

## **LEARNING DISABILITIES ADVOCACY STEERING COMMITTEE**

**Meeting held on 17 January 2007 at 2.00 pm  
at St Nathaniel's Vicarage, Ridyard Street, Platt Bridge, Wigan**

### **PRESENT**

Bridget Whittle  
Anne Harvey  
Angela Seddon  
Stuart Parsons  
Beth Blamires  
Sue Seager  
Alison Perry

### **APOLOGIES**

Ian Winstanley

### **2 NOTES OF MEETING**

Passed as a correct record.

### **3 MATTERS ARISING**

All raised in the meeting's agenda.

### **4 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

North West Regional Forum conference was circulated. 31 January 2007 – 2 February 2007. Peter and Nathan, 2 self advocates and 2 support workers will be in attendance from the group. Finances are available from LDPB (£5,000 approximately is available and the group felt it should come out of this pot). Body, Mind and Spirit – 20 February 2007 (Women), 22 February 2007 (Men). There appears to be little involvement in the Good Health Steering Group, Health Action Plans and Diet Exercise and Leisure Groups from the self advocates. Discussion over health groups and men and women's groups (wild and mild) followed and it was agreed to push for this through the community connecting champions group.

The need for consultation with self advocates was reinforced.

42 accessible packs for application to the drama group have been sent out. An equal opportunities statement and covering letter are enclosed.

Accommodation for the group was discussed.

**5 BANK ACCOUNT/FINANCE ISSUES**

£44,747 has been paid in from the LDDF and is now in the bank in the name of Wigan and Leigh People first. It was agreed Kitt Green Action Group and Free Speech monies should be transferred. These pots are unrestricted funding.

It was agreed to revisit the Reaching Communities bid for future funding.

**6 SUPPORT FOR SELF ADVOCATES AT THE LDPB MEETINGS**

Support for self advocates at the LDPB meetings has been agreed. Named support workers have been received for specific self advocates.

<u>Self Advocate</u>	<u>Support Worker</u>
John Duffy	Mandy Wood
Sheila Richards	Marian Milling
Nathan Robinson	Ian Winstanley

It was agreed to challenge Wigan Links lack of response to supporting Nathan at the LDPB next Wednesday.

There are only 3 self advocates at present on the Partnership Board but there should be 5.

The group felt that “deputy” representatives/self advocates on the Board should temporarily attend until elections could be held. Names were suggested.

**7 RECRUITMENT OF ADVOCACY CO-ORDINATOR**

Adverts have gone out. To date 8 application packs have been requested. It was stressed to email the advert out to partners. Interview dates have been set. Interviewers knowing applicants were discussed.

<u>Jobs North West</u>	£818.00
<u>North West Jobs</u>	£249.00
<u>Wigan Papers</u>	£1,097.00
Total	<u>£2,164.00</u>

**8 EXPANDING SELF ADVOCACY GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT**

To be discussed at the next meeting as self advocates will attend.

## **9 ADVOCACY AND ETHNICITY CHAMPIONS**

At the last Partnership Board, papers were circulated. It was suggested to meet with the Advocacy and Ethnicity champions. A date of 21 February 2007 has been set for the meeting. The Advocacy Path and Ethnicity action plan can be shared.

## **10 ADVOCACY PATH UPDATE**

No update but it was agreed that this should be a standing item on the agenda.

## **11 ADVOCACY AUDIT**

There are slippage monies due to long term sickness. However, as there is no Advocacy Co-ordinator in post, the advocacy audit could not yet take place. It was felt that the Partnership Board should be made aware of the situation.

## **12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Alison Perry went on the Community Connecting Training. It was delivered well but was very basic. Negative feedback was given about the day, it was suggested that Sue go and bring back more feedback.

## **13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Venue** Community Zone, Platt Bridge

**Transport** Bridget to email people to request lifts some there, some back, some both.

**Date** 14 February 2007

**Time** 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.