

FRIENDS OF CYBERZONE Meeting

Saturday 23rd September 2006

Present:

Christine Rose (Vice Chair)
Jacqui Paschoud
John Paschoud
Pat Raven
Sandra Smith

Alex Spiers (HoriZones Centre Manager)
Robert Hines (CyberZone Volunteer)
Sadhana Sutar (CyberZone Manager)

Bronwen Bakare (Youth Service)

Meeting dates

Jacqui suggested that the meeting dates are set so that they do not coincide with half term holidays. It was agreed that the 3rd Saturday of alternate months was more suitable.

Residential

Bronwen gave an update on the preparations for the residential in October. Also, she confirmed that she has purchased some materials for the residential and will need to be reimbursed from FoC. She also has payment from parents for FoC. It was agreed that Bronwen would submit invoices and cheques to FoC at the same time soon after the residential.

Charges for paper and CDs

Sadhana confirmed that the charges discussed at the previous FoC meeting will be made from October onwards and that Kasane will be responsible for collecting the monies.

IT and Numeracy Qualifications

Sadhana confirmed that teaching for these qualifications will commence at CyberZone in the very near future and that they will be publicized in the newsletter and on the web site.

BBC Children in Need

Sadhana confirmed that Sally Fricker's application to BBC Children in Need had been successful and that £5,807.00 had been awarded. She also confirmed that this amount was a portion of the total amount applied for but was not aware of any spending restrictions made by BBC CiN. It was agreed that Sadhana would check with Sally Fricker and BBC CiN whether there would be any spending restrictions.

Action:

- Sadhana to enquire about spending restrictions.

Sadhana circulated an extract from the application showing a breakdown of what could be funded from the award. John queried what the schedule was based on and Sadhana confirmed that it was based on feedback from service users and to improve access to the service. Jacqui asserted that the funding should be spent on additional extras rather than essentials. Alex confirmed that the directorate is facing budget cuts and that outside funding from FoC would be useful to improving access.

This led to a brief discussion about the role FoC should play in giving feedback to the Community Services directorate and John suggested that FoC should have a policy about this.

Summer trips

Jacqui gave positive feedback about the three summer trips this year. Also, she requested that the booking system is improved and gave suggestions. It was agreed that bookings will be taken on a first-come-first-serve basis and limited to services users and immediate family. Any spare places will be offered to non-immediate family members and friends of service users.

Transitions workshops

Alex mentioned the possibility of him running transitions workshops for the older children who are due to leave CyberZone. The workshops would focus on opportunities in adult life such as further study, work experience and employment. Bronwen has a contact who may be able to also offer transitions workshops and will provide Alex with the relevant contact details. The workshops idea was welcomed, and Alex agreed to report further on the possibility of running them at a later date.

Roles, Responsibilities and FoC AGM

Christine flagged up the possibility that she may stand down as vice-Chair in the near future due to other commitments. Jacqui suggested that all roles and responsibilities are reviewed at the next FoC annual general meeting.

Action:

- Sadhana to publicize the date for the FoC AGM.

Future FoC meeting dates

11am, Saturday 18th November 2006

11am, Saturday 20th January 2007

11am, Saturday 17th March 2007

11am, Saturday 19th May 2007

11am, Saturday 21st July 2007

11am, Saturday 15th September 2007