

WAAFA Minutes 20140916

Winchester Area Access For All (WAAFA) Meeting

Held Tuesday, 16 September 2014 at 11.30am

Winchester Discovery Centre (IT Room), Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8SB

1. Present: Keith Hatter (Chair, Visual Impairment), Zanell Neethling (Minutes Secretary), PCSO Dawn Gretton (Northwalls Police Station), Janet Chierchia (Winchester GOLD), Kim Walsgrove (HCC Access Team), Andy Cadle-Mills (Spinal Injuries Association), Margaret Gunn (wheelchair user).

2. Apologies: Penny Parkinson (Osborne School), Jim Morey (Gosport Access Group).

Announcements: Ian Gilchrist who gave assistance with setting up the Access Awards Scheme passed away in September 2014. His funeral is on the 26 September at Basingstoke Crematorium at 10.30am.

Richard Sturgess; Gosport & Fareham Borough Council Access Officer from December 2006 until retirement in March 2014 also passed away on 24th July 2014.

3. Minutes: Action Points of meeting held 15 July 2014 were read and agreed. Change at 10.1 (Event attended by ACM) at Lepe Country Park.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 Meeting times: Discussed that 11.30am-1pm is a good time and that we have received no objections. Meeting rooms secured & dates at HCC with KW, who will forward this on.

4.2 Funding received: Received £313 from WCC small grants; Adobe 11 costs £449 and it is agreed that we will receive the outstanding balance from WACA. Also received £800 from the Have Your Say Grant for the event.

4.3 Lepe Country Park event: ACM discussed with KW about emergency button on disabled toilet; KW will look into this and feedback.

4.4 Google webmaster: It looks like the website is already registered on webmaster as part of our website package. ZN will confirm this with the website manager; Andy Wales.

4.5 Access Awards film: KH and ZN; when they meet next week Tuesday 23 September; will email the University Media Centre requesting the assistance with a video clip of the Access Awards.

5. Treasurer's Report: n/a

6. PCSO Dawn Gretton (Northwalls Police Station):

Report sent to Dawn Gretton about parking on pavements; if parked on pavements and couldn't have access to ring-up 101, the system with Craig Shears wasn't working properly

to get to Dawn Gretton, if there are camera's they can zoom in to get the number plate. Cameras may not pick up the number if incident is somewhere else. If ring 101 they can contact the enforcement officers; direct access to Victor Whiskey (base point camera's and control room) and will be able to try and get a number plate. Issue with St Georges Street at its junction with Jewry Street (at Barclays) where traffic pauses on the pedestrian crossing; will have to work with HCC for enforcing rules about this. 101: reporting of non-urgent incidents; when called this will take you through to a controller with set questions (location, name and DOB). Advice for calling 101 will be circulated to the group. Richard Hein (Parking Manager WCC) gave information to KH regarding parking on pavements; the pavement is deemed public highway; action only taken if there is an obstruction or parking restrictions apply, unless it is on private property which is a non-offence (possibly civil offence for owner). Royal National Institute for the Blind and Guide Dogs have national campaigns by RNIB and Guide Dogs to make parking on pavements illegal. Encourage people to ring 101 with hazards.

7. Access Awards – Phase II, Award Ceremony & Press Release:

JC is going to release a press release in conjunction with GOLD and WAAFA about the access awards and the questionnaires filled out. Use basis of questionnaire and tailor it to restaurants/pubs etc. for 2015. All the premises in Jewry Street and City Road have been completed, other than the pubs/restaurants etc. A lot of premises have closed or changed hands. No response of other volunteers with circulation of Press Release. Agreed to keep the shops and eateries as separate schemes; every other year for eateries and every year for shops. Suggested to contact the Art School and University for a request for volunteers.

8. Welfare Reform Event:

Thought a similar event later this year would not be viable, due to people still adjusting to the new system. Haven't announced the roll-out of universal credit, have had problems, only new claimants will have to access Personal Independent Payment. New Care Act, although local authority has to start implementing it from 1 April 2015, have not received guidance yet, and most of this to be implemented only in 2016. Election in May 2015 mentioned. If not heard by December 2014, we could look at end of March/beginning of April, if nothing concrete it may not be necessary to host event; unless it is suggested that we host an information day on access in Winchester.

9. Communications with other organisations:

9.1 Footbridge at station: On 17 July there was an opening event.

9.2 Walking Strategy Group: 28 July had meeting with draft approved and submitted for adoption by WCC. Incorporated ACM's suggestions about ticket parking machines being accessible.

9.3 SENDPO: 25 July SENDPO Annual Report circulated, we have it available on file if anyone would like it emailed to them.

9.4 Consultation document: changes to disabled students allowances was circulated, consultation period is now closed.

9.4 SPECTRUM CIL: 28 July 'sitting volleyball' event in Southampton, was circulated and 7 August; training on funding application etc.; 13 August: newsletter circulated. Toolkit for

applying for funding; available through WCC or HCC.

9.5 WCC: 31 July accessibility of the Water Vole trail. ACM: feedback that it was mostly accessible.

9.6 HCC event: Postponing of event/meeting on changes to the "Care Act". (For community members/users/carers etc.) Originally scheduled for 28 August, postponed and date yet to be announced. This will be circulated once details are received.

9.7 Voting Petition: 21st August; for visually impaired people, to make voting more easily accessible.

*If you have a postal vote; KH received a letter that vote was discounted as signature on declaration slip did not match the original signature. Apparently legislation has been introduced this year where people have to be informed about this.

9.8 Information Day for Over 50's: Wednesday, 24 September from 10am – 1pm with many exhibitors of organisations which cater for over 50's.

9.9 Chris Hall and Parability: Official launch takes place on 15 November 2014, Saturday at St Andrew's Church, Western Way, Southam, Basingstoke at 10.30am.

10. AOB:

10.1 ACM: Whilst on holiday in France; came across something useful at Tourist Office, you can get a 'Guide Handicaps Tourism' with all sorts of access information for tourists about the area. Wondering if anything available like this locally, told that HCC has 'Accessible guide to the country side' and DisabledGo, but otherwise nothing similar. Suggested to contact Tourist Office to suggest putting leaflet together.

The meeting ended at 13:00.

Date of Next Meeting – to be confirmed **by email**.

Action Points:

3: ZN to change minutes of July 2014 at 10.1

4.1: KW to send email with secured rooms and dates for meetings which will then be circulated to all.

4.3: KW will look into Lepe Country Park disable toilet emergency alarm and feedback.

4.4: ZN will email website manager and confirm if registered on Google Webmaster.

4.5: ZN and KH will email the University Media Centre and put request forward for film of Access Awards.

6: Advice for calling 101 will be circulated to group.

7: Adjusting & tailoring questionnaire to restaurants/pubs etc.

7: Contact Art School and University for volunteers to complete questionnaires.

10.1: Contact Tourist office and suggest putting leaflet together.