Inclusion Southmead Minutes-130819 Apologies;

Helen Godwin, Brenda Massey, Sami Chugg, Mike Steel, Phil Gingell (BPHAC).

Present;

Deana Perry, Anthea Mustard, Karen Pasmore (Co-Chair BDEF), Dawn Payne, Mahammed Dalal, Maggie Davies, Natasha Hawkins, Robert Poloha, Christine Portch, Nic Ferris.

BPHAC-Bristol Physical Health Access Chain BDEF-Bristol Disability Equality Forum

Karen Passmore came to tell us that she had some bad news regarding the small pot of money that was unspent from Quartet. This pot of money was to be spent on handing out small grants (£100) but nobody applied. Inclusion still does not know how much is in the pot and we have asked several times. Karen urged us to spend the money on making ourselves formal but having discussed this a few months ago with members of the group it was not something we wanted to do. Inclusion have asked repeatedly that we want to spend the small pot on room hire as we desperately want to continue meeting once a month.

Karen told us that if we didnt spend this money by the end of August it would have to be returned to Quartet. Discussion around this was that we definately do not want to become a formal group with a bank account, treasurer, secretary and chair as we do not see ourselves applying for funding etc. Inclusion members have been promised a free computer course at Greenway and if this doesnt materialise it was discussed that the money could be spent on this-once again nobody knows how much it is. Deana to find out when the course will start and Karen says that there is no ramp to get onto the pavement at Greenway.

McColl's Update

Richard Baggott not present at todays meeting with no apologies given. After our last meeting where Richard told us that there are many pay points in Southmead for residents to pay their rent Deana looked this up. There is only 1 other paypoint in the Wine and Liquor Store with the entrance being so narrow and stacked full of boxes of crisps it would be difficult for anyone to enter. Deana sent Richard a picture and questioned why he wouldnt want everyone to use McColls to pay their rent instead of pointing out other businesses in the area.

Karen Passmore tried to get in to the double doors with her mobility scooter and says that although the doors are unlocked they are not open. It is impossible for anyone to physically push the doors open whilst sat in a wheelchair or mobility scooter unless they had arms that were 2 feet long !. Karen did manage to get in with assistance and did drive in but states that her mobility scooter is a really powerful one.

Karen requests that McColls need to either keep the double doors open or as we have already requested install automatic double doors as they certainly dont want to waste heat in the winter and it would make life so much easier for Disabled residents.

Inclusion stil waiting to hear from McColls about the appointment of an Independent Advisor who will look at all access issues.

Meeting Rooms and Community Centre

We dont know how much longer we will be able to have our meetings at The Meeting Rooms. Dawn Payne states that she has been approached by many residents that expressed deep feelings around the Community Centre. They do not want the building moved but want it rebuilt on the present site. Thanks to Dawn for bringing the biscuits.

Nic Ferris-Update Doncaster Rd Park

Still on track to open up 2 entrances and the works have been ordered and are with the contractors and landscapes at the moment. Anthea will email Nic and our 2 local councilors to prompt action. The protocol has been decided with residents reporting any ASB to the Police and then if neccessary they will contact the Parks Department who will store the temporary barrier. This can be removed when it is thought safe to do so.

The existing metal gates will be replaced by 2 chicanes which comply with BPAC dimensions (1.1m distance between them). Nic visited Hengrove Park and measured the distance between the chicanes as this park seems to work really well regarding access for all.

Group stated that there is no play equipment for Disabled children in Doncaster rd Park.Residents completed a survey a few years ago when new play equipment was installed-were Disabled residents included in the surveys ?-if not why not.There is Disabled play equipment on Horfield Common and also Crow Lane Open Space.

There is a volunteer co-ordinator called Ella who can help wth setting up new "Friends Of Parks" groups and Nic would like to invite her to one of our meetings. Website called candobristol.co.uk which gives residents the chance to share ideas for improvements. Nic will come to next meeting with her computer and show us how it works.

Karen Passmore wanted to know why we hadnt tackled Badocks Wood about access as she cannot got in. We told her that initially we discussed Doncaster Park and Badocks Wood but decided to concentrate on the Park as it was so underused with some grandparents siting outside on their mobility scooters whilst their grandchildren went in and played. Karen asked for contact details for Badocks Wood and Deana will email them to her.

AOB

Discussed Arnside Regeneration and how it wil effect Disabled residents.

Talked about us meeting at the Lanercost centre as this is fully accessible-Deana to investigate. They have a community cafe which very few residents know about-need to see how noisy it is.

Karen gave Rob some contact details for carers as he hasnt had any care for the last 8 months and is very frustrated.

Date next meeting

Tuesday 17th September 11am-1pm at The Meeting Rooms