

# **Babergh Disability Sport & Leisure Forum Minutes - 21<sup>st</sup> September 2006**

## **The Bridge Project, Sudbury**

### **Attendees**

- |                           |                                     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ○ Dave Finn (Chair)       | Optua Leisure                       |
| ○ Greg Cooper (Secretary) | Be Active Leisure Inclusion Project |
| ○ Heather Smurthwaite     | Sign Language Tutor                 |
| ○ Anesta Newson           | The Bridge Project                  |
| ○ Michele Hall            | Service User                        |
| ○ Ian Hall                | Service User                        |
| ○ Hilary Pateman          | Service User                        |
| ○ Shirley Moore           | Suffolk Befriending Scheme          |
| ○ Nick White              | The Yellow House                    |
| ○ Dominic Ward            | The Yellow House                    |
| ○ Jennifer Grist          | Out & About                         |
| ○ Stephanie Newton        | SCC Adult & Community Services      |
| ○ Marina Ward             | Windmill Support Group              |

### **Apologies**

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ○ James Hartley (Treasurer)  | Service User              |
| ○ Lorna Radford (Vice Chair) | Gt. Cornard Sports Centre |

### **Changes to minutes**

- N/A

### **Matters arising**

- N/A

### **1. Sign Language Demonstration**

- Heather Smurthwaite provided a thoroughly enjoyable introductory British Sign Language demonstration to the group. It was agreed that a further demonstration would be beneficial during the next year – possibly to cover Makaton.

### **2. Partner Update**

- Members of the forum provided organisation & activity updates including;
- Be Active – Developing funded West Suffolk Personal Fitness Trainer Project
- Be Active – Developing gentle exercise programme at Hadleigh Health Centre
- Be Active – New officer to start October (taking over local delivery from GC)
- East Bergholt Sports Centre – Inclusive Badminton Club
- Suffolk Sport – Disability Athletics Squad
- Suffolk Sport – Inaugural Suffolk Sport Awards (nominations welcome)
- Windmill – People Factory activity during October half-term
- Windmill – Developing a new website
- SCC Adult & Community Services – to be re-structured in coming months
- Yellow House – Would like to use local facilities to link into existing curriculum
- Out & About – continuing to link social care referrals into local activity

- Out & About – Sourcing volunteers through website
- Suffolk Befriending Service – Sourcing volunteers through website
- Optua Leisure – Continues to provide full service for disabled adults
- Optua Leisure – Developing the Suffolk Disability Sport Academy
- Bridge Project – Developing Healthy Walks – keen to link into partner services

### 3. Community Links

- It was proposed by GC that the forum seeks sustainability through community ownership. Michele & Ian Hall and Hilary Pateman have attended today and agreed to support the forum in some capacity. Members are encouraged to help increased community participation through promotion of the forum.  
**Action all; promote the forum & encourage participation**
- Yellow House would like to link with the forum in the future – possibly in the form of work experience for pupils.
- It was agreed by members that funding gained through the hospital abseil could be put towards IT training for volunteers to support the forum. The Bridge Project may be able to help provide computer training. **Action GC; contact Jackie Skillicorn.**
- The bridge project runs a work preparatory group that Anesta Newson would like to link into the forum in some way. **Action GC; contact Susan Hollins.**

### 4. Forum Income

- Hilary Pateman, Sonia Turner and Greg Cooper have raised approximately £400 through the summer hospital abseil. A new forum bank account is to be created for these funds once moneys have been collected.
- The Sudbury Community Resource Centre and Suffolk Befriending Scheme have also raised substantial funds through the abseil (approx £200/£1000 respectively).
- Members agreed that the forum holds another fund-raiser next year. Ideas collected included an Alton Water Bicycle Ride and Suffolk Ski Slope Relay.

### 5. Activity Promotion

- An updated activity list was produced prior to the meeting and provided to the group. Any new activity information is to be sent to [greg.cooper@babergh.gov.uk](mailto:greg.cooper@babergh.gov.uk) for publication on the Babergh Website ([www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk)).

### 6. Suffolk Disability Sports Academy

- Optua co-ordinated the first Disability Sport Showcase Day at Northgate Sports Centre, Ipswich in September, which was a resounding success and attracted 132 disabled participants from across the county. Paralympic sports showcased included Athletics, Football, Table-Tennis, Wheelchair Basketball, Sitting Volleyball and Power Lifting.
- Information regarding club opportunities within these sports is soon to be published on the Optua website ([www.optua.org.uk](http://www.optua.org.uk))

### 7. Funding Opportunities

- Information on the following funding streams was provided;
- Local Network Fund ([www.suffolkacre.org.uk](http://www.suffolkacre.org.uk)) - up to £7k
- Awards For All ([www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk)) - up to £10k

- The Big Boost For Young People ([www.bigboost.org.uk](http://www.bigboost.org.uk)) - up to £5k
- Big Lottery Reaching Communities ([www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk)) - up to £500,000.00

#### **8. Next Meeting**

- Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup> - 2pm at Gt. Cornard Upper School Sports Centre

#### **9. AOB**

- GC to forward Frances Butler contact to Anesta Newton for possible Gentle Exercise activity **Action GC; forward contact details.**