

Peacehaven and Telscombe Regeneration Partnership

Community Facilities Working Group Minutes

Wednesday 20th March 2002 - 4.00pm at the House Project, Peacehaven

Agenda:

1. Present: Sam Rowe: group leader – North Peacehaven Community Project, Sue Pluck – Resident, Reigna Mitchell – Peacehaven Town Council, Sheila Chalmers – Age Concern, Doug Lawrence – Resident, Michael Lamb – Peacehaven and Telscombe Youth Forum and Donald Shier: minutes - House Project Partnership Support Worker.

2. Apologies: Robin Olivier – Social Services.

3. Minutes of the last meeting: These were read and agreed as correct

4. Matters arising from the last meeting: The Scouts: Donald has not heard from the Scouts so this will go forward to the next meeting.

Social Services representation on the partnership and this group by a community development worker. Doug will write to the chief officer/director of the County Council Social Services department. This is to ask them to send a new social services representative to our group meetings. Robin is retiring. He does not think that his department will be keen to send a replacement to our group.

Youth activities in the Telscombe Town Council Civic Centre. The mystery continues over whether or not Telscombe Town Council will ever allow youth or children's' activities in the civic centre. Michael Lamb told us that he has been allowed to run two youth council meetings there. Doug Lawrence heard that a request to run a regular crèche there was turned down. Reigna Mitchell will write to Alan Byng and Paul Cosham. They are Telscombe Town Councillors. She will ask if there is any policy to ban young people from using the civic centre, and if not, can they confirm that young people and children are welcome to use the centre.

Community Meeting Places: Sam will ask Peacehaven Town Council for a list of halls and rooms for hire in this area and bring it to the next meeting (see last minutes).

Evangelical Free Church: The group agreed that we need to be clearer about who will be allowed to use their new hall. If the partnership is to help get money for them then we need more details on their rules. We agreed that we will need to know if they have an equal opportunities policy. This would say that the facilities would be open to all members of the community, except those excluded for legal reasons. And that they will only hire the hall to groups that have a proper equal opportunities policy. We also want to know that their church allows women to hold offices like elders or stewards.

4. New members of this group: Donald phoned the new person who gave his name at the partnership's open meeting. He works every day so cannot attend meetings before 6pm. The group agreed that the next meeting would be held in the evening. Sam will contact Jo Kidd to invite her to the next

meeting. **Sheila will think of what groups she knows of who could send a representative. Sam will contact the Brickly and Cinque Foil Residents' Association.** Donald will invite Steve Keogh to join the working group.

5. More youth facilities/develop Joff Youth Centre: Michael Lamb reported that the Youth Service is running some extra activities for young people in Peacehaven and Telscombe. These will be at the Joff. The group had discovered, before, that the problem was not that there are not enough buildings, since the Joff is there, but that it is not used for youth activities. There will be a young people's disco at the Joff. This is on Friday 22nd of March, from 7.30 to 10pm. It is for people from 11 to 16 years of age. Entry is £2.00. There will be eight youth workers to supervise and, thanks to Sam Rowe, two volunteer helpers as well. All the youth will be searched before they can come in. It is planned to hold these discos three times each year.

There will also be an international youth exchange week at the Joff in July this year. Groups of seven young people from each of Italy, France and Holland will stay for a week with young people from Peacehaven, Telscombe and Seaford. Sam and Michael plan to arrange a youth arts festival day during this visit. The group agreed that they should form a sub group to raise funds for this and organise a plan. Everyone is welcome to help. They will get on with this and come back to the working group when they have some definite plans. The group can then make comments.

6. Age Concern: Kempton House – fundraising for paid staff. The Age Concern committee will think about Sheila's idea. If they decide in future that they want to employ staff at Kempton House she will let us know, and if they want help from the partnership.

7. Cairo Avenue Integrated Playground. Cllr. Reigna Mitchell attended the meeting. She told us about the Peacehaven Town Council's plan to set up a playground for both able bodied and disabled children. They have been given the land between the Toby Carvery and Cairo avenue, by Lewes District Council. The Town Council has set up a working party to take forward this plan. They will need to raise money for play equipment and to pay for a full time attendant. Cllr. Mitchell will keep us informed. She believes there are a lot of children with special needs in Peacehaven. The group discussed what facilities they might need. Reign believes a sensory room would be a good idea. Michael Lamb said that few children with disabilities attended the Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied (PHAB) club he runs at the Joff. Reigna will put him in touch with some parents so that he can reassure them that the club will be a good experience for their children. This might give them the confidence to allow their children to attend. The club has members with all severe disabilities.

9. Any other business: Sam Rowe suggested that the group should become more autonomous and seek to raise funds for projects without referring to the main partnership. No-one else expressed any views on this.

10. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be in the evening in April. Donald and Sam will arrange a date and let everyone know.