



Havant Borough Council
Access Group Meeting Minutes
2nd August 2007

If you require this in large print or alternative format please contact Caren Ransom on **023 9244 6007** or caren.ransom@havant.gov.uk

1. Present/Apologies

Apologies:

Val Hartridge (Access Group)
Richard Sturgess
Mark and Helen Le May

Present:

Councillor Terry Hart	HBC
Caren Ransom	Equalities and Access Officer HBC
Sally Smith	HBC
Val Stanley	Havant Access Drop-in Group
Frank Stanley	Havant Access Drop-in Group
Lynne Murdoch-Smith	The Pension Service
Faith Ponsonby	HBC
Christine Pylee	HBC Access Group
Tracey Ford	HBC
Stuart Pinkney	HBC
Marian Le May	HBC Access Group
Tony Le May	HBC Access Group
Emma Kenning	Hampshire County Council

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of last meeting agreed.

3. Matters Arising

Update: National Express Tickets (Tracey Ford)

National Express may refuse The Café at Havant Bus Station the right to sell their travel tickets. Details have been sent again for the Café to apply. We believe Bath Travel have applied for this facility.

4. Access to the Countryside

Presentation given by Emma Kenning – Countryside Access Officer, Hampshire County Council.

Emma gave a presentation highlighting what the Access Development Team at HCC do. Their aim is to protect and enhance countryside access for all users. Improving access for walkers, the disabled, horse riders etc.

Hampshire Countryside Access Forum

Members are a mixture of local people, users of the countryside and those who are responsible for the management of the land. They seek ways to improve access for all users of the countryside whilst encouraging wildlife and enabling the landowner to make use of his land.

(<http://www.countrysideaccessforum.hants.org.uk/>)

Hampshire Paths Partnership

Works with volunteer groups to help them improve the condition of their countryside. Gives them access to equipment and training to carry out tasks such as vegetation cutting, building stiles and gates.

Contact: access.development@hants.gov.uk 0845 603 5636

Tracey Ford suggested trips to visit paths and the different types of surfacing, and discuss access.

5. Recycling Speech

Presentation given by Sally Smith – Waste Strategy Team Leader.

Sally explained what happens to the recycled materials once they have been collected, Project Integra.

Certain materials cannot be collected because Hampshire has decided they will only collect materials that can be recycled in the UK. Sending materials abroad (such as tetra packs) is not viable. Sally explained how different contracts within different organisations prevent certain materials from being collected. The new alternate weekly collection has led to more materials being recycled, and flats in particular are now being targeted to improved recycling percentage. Products made of recycled materials were shown.

It is unlikely there will be a kerbside collection for glass, it is too expensive. Improvements to bring-sites will be made.

The new system for collecting garden waste was explained. Residents will now have to phone and book their collection in advance.

Recycling leaflets will be posted with Electoral Registration documents. Group are to let Caren know if they do not arrive by mid-September.

6. Any other business

Polling stations

Stuart Pinkney (Emergency Safety Officer) gave a short speech about access to polling stations. Asked the group to give suggestions for improving access and suggest alternative venues. Handed out a questionnaire.

Bus Service No. 37.

Services and routes are being changed in Waterlooville/Havant area greatly hindering travel time and access to certain locations.

Action: Tracey Ford – A meeting has been requested with the portfolio holder and Stagecoach to discuss a compromise that will enable better service.

Hampshire fare passes.

Stagecoach have made a huge financial loss. A new scheme will be implemented next April that will mean passes can only be used on 'local' buses (defined by the distance between stops) but they will be accepted nationally.

Drop-in Access Meetings.

Concern was expressed within the group about maintaining Council contact and the regularity of meetings.

Action: To stop the Access Group drop-ins being reduced to one per month, a list of recommendations were discussed.

- The drop in continues between 10.00-12.00 alternate Mondays, but will only be facilitated between 10.30-11.30
- Caren Ransom to facilitate one week and Highways Engineers to be invited to join at the same time (as Caren) and Tracey Ford to facilitate the opposite week
- The Duty Planner should be invited to join too.
- Community Group to be asked to help with outdoor and social activities for the Access Group
- Caren Ransom to oversee the financial budget
- Technical Engineers to be asked to help with any leave/sickness cover

It was also agreed that tea and coffee will still be arranged for the drop in, but that members will bring home made snacks in the future so that savings can be made from not providing biscuits.

7. Date of Next Meeting: **22nd November 2pm**