

Minutes

Homes 4 Us
Monday 14th September 12pm – 2pm
Tenant Resource Centre, Hounds Gate



PRESENT:

Jenny Grant J.G (Vice Chair), Elaine Graham E.G., Linford Stevens L.S, Alison Thorpe A.T., Margaret Pugsley M.G, Sue Stevenson S.S, Val Schneider V.S., Christopher England C.E., Alan Darby A.D,

Officers: Sue O'Connor S.OC

Apologies:

Lynn Mitchell, L.M, Ruth Haywood R.H, Loveleen Labana L.L, Clive Thorpe C.T.

1.0

Welcome & Apologies

JG welcomed everyone and explained that as the Chair was unable to attend so as Vice Chair they would be taking the meeting.

2.0

Minutes of the Meeting and Matters Arising

Budgeting as spoken about at point 3 by Carole Donnelly A.T. suggested getting together with C.T. J.G and S.O'C. to look into applying for external funding.

V.S. suggested trying for funding through 'Grab a Grand' it would be necessary to look at the criteria.

The issue of food was raised again S.O'C responded by stating she had provided biscuits and crisps as discussed at a previous meeting and that fruit had been provided for previous meetings and it had been left.

There was also the issue of limited funding as no other meetings have anything other biscuits, crisps and drinks provided and food is only usually provided for AGM's.

V.S. suggested that everyone could bring food in J. G. asked everyone to vote on this suggestion the result was against the idea.

Another suggestion was that all members contribute 25 to 50 pence into a fund to buy food for the meetings. This was also turned down by the group.

L.K. suggested that everyone should bring their own food.

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It was reconfirmed that Taxi's need to be booked 24 hours in advance, if members can't get hold of Emma to book then need to phone Sue O'Connor on 0115 9157366.

ACTION

L.K's taxi arrived at the wrong time to bring her to the meeting, this was an error by Trent cars.

The funding issue was raised due to the cost of taxis as the cost of these comes out of the £2000 budget allocated to each forum. M.P stated that originally the criteria for a person been allocated a taxi to attend a meeting was that they should be classed as disabled or vulnerable.

J.G. suggested that training needs to be given as what is classed as vulnerable.

S.S. stated that there needs to be clarification of a person's disability at the outset and also taxi sharing needs to be implemented and encouraged.

V.S. stated that if a tenant is going to Harvey Road they need to have a taxi as there are no buses which go near there.

3.0 **Review of the New Leaflet**

There was a debate over the wording on the back of the leaflet so it was asked if S.OC could do two versions for the next meeting so the group can decide which they prefer.

S.OC

S.S. stated that clarification was needed as to whether the leaflet needed to go to the communication panel for approval before it is used as a matter of protocol.

4.0 **Forward Planning**

The following ideas for promoting the forum were put forward;

- Promotion of the forum on the local radio stations
- The leaflet could go in the 'Self Help Team Book'
- Road shows
- Open Days
- Sheltered Schemes
- Homes 4 Us stand at conferences.

The aims and objectives of the forum are to improve services for disabled people and carers across the city.

The following guest speakers were suggested for future meetings;

- Occupational Therapy
- The Independent Living Team
- Mental Health Team
- Renewal and Adaptations
- Nottingham on Call
- Any group that could be useful for the tenants
- Networking with other agencies
- Repairs on call service.

There is a need to make the forum more pro active, it was decided that there could be a Homes 4 Us stall which can be taken to all local conferences. It was

also asked if it would be possible to know in advance about all activities in the Market Square so the forum could be involved to promote themselves. S.O. suggested that the forum be involved in the weeks of action which happen in each area around the city.

S.OC said that it would be beneficial to do an Impact Assessment on the performance of the forum so far to see what has worked and what has not. Volunteers were asked for and J.G., A.T. and V.S. volunteered who with the Chair will be involved.

S.OC

J.G. voiced concern over the fact any speakers who are invited can take information and ideas from the forum away, it was suggested that if there are speakers the meeting should be broken into 2 with the speaker leaving before the formal part. Also the forum felt that all guests should sign a confidentiality agreement

S.S. suggested that an action plan be drawn up and also could one meeting be given over to a celebration of the forum and their achievements. S.OC agreed and stated that she was intending to draw up an action plan with the results on the meeting and the impact assessment, this will structure future meetings.

S.OC

A.T. stated that the aim should be in that in a year's time they will be able to say that the forum is an example of best practice and be used as a benchmark for other organisations.

5.0 Any Other Business

None was raised

6.0 Date and Time of the next Meeting

Monday 9th November 2009

5.00 to 7.00 p.m.

Tenant and Leaseholder Resource Centre