

**Minutes of WAAFA Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 14:00**  
**The Colebrook Centre, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LH**

**Minutes:**

Zanell Neethling (Administration Assistant)

**Present:**

Keith Hatter (Visually Impaired Groups & Chair)

Janet Chierchia (Carers Forum)

Margaret Gunn

Andy Cadle-Mills (Spinal Injuries Association)

**1. Apologies**

Paulette Josephs (Adult Services)

Penny Parkinson (Osborne School)

Vicki Weston (WCC Portfolio Holder for Transport & Environment)

Nick Coe (HCC Access Manager)

Cllr Jackie Porter (HCC Cllr – Housing & Children)

Bruce White (MHBS, WACA)

Ian Barrett

**2. Previous Meeting's Minutes (13<sup>th</sup> September 2012)**

These were read by Zanell Neethling and agreed to be correct.

**3. Matters Arising**

**Letter re: benches in High Street**

KH wrote to the WCC Estates Manager; his reply was that "...it would take too long to remove and replace the benches every day or every other day, however it will be considered should the problem become intolerable...". Still waiting to hear a reply from HCC Highways Department, however the response from WCC was included via HCC. Discussed the potential influx over Christmas period (Winchester Christmas market nationally advertised). Discussed how those benches adjacent to the market stall which people would be unable to sit on could be removed, however to ensure some benches are left out for those needing a seat. Discussed the few weeks market day period, decided that benches could be taken away for the duration of this period.

**Action: KH to write to Estates Manager**

**Winchester District Strategic Partnership Transport**

Informed at meeting that this is due to take place early 2014; they have finished Clapham Junction and are building a bridge at the country end of the platform, two lifts to support this and a zig-zag ramp.

**Hampshire Chronicle – Andy Cadle-Mills Update**

ACM wrote to the editor of the Hampshire Chronicle and has received no response as yet. He researched the HC website and could see no reporting made in their history on disabilities/access.

**Action: ACM to keep trying and writing to the Hampshire Chronicle**

Adam Knot competed in the Paralympics; he is at Peter Symonds College.

**Action: KH to contact Peter Symonds (Paul Warren) and invite AK to access event**

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

JC reports that money is available for WAAFA from WACA. ZN will forward contact details of Jean Field (WACA's Finance Co-ordinator) to JC along with budget report.

**Action: To find out from Bruce White if WAAFA needs to open separate bank account**

**Action: ZN to send copy of budget report and JF contact details to JC**

**Action: ZN to send invoice of venue hire to JC**

WAAFA has applied for a small grant from Cllr Jackie Porter, awaiting grant of £750.00.

#### 5. Winchester District Strategic Partnership Transport Meeting, 16<sup>th</sup> October

Cllr Vicki Weston invited KH to tell about WAAFA and raise awareness issues. The issues raised were:

- Pavements (parking on pavement)
- Cars stopping on pedestrians crossings
- Electric vehicles

Representatives of: WCC, transport engineers, Blue Star Buses (No.1 service operates between Winchester and Southampton). Blue Star Buses informed of a new 'oyster card network scheme' which may take effect on busses.

It was informed that there would be driver training of awareness of disability needs: problems with reaching/seeing the swipe card holder.

In April 2013 the European Union (EU) will release regulations of training of bus drivers' awareness of disabilities. There are national campaign's (Guide Dogs) in place which will ensure that the government don't vote against it and encourage to 'use powers' to prevent parking on pavement.

KH raised the point about bus routes and that busses with wheelchair access operate only *some of the time*. Confirmed that all busses in Winchester are equipped with wheelchair access, unless in emergency e.g. if a buss has broken down that day.

**Action: KH to enquire with Phil Holland about parking on pavements**

#### 6. "How Accessible is Winchester?" – Update and Topics that Might Arise

List of panellists still to be confirmed: Steve Tilbury (Operation Manager) may be unable to attend, however he guarantees a representative. (Election of Police Commissioners takes place that week on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012.)

Chairman at Event: agreed KH will Chair the event. Agreed JC will Co-chair with KH at the access event on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

**Action: ZN to find out about putting event into WACA voluntary sector newsletter**

**Action: ZN to research about publicising event in Observer/Extra**

#### 7. Consultation on Changes to Council Tax Benefit – Ian Barrett

**Update emailed to and read by KH**

#### **Equality Contacts Update**

Equality contacts at Sparsholt College and Winchester University:

#### **Sparsholt College**

Lynn Nicholls (Quality, Improvement & Performance Manager) [lynn.nicholls@sparsholt.ac.uk](mailto:lynn.nicholls@sparsholt.ac.uk)

David Watters (Lecturer in Music, author of books on equality) [david.watters@sparsholt.ac.uk](mailto:david.watters@sparsholt.ac.uk)

(These are the two who have been tasked with running the seminars for Staff. I think Lynn is the main contact for equality issues across the college).

There is also: Paul Daniel (Student Services Manager) [paul.daniel@sparsholt.ac.uk](mailto:paul.daniel@sparsholt.ac.uk) who looks after safeguarding issues for the students.

**University of Winchester**

Tommy Geddes Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Email: [tommy.geddes@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:tommy.geddes@winchester.ac.uk)

Phone: 01962 827 215

**Consultation on Changes to Council Tax**

The City Council is currently running a consultation on this subject and since the proposals affect people of working age, including disabled people, it is important that we hear your views. Please do take part and encourage friends and contacts to do likewise. More information can be found on the website, where there is an on-line survey.

Alternatively, you can ask to be sent a paper form.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/council-tax/council-tax-benefit-consultation/>

**8. WAAFA Website**

ACM has agreed to have a look at the website and consider, if possible, managing the WAAFA website.

Discussed additional items/content to be put on the website: information content and featuring of events. Access was given to ACM to the website.

**9. Dates of Meetings for the First Quarter of 2013**

Dates were set for the first quarter of 2013. Agreed to have meeting on the third Thursday of every month.

Dates:

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**Next Meeting will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

**At 2.00pm**

**WACA's Volvo Room**

**The Colebrook Centre, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LH**