

NORTHANTS 50+ NETWORK
Minutes of Board meeting
Held Friday, 13th November 2009
The Guildhall, Northampton

Present:

Rita Hinde	John Wevill
David Hinde	John Roberts
Pam Tomalin	Jenny Dixon
Tony Allen	Joan McDowall
Roger Rumsey (Chair)	

Officers:

Jenny Howells (Lifetime Manager, Age Concern Northamptonshire)
 Sonja Noon (Service Development Manager, NCC)
 Pam Wilton (Network Facilitator, NCC)
 Ann Gowers (Business Support Officer, NCC **(Minutes)**)

Speakers:

Charlie McNally (Director, HASS)

Apologies:

Doreen Berry	Katharine Parker (NHS Northamptonshire)
Mick Ward	Judy Sullivan (NVCA)
Lily Lowe	Susan Hills (Older Persons Champion NHS)

Item		Action
1	<p>Introduction and Apologies</p> <p>RR welcomed Board Members to the meeting and extended a warm welcome to Charlie McNally, Director Health and Adult Social Services. RR read out apologies.</p>	
2.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>JR stated that the Minutes from the last Board meeting should be signed off. It had been agreed at the last Board meeting that the minutes would be approved and signed. This had not been done and is to be recorded in today's Board Meeting Minutes that this has now been amended.</p> <p>RR also asked for it to be noted that there was an error in the last Minutes under (2) Matters Arising, 'Constitution' to be discussed at 8th March Board meeting.</p> <p>Following the above amendments the Board formally approved the last Board Minutes as a true and accurate</p>	

	<p>record.</p> <p><u>Building Society for all ages</u> RR advised that following the meeting on 8th October 2009 a report was issued and submitted to Government.</p> <p><u>Mayor of Northampton Tour & Tea</u> The Board attended and thought it very interesting and it was deemed a success.</p> <p><u>Service Level Agreement</u> RR reported to the group that he had e-mailed the variations to all Board members.</p> <p>CRB checks are only necessary if volunteers are working with vulnerable people in an unsupervised environment.</p> <p>JH - added that her staff was CRB checked but volunteers were not usually CRB checked unless working unsupervised with vulnerable adults.</p> <p>Following group discussion, SN suggested that the Board ask for guidance from ISA and CRB and a policy would be developed by the Board to clarify who should be CRB checked.</p> <p>Later during the meeting acceptance of the Service Level Agreement was proposed by Jenny Dixon and seconded by John Roberts, agreed and approved by those present and signed by RR on behalf of the Network Board.</p>	ALL
3	<p>Charlie McNally Director Health and Adult Social Services</p> <p><u>Question and Answer Session</u></p> <p>CMc thanked the Board for all their contributions and feedback.</p> <p>He then explained that the Council is on a journey. Society is changing and there are huge challenges ahead. Whether Conservative or Labour wins the next General Election there will be huge cuts in the Public Sector.</p> <p>The Elderly Population has increased and people are living longer – not always in good health. There is also an increase in younger people with impairments such as Learning Disability, Mental Health issues or a Physical Disability who are living longer.</p>	

The Council had consulted with OP Services and the main priorities for Service Users are having enough money and keeping healthy. Having spoken to people in Care Homes most people did not choose to go into a care home, however felt there was no other alternative.

CMc went on to say that a paper had been submitted to Cabinet about the Accommodation Based Care for Older People consultation and there was a decision in principle to:

- close 4 to 5 Care Homes
- upgrade 4 Care Homes with ensuite provision
- to develop Extra Care provision

RR – Advised meeting that he went before the Cabinet for 3 minutes to give the views of the Network.

The Council has made a commitment to put £1m above inflation to improve the quality and care within residential care homes.

Service Users have said that they don't want the current model and there was a move away from the "Council knows best" criteria to asking how the Service Users want to spend their money following assessment. Clinical research showed that this has made a huge difference in people's overall quality of life both mentally and physically.

During this financial crisis it is also more effective to embrace working with the NHS. With personalisation, in 5 years time things will be very different.

CMc urged the group to go and see the Theatre of Light at the Royal and Derngate showing from 19th – 26th November.

RR – said that he was shocked that that some assessments were being carried out on the telephone. Would this be more widespread? CMc confirmed that the Council were in favour of making a range of assessments which included telephone assessments. Unless very complicated, once Service Users had their money pot, they were capable of making decisions themselves. Face to face reviews were still carried out.

RH – stated that the Board would like to be more involved with HASS and helping to shape services. The Board had a range of different skills. CMc responded that he would like to think about this as he was unsure of a meaningful way of engaging their experience.

	<p>RH – suggested the Board could be part of training.</p> <p>JR – said they had attended a training event in June around coproduction, but nothing further had occurred. SN advised that she was producing a report on co-production showing the progress which would be issued in the near future.</p> <p>JD – said that Carers looking after another Older Person who did not want to go into a Care Home had to be considered as they could not cope and there needed to be investment in that. CMc agreed and said it was the same for a Carer of a person with a Learning Disability.</p> <p>It was agreed by the group that SN would work with them on what meaningful engagement would look like, working together to get the best for Older People.</p> <p>JW - remarked that if commissioning care is stopped and Service Users are given the money to buy their own care, what quality control would the Council want? CMc responded that the Council would manage the market. Safeguarding would still operate. There would be a Risk Board for personal budgets. Contract monitoring would be carried out through an agency. Personalisation means that Service Users say what they want.</p> <p>RR - asked what would happen if a Service User misused their budget and CMc replied that the Council would still be there for them.</p> <p>RH – said that as more Older People were remaining active – what was the strategy for keeping them out of Homes? CMc explained that the Council had managed to get £1.3m for Prevention. This had been tendered recently looking at the whole county. There were big issues on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alcohol – significant problems ● Road injuries – Daventry and Corby paralleled Glasgow <p>The Council were working on making Northamptonshire the fittest and most healthy in the country, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Northants Run ● Cultural Olympics ● Keeping People Fit by swimming, cycling, taking children to the park. ● Adult Learning 	<p>SN</p> <p>RR/CMc/SN</p>
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	<p>SN – added that there were 20 events in 2009 and 1800 Older People taking part in activities. Activity Co-ordinators had sourced 25 events for 2010.</p> <p>Outcome measuring from the Road Shows showed there was a marked increase in the numbers of people taking up opportunities for Classes, Health checks, e.g. diabetes.</p> <p>SN/PW- to see Chris Benton to look at adapting the ASCOT Tool to capture impact of the activities on the health of Older People that attend Network events.</p> <p>JD – asked if Older People could have the discount back on Adult Education. CMc said this was not in his remit but he would raise this with Paul Blanter when they next meet.</p> <p>JH – asked if CMc was familiar with Derbyshire tutoring Older People in Residential Homes? The results following delivery of these programmes was astounding. JH agreed to e-mail CMc with the information.</p>	<p>SN/PW</p> <p>JH</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Representative opportunities</p> <p>An amended list was distributed at the meeting.</p> <p>Following a lengthy discussion it was decided that the Board would take the list away and e-mail RR with expressions of interest. SN would define the role of Reps so that they knew what they are being asked to do.</p>	<p>ALL SN</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Older People’s Health Forums</p> <p>Meetings are mainly held quarterly and will be supported by NCC & funded by NHS Northamptonshire.</p> <p>South Northants Forum launched 2 November with 96 people attending. This was as a direct result of the South Northants Roadshow as they have never had a forum.</p> <p>There will be 8 Forums with Oundle as a new one, Corby, East Northants, Kettering, Wellingborough, Northampton Pensioners Forum, plus an Ethnic Minorities one (supported by CEMC) with a number of groups including Irish, Polish and Ethnic Minorities from which a representative can be sent to sit on the Board .</p> <p>Groups of OP are being supported to launch the Forums, which may not be called Health Forums – will be called</p>	

	<p>whatever the attendees wish to call them. Re-launch January/February 2010.</p> <p>Contact point – nominations from Board to go on the various Forums to be sent to RR.</p>	ALL
6.	<p>Accommodation Based Care for Older People This was covered by Charlie McNally</p>	
7.	<p>Activities Working Group – Feedback and Programme 2010/11</p> <p>PW – stated that all activities for 2009 had been completed successfully and gave out the Activities Working Group proposed programme for 2010 for consideration and approval by the Board.</p> <p>Although all activities are not costed out the 2009 ones had raised a surplus through grants and careful costing out of £1358, which SN confirmed would be ring fenced to carry over to 2010/2011 for “activities”, with the money to run the Board being completely separate.</p> <p>SN pointed out that monies from grants must be spent in the districts/boroughs on activities or would be asked to be returned.</p> <p>The Board to formally thank the co-ordinators for their hard work.</p> <p>SN – advised that the Board needed to agree the programme. JD proposed, JW seconded – accepted with all in favour.</p>	ALL
8.	<p>Future Work Priorities</p> <p>SN asked if they would like to bring in an external Facilitator for an away day. This could cover looking at the Work Plan and setting priorities as NCC would need to see a Business Plan and the outcomes of this work.</p> <p>This was proposed by JW and seconded by JD and accepted by meeting.</p> <p>SN – explained that Pam W was going onto a 3 day week from January 2010 and that she is meeting with the libraries to see if the Activity Coordinators can be supported by libraries.</p>	SN

9.	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>DH – reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank - £1821.10 as at 12th November 2009. <p>DH – raised concerns about the funding as travel expenses had increased significantly.</p> <p>Travel expenses for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January – December 2007 - £643.63 • January – December 2008 - £582.20 • January – November 2009 - £1696.38 <p>As we get busier this will cost more. With £1821.10 in bank and £2600 to come we will have £4421.10 to last to end March 2010.</p> <p>SN – advised that with NCC’s £2600.00 for the Service Level Agreement between now and end of March 2010 there was plenty of money. However the costs for this year would more accurately inform the application for funding for next year.</p> <p>DH & RH advised that a Fund raising committee was needed and once again put themselves forward. Asking for volunteers to join them.</p>	ALL
10.	<p>AOB</p> <p>RR – Training: Rita confirmed she had put her name down for a First Aid course as she had completed the Health Walkers course and felt it would be very useful for older people and asked if it will be paid for by the Network. SN advised that there was a ‘training’ budget.</p> <p>Compliment & Complaints Policy handed out.</p> <p>Following SN report to the Board on a complaint it was unanimously agreed to receive the report and take no further action.</p> <p>It was further agreed unanimously that for any future complaints the above policy would be followed and the Vice chair and NCC Officer would make the decision and report back without involving the whole board.</p> <p>The recommendation of a mediation session between the two was unanimously accepted. SN and PT to organise</p>	SN/PT

	<p>Insurance – JW concerned again about the liability insurance held by the Network and was going to get some further quotes to cover anything that may not be covered.</p> <p>New form compiled by PW for Activity Coordinators to use was available for them to complete for each event, which should cover what the Network insurers had asked for in September.</p>	JW
11.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Monday 14th December at Weston Favell Hall 2pm-4pm</p>	