

**Notes of the Senior Person's Council Meeting Held on Monday 8th December 2008 at
12 pm (Noon), Beeson House, Southwater**

Present:

Lesley Ainslie	Audrey Beagley	Frank Bockling
Dot Davidson	John Dean	Sheu-Ching Dean
Carole Duffy	Chris Duffy	Dorothy Harrison
Margery Hewitt	Judith Hollingdale	Michael Jarvis
Dulice Lawson	Barry Mursell	Joyce Narborough
Jean Reeve	Bryan Sunderland	Peggy Weeks
Shirley Wheeldon		

Officers Present:

Eric Blackburn OBE, QPM	Chairman HDC Standard's Committee
Clare Ebelewicz	Youth & Older Persons' Officer, HDC
Jo Fisher	Community Engagement Worker, Horsham POP
David Sheldon	Coordinator, Horsham POP
Alison Still	Administrator, Horsham POP
Nigel Tinkler	Age Concern

1. Apologies

T Coyle	Ann Gover	John Hills
Eva Matchy	Thelma Payne	Sheila Peever
Paul Smith	Pat Shuka	Carol Stoles
Helen Windwood		

2. Notes of Meeting Held on 8 September 2008

Some members had not received a complete copy of the previous notes - **Action: Clare Ebelewicz would resend a complete copy to everyone.** Otherwise, the previous notes were agreed, subject to any comments or matters arising.

Enhancing Local Transport Services to Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

A small group of SPC members had met to discuss and put together a response to this review. Copies of the response had been circulated with the agenda.

3. Correspondence Received Since Last Meeting

No correspondence received.

4. Election of Chair-Person

There were three nominations for a Chairperson: Frank Bockling, Barry Mursell and Jean Reeve. Jean Reeve said she would step down from her nomination because she could not take on any other commitments at the present time. She thanked members for their support and for nominating her.

By a show of hands, Barry Mursell was elected Chairperson and it was agreed unanimously that Frank Bockling would be Vice-Chair.

5. Presentation from the Chairman of Horsham District Council's Standard's Committee

Eric Blackburn explained his role as Chairman of the HDC Standard's Committee. Full details of what the Standards Committee does and procedures in the event of a complaint are available by calling (01403) 215478, emailing standards@horsham.gov.uk or looking at the web address www.horsham.gov.uk/your_council/your_council_1082.asp.

6. Presentation from Robert Peel on Tax Help for Older People (TOP)

In Robert Peel's absence, David Sheldon gave a brief explanation about TOP. As the name implies, the organization provides help for older people aged 60+ with tax issues. The Helpline number is 08456013321. There are plans for TOP to hold open days at Age Concern and Forge House. SPC members were grateful for the benefits advice provided by Marion Tyrell at Horsham Citizens Advice Bureau.

7. Presentation from Pete Watson, Health Trainer for Horsham District

Pete Watson sent his apologies for not being able to come to today's meeting. The following text comes from a handout.

The Health Trainer

A local Health Trainer is a new project up and running for the older person in the Horsham District. A free service aimed at those with limited income who wish to adopt healthier lifestyles, who have little contact with the various services.

We will work with you to help boost your confidence, looking at positive aspects of health lifestyle changes that you may wish to change to improve your quality of life.

It's never too late to give up smoking, change eating habits, lose weight, start gentle exercise, escape isolation or make new friends.

We will work with you giving support and if needed, to find professionals, groups and services to help achieve what you might think is impossible. It is possible to give up smoking, you don't have to live in isolation, we will try our very best to point you in the right direction and support you along the way no matter how small the health lifestyle change may be.

Contact: 01903 731800 and quote Horsham Health Trainer
Mobile phone: 075 92010316 for direct contact

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Interested groups or individuals may also direct interest through to Clare Ebelewicz.

8. PCT's North East Area Review – Update

A small group had met earlier in the year to discuss the PCT's North East Review Report. Clare had received a final report and had been invited to make any comment. However, after Clare had circulated the final report with the agenda, she then received an updated final report (i.e. Version 2) which she had broken down into key points. Comments were required immediately and Clare Ebelewicz would respond.

Action: Clare Ebelewicz

9. Horsham POP

Steering Group Feedback – Frank Bockling is the SPC representative at the Steering Group meetings. David Sheldon was pleased to confirm that Horsham POP's full team is now in place. The jobs are himself as coordinator, Alison Still, Administrator, Bernard Baldwin, Fund Raiser, three Community Link Workers, two Community Engagement Workers, Roger Goodway, Business Development Officer and Liz Trundle, Publicity Officer. Horsham POP is now ready to address the needs of the older person.

Horsham POP held a network meeting on 4 December at which approximately 20 groups came along. The meeting addressed and worked through an action plan, the issues of which were taken from the Horsham POP Audit. **Action: David will present the action plan at the next SPC meeting.**

10. Sheltered Housing Wardens

SPC member, Betty Ogden, will chair a small group to discuss this issue further. If interested in joining please let Clare Ebelewicz know.

11. Review of Older People's Engagement with Government Report to Government

Clare Ebelewicz had responded to this document on behalf of the SPC.

12. First Stop Care

FirstStop is a new information and advice service for older people, their families and carers. The website is www.firststopcareadvice.org.uk and the telephone advice line is 08003777070. Coverage is for care and support, housing, finance and rights.

13. Any Other Business

- When village halls are hired out for events there is not a caretaker available to help with setting out and putting away tables and chairs.

Action: David Sheldon

- There was endorsement that people be encouraged to report local problems first with local Parish Councils. However, a problem with overhanging tree branches was not being dealt with so Nigel Tinkler agreed to contact the local highways.

Action: Nigel Tinkler

- Exercise equipment for the 60+ is available at Age Concern for people to try. Nigel Tinkler will lead on encouraging HDC to purchase exercise equipment in local parks.

Action: Nigel Tinkler

- WSCC Carers – Applications to be submitted by 19/12/08. More information available from Clare Ebelewicz.
- Horsham Table Tennis Club were proposing to submit an funding application to Fit as a Fiddle to support the establishment of eight week table tennis coaching courses in Billingshurst, Southwater and Henfield. The SPC were pleased to learn about new activities being proposed for older people and were keen to support the application.
- For information only, the 2009-2014 Strategic Commissioning Plan (SCP) 'Lifelong Health and Wellbeing for Everyone in West Sussex report is available to view online at <http://www.westsussexpct.nhs.uk/about-us/commissioning>.
- Due to funding cuts, lunch will not be provided at future SPC meetings. However, there will be tea/coffee and cakes. Because of this, it was agreed that future meetings will be 10:15 am for 10:30 am start.
- A map showing the location of future meetings will be included with the agenda.

Action: Clare Ebelewicz

- Name badges will be available. **Action: Clare Ebelewicz**
- Clare Ebelewicz explained that due to staff changes and departures the following issues had been on hold but work would continue on them in 2009:
 Toilet Sticker Campaign
 Accessibility Feedback Card Initiative
 Pavilions In Park – Audit of Ease of Use for Older People

14. Date of Future Meetings

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12 March, 10:15 am for 10:30 am, venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 2:30 p.m.