



VOLUNTARY SECTOR SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN PARK ON WEDNESDAY, 20TH JUNE 2012 AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

Mr. R. Cooke – Chair

Councillors:

D. Carter, J. Bevan, P. J. Bevan, R. Gough, Mrs. J.A. Pritchard, C. Hawker, G. Jones, Ms. J. Jones, A. Lewis and Mrs D Ellis

Together with:

Abertridwr Community Church	-	Mr. L. Clay
Bargoed YMCA	-	Ms. J. Price
Caerphilly 50+ Forum	-	Mr. D. Morgan
Caerphilly Groundwork Trust	-	Mr. R. H. Cooke
Caerphilly Mind	-	Ms. J. Lawton
Caerphilly Parents & Carers Forum	-	Mrs. B. Helps
Caerphilly People First	-	Mr. C. Luke
Cancercareline	-	Mrs. C. White
Cruse Bereavement Care	-	Mrs. C. Williams
Disability Can Do Organisation	-	Mr. R. Bevan
GAVO - Caerphilly	-	Mr. M. Bridgman
Graig Y Rhacca Communities Partnership	-	Mr. I. Racz
New CLURV	-	Mrs. J. Morgan
Oakdale Presbyterian Church	-	Mrs. M. Gwynne
Parish of Risca	-	Venerable J. Blackburn CB QHC
The Settlement	-	Mr. J. Dilworth
SYDIC	-	Mr. P. Mitchell
Vanguard Centre	-	Mr. R. Andrews
Van Road United Reformed Church	-	Mr. J. Wade
Vice Chair Voluntary Sector Representatives	-	Mr. D. Brunton

Also present:

J. Dix (Policy & Research Manager), J. Elliott (Senior Research Officer), Christopher Edmunds (Aneurin Bevan Health Board), Catherine Davies (GAVO Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from, Cllr. Ms. L Ackerman, Cllr Mrs. E. Aldworth, Cllr L. Rees, Cllr R. Woodyatt, Mr. P. Jones (Abbeyfield), Mrs. J. Render (Director - GAVO), Mr. N. Young (Hospital League Of Friends), Ms. S. Martin (Aneurin Bevan Health Board), Inspector K. Childs (Gwent Police), Ms. D. Crossman (South Wales Fire & Rescue Service), Mr N. Taylor (Gwent Police Authority).

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

As a result of the recent elections it has become necessary to elect a new vice chair for this committee. Cllr. D. Carter was proposed and seconded, and so he will be the Vice Chair for the Voluntary Sector Sub Committee. The Chairperson post rotates on a yearly basis, between a representative from the voluntary sector, and an Elected Member.

At this point Cllr. Carter brought to the Committee's attention the fact that he was extremely concerned about yesterday's report to the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee. There was a lot of discussion on the welfare reform changes by the councillors present, and the hard impact they could have on residents in the borough. The Committee asked to be kept informed on developments around the welfare reforms, and asked if they could be invited to any future seminars or dissemination events.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2012 were approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

VOLUNTARY SECTOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

M.B. reported that this event was held on the 20th June, at Penallta House, and it was a very successful evening, and had excellent support from a large number of people.

5. OPENING ADDRESS & LAUNCH OF THE COMPACT ANNUAL REPORT 2011–12 BY THE LEADER OF CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL – CLLR. HARRY ANDREWS

The Leader recalled how the Compact was first produced in 1999 and has since moved on from strength to strength, and it is well respected by all of the organisations that are part of it. These organisations, along with Caerphilly County Borough, are GAVO, Gwent Police, Gwent Police Authority, the Aneurin Bevan Health Board and South Wales Fire & Rescue Service.

The Leader went on to describe how all of these organisations have to cope with the present reduction to their finances, which, is reflected across the whole of the U.K. It is with this in mind that the Compact shows how these organisations continue to work in partnership, to ensure co-operation across as wide an area as possible. Every member of the public should be encouraged to read this document to ensure that they are aware of improvements as these are produced.

The input of finance from the Welsh Government for a variety of projects is welcome, and demonstrates a commitment from them to Caerphilly county borough.

Finally the Leader expressed his admiration and respect for all the good work that the Voluntary Sector Sub Committee is involved with, and he was impressed at the commitment of the representatives sitting on the Committee, from a wide variety of voluntary organisations.

The Chair thanked the Leader for his complimentary words and that the Compact should frequently be referred to, and not left 'on the shelf', as it contains fundamental details for working collaboratively. With cuts across the board, the Voluntary sector will endeavour to maintain their work to as high a standard as possible.

M.B. commented that the report gives a great impression of work done by Compact partners and reiterated the importance of officers sticking to the good practice guidelines in the Compact.

6. COMPACT ACTION REPORTS

6(a) Presentation by Catherine Davies the GAVO Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator

C.D. introduced herself and explained her role. In May 2008 consultation was completed through the Beacons Project and the need was identified for a Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator. It had been said that while there was good work going on in terms of holiday provision for children and young people in Caerphilly county borough, it had been difficult to co-ordinate provision on a wider scale and avoid duplication. The role would involve; supporting, co-ordinating and developing provision for children and young people across the county borough.

The Holiday Scheme Project is a joint partnership, funded by Caerphilly C B Council, and line managed by GAVO.

Work is undertaken with statutory and voluntary providers to help with advice on quality & good practice. The project organises and signpost to; child protection training, play, youth, first aid training and any other relevant courses which groups feel they require. Help is provided to groups applying for funding for equipment, workshops and training. Advice can be given on recruitment, from job descriptions to the interview process. Groups are helped to develop policies and procedures that are relevant to them and will offer support with any development.

There is a Holiday Scheme Steering Group that meets on a bi monthly basis and they determine the nature of the work. There is a good mix of voluntary and statutory sector, and play and youth providers.

For the Commissioning Play Project in 2010 and 2011, the funds were used to provide play opportunities for 3,314 children and young people. The opportunities were all geared towards children and young people experiencing "PLAY". This is where children choose how they play, what they play with and who they play with, and is completely child led.

In 2011 the Holiday Scheme Project was given £10,000 from Community Regeneration, to spend with the Cluster Groups. The Cluster Groups were set up to plan holiday activities in each of the community planning areas. There were over 30 meetings to plan provision, with over 90

different professionals and community members attending. The £10,000 was split into £2,000 per community planning area. This was shared over 14 different projects. Other activities included intergenerational mural projects, gardening sessions, graffiti projects and much more.

In the summer of 2011 a summer guide was produced which went out to all year 6 and year 7 pupils in the borough. The guide was produced in both English and Welsh. Twenty-six different opportunities were advertised whilst signposting to the Family Information Service. The guide was very well thought of by parents as well as children and young people.

C.D. ended her presentation with an invitation to the members of the Committee to let her know of any playgroups operating in their locality, who may be able to benefit from any of the information given above.

Contact Details:

Catherine Davies 01443 863540 Catherine.davies@gavowales.org.uk

The Chair thanked Catherine for the very good presentation, and detailed explanation of what areas of work the Holiday Scheme Co-ordinator covers. A full copy of the presentation is available on request.

7. ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR FROM COMPACT PARTNERS

7(a) Digest of Committee Reports from Caerphilly County Borough Council

Attached to the papers for this meeting was a 'Digest of Committee Reports from Caerphilly County Borough Council' for information.

MB asked a question on item 4.2 in the Digest, relating to 'Discretionary Rate Relief' for Bryncynon Community Revival Strategy (BCRS) when it was constituted for working in the RCT council area.

Action: Jackie Dix to follow this up.

7(b) Items of Interest from the Aneurin Bevan Health Board

Christopher Edmunds verbally introduced some items, which were additional to the report attached to the agenda and minutes.

The proposed Resource Centre sited in the North of the county borough has been in a planning and consultation stage for six years. Over that period of time some plans have changed. The building is now at an advanced stage of construction and will be completed in twelve months. C.E. urges the community and other interested parties to take part in the consultation as to how best they would like to see the building used. ABHB will be publicising the facilitated workshops and forums for all to participate in this consultation.

J.P. asked if the original number of beds could change in the Northern Resource Centre? C.E. replied that consideration might be given to changes, along the lines of dementia care and palliative care, together with negotiations with GP's in the area.

C.E. explained that the Frailty Programme was designed to work with people to be treated and cared for in their own homes. Beds in the Resource Centre may be used by patients from Prince Charles Hospital who live in the northern end of the county borough.

C.E. will send photographs, of the Northern Resource Centre, to J.D. for distribution to the Committee members.

C.E. also mentioned that his job within ABHB has now changed, since a major restructuring of the organisation, and he will in the future be based in Newport. There will be a Head of Partnership Network and a Deputy to link into the Voluntary Sector Sub Committee and this would be on an ABHB basis rather than localised. Names of individuals, Ms. Bobby Bolt – Primary Care and Ms. Julie Thomas in Newport for Community Care. Ms. Sian Martin who used to attend these meetings has now retired.

C.L. said that as a matter of urgency, a letter should be sent to the Chief Executive of the ABHB, requesting that a member of their staff be nominated to regularly attend the Voluntary Sector Sub Committee meetings, in keeping with the Compact, and thereby demonstrating commitment. Jackie Dix commented that Bobby Bolt will be giving a presentation on the changes at the ABHB and commitment to partnership working at the September Voluntary Sector Sub Committee meeting.

The Newbridge offices of the ABHB will not close.

The Chair said that the public meeting, held last week, on how the YYF is performing since it had been opened a few months ago, was excellent and he wished this comment to be passed on to Chris Hodson in particular.

A suggestion was made that maybe an information leaflet on services provided at YYF could be produced and distributed to the public. This information could appear in a future edition of Newslines.

8. CCBC AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR ANNUAL FUNDING DAY – MIKE BRIDGMAN (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, GAVO)

The Annual Funding Day was held on the 16th May at the Oasis Christian Centre in Cefn Fforest. It was very well attended by voluntary sector organisations seeking advice on sources of funding for their projects. This year the event was of half-day duration, 10.00am to 2.00pm. Funders had indicated to GAVO, in the planning stage for this event, that they would have greater knowledge of any underspends in September. Consequently, GAVO is planning another half day funding day in September. The date and venue will be circulated to all voluntary organisations.

9. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES – FOR INFORMATION

A complete list of Elected Members and the committees on which they serve, including Leader, and Cabinet Members names have been attached to the papers for this meeting. There may be minor changes to the list in the future.

10. COMMUNITY PLANNING QUARTERLY BRIEFING APRIL TO JUNE 2012 – FOR INFORMATION

Papers describing the Community Planning progress were attached to this agenda and are for information only.

11. DATES OF VOLUNTARY SECTOR SUB COMMITTEE, 2012 MEETINGS (ALL AT 10.30AM)

Wednesday, 19th September – Rhymney Room
Wednesday, 5th December – Rhymney Room

The next meeting for the Voluntary Sector Reps will be on Wednesday, 8th August in the Rhymney Room, Penallta House, at 2.00pm.

Meeting finished at 11.53 am.