/AM about hate crime saying that Welsh Government is determined to tackle it. Karen said that Pembrokeshire People First is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Hate Crime Support Centre and can be contacted if you know of any incidents of hate crime.
- b. Email about the new work to repair the boardwalk at Broad Haven. The pictures seem to show large gaps between the boards which could trap wheelchairs and walking aids. Alan Hunt will visit and let us know if it is suitable for all disabled people.
- c. Email from Access Association about the House of Lords calling for views on the Licensing Act 2003. It is hoped that it might be made law that anyone applying for an alcohol or entertainment license would be made to make reasonable adjustments in order to get a license. This would also apply when a license is renewed.
- d. Email from Ailnor Evans of Pembrokeshire Housing asking if we would like to run a stall at their Big Day Out which will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> August at Pembroke Leisure Centre between 11am and 3pm.

- e. Matt's Taxis has a new vehicle which can carry two wheelchairs. Rex and Margaret are now able to share a lift to meetings.
- f. Email from Disability Wales (DW) with information about Board Nominations. Alan Thomas was asked if he would like to be nominated but he said that he had difficulties with DW last time round so would not be applying this time.
- g. Email from Liz Cartwright to let us know she is leaving PLANED to join the Health Board. It was unanimously agreed that Liz should be invited to attend future meetings in her new role.
- h. Email from Alan Thomas about Hywel Dda Health Board's 'Population needs assessment & sustainable services call for views and evidence'. As follows:  
Colleagues might have heard of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act and the Future Wellbeing of Generations Act. The first of these is about improving services while the second is very much geared toward future sustainability.

In order to progress this work, information is currently being collected to help shape our future strategies. This includes what needs are in the population and therefore what help is needed to address this, both now and in future.

Of course, some populations are 'hidden'. So for example, the huge impact that carers have on supporting health and social care services is often silent. We know that only about 20% of these carers are registered in west Wales.

If anyone would like to feed into this work, please could they contact me as below. I would be happy to talk to anyone about possible needs or unmet needs or feed in views or evidence about the specific support that is required.

Dr Gareth Morgan, FRSPH

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## **8. Community Voice Project.**

- a. The sub-group had a meeting with Jason Bennett, Pembrokeshire County Council, Service Manager, Adult Services.

Jason told us that Adult Services are currently being restructured and new teams are being formed to create a more accessible service.

The biggest challenge is access to information and advice and the Access Groups proposed

AccessiblePembrokeshire website should be useful in helping to achieve this. There will also be workshops on the new arrangements for the council's Contact Centre staff and more prominent information will be available on the council's website

Jason was interested to learn more about the training that Pembrokeshire People First could offer to staff through the Community Voice Project.

- b.** Jessica went through the quarterly return which we have to make to PAVS and Karen generously offered to help Jessica finalise the form after the meeting.
- c.** Rex asked for Pembrokeshire Housing to be added to the Community Voice engagement list.
- d.** Alan Hunt has contacted Michelle at PAVS who is sure that we can use PAVS address for people to send nominations for the Big Access Awards.
- e.** It was agreed that we should engage with the PPF drop-in sessions.

#### **9. Service Level Agreement with the council.**

- a.** Ian Eynon was not able to attend the meeting.
- b.** It was agreed that Alan Hunt should contact Ian Eynon to try and arrange a date for a meeting to suit Ian.

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

The report below was read by Jeremy.

##### **Young Tudor project**

We are pleased that our new project has started. It is funded by BBC Children in Need and provides living skills workshops for young people on the autistic spectrum.

##### **Work Experience**

Jeremy is going on a week's work experience with Paul Davies AM, including 2 days at the Senedd in Cardiff.

**Take 5**

5 of our members who are on the autistic spectrum have made a film with Space To Create about their experiences. Perhaps this could be shown at the Access Group conference?

**Volunteering event**

On 21st July at the Johnston Institute, we are holding an event to encourage volunteering. It will also be the premiere of Take 5.

Everyone is very welcome. The event starts at 12.30 with lunch (£2)

**New Advocate**

PPF welcomes Shelly Turton to a new role of Legalistic Advocate.

Shelly will work one-to-one with members but also develop relationships with legal services and develop toolkits to enable disability organisations to use the law more effectively.

**LD Partnership Board**

The next Learning Disability Partnership Board is on 8th August, and the draft Pembrokeshire Learning Disability Strategy should be out for consultation around the same time. We assume the Access Group would like to input into this.

**Funding**

PPF still receives no core funding, or funding from statutory services. This is increasingly worrying, particularly with the possible withdrawal of European funds.

Karen suggested that the PPF film 'Take 5' could be shown at the conference next year. Everyone thought this was a good idea.

## **11. Beach Wheelchairs.**

- a. Rex reminded us that Pembrokeshire Housing Association is arranging a visit to Angle with residents of Kensington Court and De Clare Court to try out the new beach wheelchair. He also said that Pembrokeshire Housing had visited Broad Haven and used the beach wheelchair there.
- b. Alan Hunt reported that Anthony Richards had been successful in getting the beach wheelchair back at Poppit Sands. It was to be managed jointly by the Café and the Life Guards.

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

- a. Beryl said that the only way to book tickets for the County Show seemed to be over the internet. This would make it very difficult or even impossible for some people to get tickets. A letter will be written to the Show organisers about this.
- b. Alan Hunt said that the Group should try and attend the Show at PAVS Community Voice Area to advertise the Big Access Talk and the Big Access Awards.
- c. Annette said that Mark Philips who now works for Diverse Cymru is keen to engage with the Community Voice Project. Annette will get back to Mark.



- d. Jessica wanted to set up the Community Voice sub-group meeting for August. The 10<sup>th</sup> August was suggested and Alan Hunt will book a room and confirm the date with sub-group members.
- e. It was agreed that the Access Group would engage with the PFF drop-in sessions.

The meeting finished at 4:10 PM.

**Next meeting:**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016** at 1.30pm, County Hall.

**Sub-group to meeting:** at 12 noon before main meeting to meet Joy James and Karen Davies.