

Meeting	OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES GROUP
Time/Day/Date:	6.30pm on Wednesday, 7 March 2012
Location:	Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville
Officer to contact:	Chhaya McDonald (01530 454702)
Local Member	Clare Hammond (01530 454529)
Support Officer:	

A G E N D A

Item	Page
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
<p>Whilst this is an informal working party, under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that interests should be declared and in declaring an interest you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is 'personal' or 'prejudicial'.</p>	
3. MINUTES	
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4. MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA	
5. PARKS AND OPEN SPACES	
<p>The Environmental Development Officer will give a verbal update on access to parks and open spaces that fall within the council's control.</p>	
6. UPDATE ON DISABILITY AWARENESS EVENT – APRIL 2012	
<p>The Policy and Performance Officer will update the group on the disability awareness event.</p>	
7. WORK OF HANDSTAND	
<p>Verbal update from Alan Gamble, Handstand</p>	
8. CHOICE UNLIMITED EVENT	
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9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS	

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The dates of future meetings are to be confirmed

Circulation:

Councillor G A Allman

Councillor P Clayfield

Councillor L Massey

Councillor V Richichi

Councillor J Ruff

Councillor M Specht

MINUTES of a meeting of the OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES GROUP held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville on Wednesday, 25 JANUARY 2012

Present: Councillor V Richichi (Chairman) (In the Chair)

Councillors J Ruff and M Specht.

Council Officers: Clare Hammond and Chhaya McDonald

In attendance: Jhon Bateman (National Children's Bureau), Steve Bateman, Catherine Flanagan, Tracy Foulds, Jenny Lacey, Russell Lacey, Billy Parry (Handstand) Janet Parry (Handstand) and Beryl Spendlove (Ashby Stroke Group).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Allman, Jane Bromley, Councillor P Clayfield, Mrs Cross, Mr Gamble, Councillor L Massey, Mrs Randell and Mr M Smith.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2011 be approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

Chhaya provided the group with an update on some of the issues that were raised at the last meeting and the actions that had been taken.

Shopmobility in Ashby

Chhaya advised the group that she had tried to contact Tesco's with regards to the proposal, but had not had much success. The group discussed that a premises within Ashby Town Centre would be a more ideal location. The group also felt that investigating what funding would be available should be the first priority, therefore ensuring that the venture would be able to maintain the service before the location be decided.

Red & Yellow Cards

Chhaya informed the committee that she had distributed red and yellow cards to all attendees to trial at the meeting.

Litter Bins

Chhaya advised the group that she had contacted the Waste Services Manager, who had informed her the following action either had or will be taken:-

- 1) Refuse Collection Staff had been advised to ensure that all bins, once empty were returned to where collected from to avoid causing an obstruction and that this would form part of the Customer Care Training.

- 2) Officers would monitor the locations discussed around the Hugglescote area and that, if required, the frequency of litter picks would be increased and that a new bin would be sited along Ashburton Road.

The group requested that information be provided to the group as to why the Council had changed the bin collection days recently.

5. HATE CRIME AWARENESS AND THE KEEP SAFE SCHEME

Anita Chavda, Hate Incident Monitoring Officer from Leicestershire County Council, provided an update to the group on her work within the district and Leicestershire as a whole. (Copy of the presentation has been retained).

She advised the group that they were currently running their Stop and Tell week and provided the group with some case examples of incidents that had been reported and through reporting, action had been taken.

Anita and Chhaya then provided the group with an update on the Keep Safe Scheme. They asked the group to provide any suggestions of businesses that the officers could approach to discuss the scheme with.

The following suggestions were put forward: local betting shops, Costa Coffee shops, the larger supermarkets around Coalville and chemists.

Chhaya advised the group that the initial plans were to start the Keep Safe Scheme in Coalville and it was hoped to roll out the scheme around March/April 2012.

The group discussed how society had changed over the years and how much of an effect this had on bullying and hate incidents.

Councillor Richichi thanked Anita for her presentation.

6. EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT REPORT

Chhaya advised the group that the report that had been circulated tied in with what Anita had been talking about. The report highlighted 7 core recommendations:

- There is real ownership of the issue in organisations critical to dealing with harassment. Leaders show strong personal commitment and determination to deliver change.
- Definitive data is available which spells out the scale, severity and nature of disability harassment and enables better monitoring of the performance of those responsible for dealing with it.
- The criminal justice system is more accessible and responsive to victims and disabled people and provides effective support to them.
- We have a better understanding of the motivations and circumstances of perpetrators and are able to more effectively design interventions.
- The wider community has a more positive attitude towards disabled people and better understands the nature of the problem.
- Promising approaches to preventing and responding to harassment and support systems for those who require them have been evaluated and disseminated.
- All frontline staff who may be required to recognise and respond to issues of disability-related harassment have received effective guidance and training.

7. WORK OF HANDSTAND

Deferred to the next meeting.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chhaya advised the group that Mike Smith had requested that the following issues be looked into:-

- 1) He would like more information about access to the parks.
- 2) Would it be possible to have some disabled parking spaces provided in the small car park to the rear of the building.

Chhaya informed the group that she had contacted the relevant services and would provide an update at the next meeting.

Councillor Specht congratulated Chhaya on recent success in attaining achieving status at the peer review in respect of the councils Equality work.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The group noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.



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Venue: **Leicester Tigers Stadium,**
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Date: **Thursday 5 April 2012**

Time: **10am – 7pm**

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- Services for carers
- Staying independent
- Support and advice
- Transport
- Work and voluntary support



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This event is hosted by the Regional Equality & Diversity Partnership (REDP). To register your interest and for further information contact:

Telephone: **0116 285 9440**

SMS: **07910 864 594**

Email: **info@redp.org.uk**

Website: **www.redp.org.uk**

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