

**NOTES OF SENIOR PERSON'S COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2008**

Present:

Lesley Ainslie
Gladys Andrews
Audrey Beagley
Frank Bockling
G Coyle
T Coyle
Dot Davidson
John Dean
Sheu-Ching Dean
Barbara Ellis
Ann Gover
Dorothy Harrison
John Hills
Judith Hollingdale
Dulice Lawson
Barry Mursell
Joyce Narborough
Betty Ogden
Jean Reeve
Bryan Sunderland

Officers Present:

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|-----------------|---|--|
| Clare Ebelewicz | - | Youth and Older Persons' Officer, HDC |
| Julie Foster | - | Dementia Outreach Worker for Alzheimer's Society |
| David Sheldon | - | Co-ordinator, Horsham POP |
| Alison Still | - | Administrator, Horsham POP |

Apologies:

Carole Duffy
Michael Jarvis
Eva Matchsy
Sheila Peever
Pat Shuka
Ann Smith
Alan Smith
Peggy Weeks
Louise Williamson

1. Notes of Meeting Held on 9 June 2008

Two minor amendments to the previous notes: Darby & Jones Club under item 10 Any Other Business should read Darby & Joan Club and Marion Triall should read Marion Tyrrell. Otherwise the 9 June notes were agreed.

2. Matters Arising From Notes of Last Meeting

Accessibility Projects – Accessibility of Pavilions in the Park

Clare Ebelewicz reported that two members of the Senior Persons' Council, namely Jean Reeve and Carol Stokes, had met with Steve Hawker, Recreation Manager for Horsham District Council, and Tim Bolton, General Manager of Pavilions in the Park to discuss the accessibility of Pavilions in the Park for older people.

Tim Bolton provided Jean Reeve and Carol Stokes with complimentary passes for the Pavilions in the Park in order that they can assess the leisure centre and feedback their comments and recommendations for making the centre 'friendlier' for older people.

Accessibility Projects - Accessibility Feedback Cards

At the last meeting, Damian Brewer, the Council's Access Officer, reported on a project that had been developed in response to a need that had been identified to make shops in the town centre more accessible. Accessibility feedback cards had been distributed to members of the public in order that they could feedback their experiences in terms of accessibility.

Clare Ebelewicz reported that nearly 30 completed feedback cards had been received. These provided feedback – both positive and negative – about a range of shops in Horsham town as well as Horsham Hospital and several libraries. The Access Officer had written to the establishments concerned with feedback and offering his support in addressing these.

3. Correspondence Received Since Last Meeting

No correspondence received.

4. Development Proposals for Senior Persons Council

A paper was distributed at the meeting entitled "Proposals for the Development of the Senior Person's Council". The SPC is asked to consider possible options developing the SPC. This included the formation of smaller groups within the SPC to provide an opportunity for members of the SPC to address specific issues

separately and thereby resolve issues more quickly. The SPC was also asked to consider whether the SPC wish to elect its own Chairman.

The overall response from SPC was that members are pleased with the current meeting procedures and reluctant to make changes. CE confirmed that Horsham Council would continue to provide the funding and organisation of the meetings and Horsham POP would help with the administration.

It was agreed that a role profile would be circulated to members and members could forward their own name to CE if interested in the Chair role.

A Chairperson would be elected at the next meeting.

ACTION: Clare Ebelewicz to write a role profile and circulate.

It was proposed to alternate the days of the week that future meetings would be held. Some members could not come on a Monday. If the day of the meeting was changed it would give an opportunity for other absent members to attend.

ACTION: Alternate the day that future meetings are held.

5. Personal Safety Champions

A sub-group from the SPC had worked with Greg Charman (Community Safety Officer, Horsham District Council) and Alan Haffenden (Crime Prevention Officer, Sussex Police) to produce a community safety awareness booklet for older people, which was still in draft format and circulated at the meeting. Everyone agreed that the leaflet provided useful information.

On the subject of community safety, SPC members expressed concern when they travelled by bus. They reported that bus drivers were often rude and drove much too fast. Older passengers felt frightened and vulnerable.

It was agreed that SPC would issue an advice letter to deliver to the different bus companies in the area. The letter would remind drivers to be considerate, courteous, allow passengers time to get on and off the bus, wait until passengers were seated before moving, and driving with care and respect for all onboard.

John Dean said the Home Office has issued a disk on security methods giving 10 key points for security. CE asked for a copy for follow-up.

ACTION: John Hills to draft a letter to bus companies.

ACTION: CE to research the Home Office security disk.

6. Would You Like To Live In A Place Like This? – Continuing Care (Retirement) Communities Consultation Event

At the last meeting, Clare Ebelewicz reported that following an approach by developers looking to introduce the concept of a retirement village into the District, the Council was looking to develop a policy in relation to the provision of this type of development. The SPC had said that they would be keen to be involved and it was agreed that Clare Ebelewicz would report this back to the Council's Head of Strategic and Community Planning.

Clare Ebelewicz reported that planning for this event was going ahead, however, unfortunately she didn't have as much information as she'd like to present to the SPC. It was hoped that someone from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, as policy lead on CCRCs, would be available to address the event.

ACTION: Clare Ebelewicz to keep the SPC abreast of progress with regard to the CCRC consultation.

7. Informal Presentation by Julie Foster, Dementia Outreach Worker For Alzheimer's Society

A presentation was by given by Julie Foster, Dementia Outreach Worker for the Alzheimer's Society. See attached summary of her discussion.

8. Health Services

Copies of two letters Clare Ebelewicz had received regarding forthcoming consultation events were distributed to members.

- *Shaping the Future of your Ambulance* – South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb) were running a number of events aimed at seeking views as to how the ambulance service could improve and progress in the future. It would also be an opportunity for SECamb to share the Trust's vision and launch their Single Equalities Scheme.
- *Working together: Improving Health Services in West Sussex* consultation on 15th September 2008 – West Sussex PCT wanted to discuss how it could improve the way it involved patients and members of the public in the planning, development and delivery of local health services.

If anyone was interested in attending either the event, please Clare Ebelewicz know.

9. Horsham Partnerships For Older People – Representative To Sit On The Steering Group

David Sheldon asked if anyone was interested in representing the SPC on the Horsham POP Steering Group. Frank Bockling volunteered.

10. Mid Sussex Life Show

This show will take place on 24 September from 10 am to 1 pm at Martletts Hall, Burgess Hill. This event is similar to the LiFL event at Broadbridge Heath Leisure Centre. CE and DS attend.

11. Any Other Business

- David Sheldon said the draft Horsham POP Neighbourhood Audit is available for review. If anyone is interested in looking at the document please contact David on d.sheldon@horshamcab.org.uk or 01403-249447.

- It was suggested that bus timetables be reviewed. Transfers or connections were inconsistent and meant long waiting times between buses. There was also no after hours bus service on some routes. **CE will feed these comments to West Sussex County Council.**

- SPC would like to form a smaller group to discuss sheltered housing wardens.
Action: Add to next agenda.

- SPC asked for the Committee/Chair/Note Taker to sit in a central position at future meetings so that it is easier for all attendees to hear clearly.

Action: The Committee/Chair/Note Taker to sit centrally at meetings.

- It was proposed that a bigger meeting room be provided for future meetings.

- David Sheldon referred to a NHS consultation “Enhancing Local Transport Services North of the District”, that is to and from Redhill Hospital. There is no mention in the correspondence about Horsham. Dot Davidson, Joyce Narborough, Jean Reeve and Barry Mursell formed a small group to discuss this separately and comment on behalf of the SPC.

Action: DS to contact The Trust to notify them that a group response will come from Horsham District. Deadline is 15 October 2008.

A member of the SPC asked whether a similar review was being undertaken by Worthing and Southlands NHS Trust regarding ease of access to hospitals along the coastal strip, which were accessed by those living in the south of the District. DS reported that he was unaware that such a review was being undertaken.

Action: Dorothy Harrison to write to Worthing and Southlands NHS Trust, referring to the review being undertaken by Surrey and Sussex NHS Trust, and asking them if they intended to do a similar review.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 8 December at 12 noon in Beeson House, Lintot Square, Southwater.