

WAAFA Minutes 20150219

Winchester Area Access for All (WAAFA) Meeting

Held Thursday, 19 February 2015 at 11.30am

At HCC QE Court II, The Castle, Sussex Street, Winchester, (Nightingale Room)

1. Present: Keith Hatter (Chairman, Visual Impairment), Zanell Neethling (Minutes Secretary), Mike Green (WADSAD), Jim Morey (Gosport Access Group), Steve Manley (HealthWatch Hampshire), Margaret Gunn (Wheelchair User), Andy Cadle-Mills (Wheelchair User, Spinal Injuries Association), Janet Chierchia (Winchester GOLD).

2. Apologies: Kim Walsgrove (HCC Access Officer), Penny Parkinson (Osborne School).

3. Minutes: Action Points of meeting held 15 January 2015 was read and agreed.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 Mobile Phone: JC will attend to and purchase mobile phone for WAAFA's use when funds are available. WCC grants available in April 2015 – suggest to apply for £500 (JC)

4.2 Police and Crime Commissioner was asked for a definition of 'Public Interest' in connection with incidents encountering vehicles stopping on pedestrian crossings.

KH received a response; "This is an offence for which a ticket can be issued, but particular incident KH reported was witnessed by two PCSO's who said that 'not in public interest to pursue further' at St George's Street. Criteria for deciding "public interest" are:

- How serious is the offence?
- What is the level of culpability of suspect?
- What are the circumstances of, and the harm caused to the victim?
- Was the suspect under 18 at the time of the offence?
- What is the impact on the community?
- Is prosecution a proportionate response?
- Do sources of information require protecting?

Awkward congested arrangement with this particular incident and it depends on the officer(s) in attendance at the time of incident.

St. George's Street particularly bad, as you cannot see around the corner, badly designed junction (JM). Also, at Jewry Street at Bus Stop you cannot see around the corner.

Therefore, officers presumably did not regard the driver as culpable. Down to Highway Authority to do something about this, development funding availability questionable, however police are aware of these issues.

4.3 Silver Hill Development: High Court Judicial review ruled that WCC had acted illegally by not putting the change specification out to Europe-wide tender, so far as the changing places installation is concerned, this is now subject to delay.

ACM could not find any statistics on boosting tourism; however many councils are making changing places available in various places. In Hampshire there are a few around, closest being Marwell Zoo and Eastleigh Borough Council. There are 700 in the UK nationally;

with 7 in Southampton, 3 in Basingstoke and 1 each in Andover, Alton, Havant, Southsea & Farnham, plus Eastleigh and Marwell Zoo.

Indicates Winchester is lacking (KH) with having a changing place available.

Suggested it will be cheaper building the changing place with the Silver Hill development, as it is built, than installing one in the already built Winchester Discovery Centre. (JC)

www.changingplaces.org

Action: Hampshire surrounded with Changing Places, so there should be no reason for Winchester not to have one - WCC Cllr Vicky Weston/KH.

4.4 Southampton & Winchester Universities Media Department re: GAS (Good Accessibility Award Scheme) Film: Awaiting response for a short film about GAS.

Action: Follow-up communications for GAS Film - ZN

4.5 South West Trains User Accessibility Meeting: Takes place on 19th March 2015.

Rachel Harrison (DPVH) and Jim Morey (GAG) will be attending. Also on the 18th and 19th March there is a much larger scale similar event in Berlin for the Europe-wide adoption of accessibility features on railways.

Action: To forward document on Europe consultation for transport accessibility- JM

4.6 SENDPO Meeting: re: Good Accessibility Award Scheme stickers - condition of SENDPO for funding design and printing to have copyright over the sticker so that other groups can roll out the scheme and make use of the sticker/logo (in SE England).

GAG has been running an accessibility scheme for 10 years, however needs over-hall (JM). ZN has offered assistance to JM and GAG in rolling out the scheme in Gosport area.

4.7 Bookings of dates for future WAAFA meetings: Apologies for two contradictory lists of WAAFA meeting dates; issue that KW booked rooms at HCC up until and including November 2015, however majority of them had to be on a Tuesday, which means that JC cannot make the meeting. Therefore Winchester GOLD has offered us the use of their office at the Winchester Discovery Centre (library); an accessible venue with seating for approx.10 people. Meeting dates have been confirmed for third Thursday of every month at Winchester GOLD offices at Winchester Discovery Centre (to the back of library, please ask at reception if unsure) – But, NB the March 19th meeting will still be at QE II Court.

Action: Circulate new WAAFA meeting dates PDF – ZN

4.8 WCC Boundary Map: Confirmed and will be uploaded on the website. There have been some updates on website; including a new 'events' section listing our Information Day event and information on the Good Accessibility Scheme and a planned 'Policies' section with our available policies listed. Discussion on appointing an Outreach Representative in each of the other areas within the Winchester District, who will raise access issues to WAAFA; it is agreed they do not have to attend the WAAFA meetings necessarily, but to feedback to the group on access issues in their local area.

Action: Upload WCC border map on web - ZN

Action: Outreach representative roles in other areas of Winchester District – advertise on do-it.org - ZN

5. Treasurer's Report:

Balance at £57 which is allocated to printing of letters to winners of Phase 2 Access Awards, and printing of follow-up letter to all shops/businesses and premises in Phase 2.

Remaining funds also allocated for Canon Ink for printing of certificates for Access Awards.

ZN will be holding her invoices back until further funding is received.

Grant applied for with Comic Relief Community Cash Grant for funds for Phases 2B and 3 of the Good Accessibility Scheme. We will hear back from this on 30 April if successful.

It was suggested to apply with Awards for All for ZN's secretarial time (JC).

6. HealthWatch Hampshire – Wheelchair Services (Steve Manley):

HealthWatch Hampshire is based in Winchester. There is a national network of 148 local HealthWatch's in Hampshire excluding Portsmouth, Southampton and IOW, however the information is still relevant across those areas. There to talk to people and communities about their experiences of health services, from children to elderly, experiences and feedback about health services. Not a complaint service, however they do receive more negative feedback. They also work with providers to influence services to change for the long-term; relationships with CCG's, CQC, and Health Board at WCC – services have a statutory obligation to attend to suggestions.

Wheelchair services; was on the BBC News yesterday. Issue with waiting times in receiving a wheelchair (some even up to 5 years). Milbrook Health Care is the main provider of wheelchair services; in April they have a new contract in the Winchester area. Local CCG (West Hampshire) acknowledge this is a major problem and £1million funding has been allocated, stating their intention to have the back log cleared in May 2015 (feels this is unrealistic). However, HealthWatch Hampshire talks to people to gain more feedback about these services, despite that West Hampshire CCG has acknowledged the back log; HealthWatch Hampshire would like to ensure this does follow through.

If having to wait 5 years for a wheelchair, what does someone do in the mean time? (MG – Mike Green) Someone would have to fund their own, or there are temporary wheelchairs from the Red Cross. There is a gap of people who are unable to go out due to not having equipment necessary to enable them to do this.

It is suggested for an advert for request of feedback/information from HealthWatch Hampshire, which can be distributed easily to our circulation list and social media (ZN).

Update on NHS England – date set for end of March 2015, however delayed and waiting for confirmation of the new date, hoping to pushback until after the elections. HealthWatch Hampshire given responsibility of ensuring appropriate communications with public – opt out option (otherwise automatically opted in). The information includes: NHS number, postcode and details of treatment and medications (no personal notes or conversations with doctors). This allows NHS England to identify by county across England where there are issues and to improve services. Some concerns over safety of data and some people prefer information not to be shared in this way – should be anonymous if sold to another company. SM is awaiting documentation (accessibility formats). Not in position just yet to have information available, however when available will be forwarded and possible meeting slot for presentation of information (SM).

Action: SM to email advert for HealthWatch Hampshire request for feedback/info for distribution by WAAFA - ZN

Action (pending): SM to present information from NHS England when available

7. Good Accessibility Scheme:

Assessment meeting for analysis of Phase 2 results confirmed for Thursday 5 March 2015 at 12:00 at the Winchester Discovery Centre (library) in Café area. ACM, KH, ZN and MG (Margaret Gunn) confirmed attending. Mayor of Winchester, Cllr Eileen Berry confirmed for Award Ceremony at Abbey House, Guildhall on 23 March 2015 from 6pm-7pm. Suggested to get a ramp for entrance or to book an alternative room at Guildhall.

Action: For ramp or a room in the Guildhall (accessible entry for ACM, MG) – KH/ZN

Action: To send PDF of GAS request for volunteers (to SM) - ZN

8. Information Day Event 2015:

WAAFA Information Day event on Saturday, 25th April 2015 – speakers have been provisionally confirmed, confirmation deadline for end of February 2015. 7 out of 11 stands confirmed. To attempt to advertise with Hampshire Chronicle or Daily Echo as 'events listing' - see if this is cheaper than advertisement (which requires funds). To advertise with parish newsletters (required month in advance) and Discovery Centre and Street Life/Social Media.

Action: To attempt to advertise with Hampshire Chronicle or Daily Echo – ZN/KH

Action: Contact Action Hampshire for advert in Parish newsletters (JC) and further publicity (social media etc.) - ZN

9. Communications with other organisations:

9.1 Parking on Pavements: On 16th January 2015 a private members bill was tabled in The House of Commons to extend the practice which exists in Greater London to make parking on pavements illegal (depending on zones etc.), but there was insufficient time to debate the bill. Guide Dogs for the Blind have an ongoing national campaign to ensure such legislation is enacted - may be time to debate it once again before general election. KH contacted Steve Brine, Winchester & Chandlers Ford MP, urging him to support the bill. His reaction was 'present circumstances, provisions, and arrangement for local authorities are fine, there is no need for such a bill', however he was sympathetic to the issue. KH corrected misinformation on which he presumes Steve Brine based his response on, but has not received a further response yet. Cllr Jackie Porter (Prospective Liberal Democrat MP for Winchester and Chandlers Ford) would support such a bill in principle.

9.2 KH and Jackie Porter visited the factory of the engineering firm who manufacture the rotating knobs at the bottom of the pedestrian crossing box - coverage in March edition of WAAFA e-newsletter.

9.3 Email from SENDPO re: involvement conference on sport & physical activities: KH forwarded email to MG (Mike Green - WADSAD).

9.4 Dementia Friendly Event: KH attended - statistic of 2000 people in Winchester area with various stages or forms of Dementia; 23% do not go shopping, which implies that 77% (or over 1500) do- a significant number whose needs should be appreciated by

shops. A fact sheet has been provided to be included in the Information Packs (follow-up letter) for Good Accessibility Scheme and will be uploaded on website to be made available for download.

Action: Upload Dementia Friendly info on web and include on follow-up letter - ZN

10. AOB:

None.

The meeting ended at 13:06

Dates of Next Meetings – 19 March (QE II Court – Nightingale Room), and all of the following at The discovery Centre in The Winchester GOLd Office: 16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 16 July, 17 September, 15 October and 19 November 2015 at The Winchester Discovery Centre (Winchester GOLD Offices), Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8SB. (If unsure, please ask at reception who will direct you to the Winchester GOLD Offices).

Action Points:

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4.4 Action: Follow-up communications for GAS Film – ZN

4.5 Action: To forward document on Europe consultation for transport accessibility- JM

4.7 Action: Circulate new WAAFA meeting dates PDF – ZN

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