

# Babergh Disability Sport and Leisure Forum

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009

10.30am

Venue: East Bergholt Sports Centre

Attending: Louise Pennell, Chris Marsh, Shirley Moore, Out and About

## 1) Summer Program

The sessions for the summer were distributed and discussed a full range has been provided although the emphasis still remains on sport. The football and rugby sessions are being run with lunch provisions being provided by Shirley and Suffolk Befriending as well as transport to bring people from Haverhill and this follows the successful sessions run in Easter.

There are additional activities for arts and crafts as well as music and two festivals within the last week where prizes would also be given out. Optua and Babergh have both sent out press releases and Louise is currently working on getting these booklets spread as far and wide as possible and any help with this would be greatly appreciated.

**Action: Everyone to promote the summer program amongst networks and people wherever possible**

## 2) Publicity Events

There will be some high profile visits at the end of July surrounding 2012 plans and this regions readiness for the games. Attendance as always is restricted with high profile VIP's but any opportunity to get people to attend will be suggested and people contacted where appropriate

## 3) Future Activities

A list was circulated of Paralympic and Special Olympic Sports and a discussion held regarding the merits of each and being a small area we cannot offer all but decisions were made regarding the focus in the future.

We already have athletics clubs and there will be avenues to develop this to become inclusive. Football is also a popular sport and further sessions of this should be looked at but these need to complement existing provision provided by the Cornard Dynamos. Tag Rugby has proved popular and this is an additional area to progress in the future. Other sports to be taken under consideration was ten pin bowling, golf, Judo and rowing.

It was expressed that little development would take place until October because of the full program being offered this summer and that two or three sports would be looked dealt with at a time and partner involvement would become crucial to make all sessions sustainable.

**Action: Louise to look into these sports and report progress at next meeting (look to start with football, rugby, bowling and golf)**

#### 4) Activities Unlimited

This scheme is now running and Louise is currently working to get all the summer program included onto this but there is quite a bit of paperwork associated with registering activities and being a provider. They are looking to hold provider conferences around Suffolk and more news will follow once known but AU are sending out information to those they consider relevant partners with a view to people passing on to their own networks. A small number of leaflets were distributed giving more information on the scheme.

**Action: Louise to attend events when possible and forward information as known on the development of this scheme**

#### 5) Powerlifting

Suffolk Spartans is as usual going from strength to strength quite literally and membership has once again increased to the point where we are close if not at capacity already. The British final were held at Stoke Mandeville on 6<sup>th</sup> June where Zoe secured first place along with smashing the British Junior and Senior records and narrowly missed out on a European Junior Record. Nathaniel also secured a first place while Chris had to settle for second place on this occasion.

Coaches for the club Louise and Daniel also national referees attended the event to coach and ref for the day. A delegation of 10 athletes from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia attended with His Royal Highness Prince Fahad Al Soud making the medal presentation.

Details of the club can always be found at [www.suffolkspartans.co.uk](http://www.suffolkspartans.co.uk)

#### 6) Wider Updates

A Suffolk CSN was held on 11/06/09. Discussions were held around the SYG to be held on 12/07/09 and for the first time included disability specific events (football, archery and Boccia) this is being co-ordinated by Optua. There is also an swimming event at Alton Water to be held the same day as the showcase day 24/09/09.

Optua Showcase Day is planned for 26/09/09 at Stowmarket Sports Centre and High School 14 sports are currently planned including new sessions of Golf and Climbing Wall as well as Wheelchair Fencing and Badminton. Posters and forms will be available soon and Optua ask that once available this are distributed throughout networks to ensure a successful day all round.

**Action: Louise to forward on publicity for showcase day once available.**

Next Meeting : 28<sup>th</sup> September -- 10am – Sudbury Sports Centre (TBC)