

Southampton Seniors Council

Minutes:

Meeting 21st July 2008

3rd Age Centre, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Present: Edna Long (Chair), Diane Pearce, Don Harper, Eddie Leach, Cllr. Edwina Cooke, Jean Hanson-Vaux, Joan Forrester, John Nixon, Liz Bushnell, Lynn Day, Mary Carnegie, Pat Presland, Peter Mattingley, Yvonne Stacey with Charlie Hislop, Julie Williams, Jackie Saxby and Sarah Beale in attendance.

Apologies: Vilma Scott, Anver Jeevanjee, Terry Holden-Brown, Dottie Vickers

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

- a. Cllr. Williams was unable to attend today's meeting, but a separate meeting will be sought with him at the Civic Centre.
- b. Don reported that Wessex, Portsmouth and Southampton Pensioners would like to take part in the information day being organised for International Day of Older Persons (1st October).
Charlie is still finding out if we can use tables from the Civic Centre.
It was agreed to invite the Mayor to appear. Council groups, the police and fire service will be invited to distribute information.
- c. Ian Murray from the Daily Echo will be invited to the August meeting.

2. Reports

- i People who attended the Active Citizenship conference enjoyed the day, and the networking opportunities. It was agreed to invite someone from LINKs to the August or September meeting to find out how the Seniors Council can work with the LINK.
- ii Edna reported back from the 'Putting Older People First' conference, and will work with Charlie to produce a report on the day.
- iii Sarah outlined a letter sent by Anver on behalf of the Seniors Council in support of Southampton Hockey Club's 'Sporting View: Better View' bid. It was agreed that The Sporting View is a good place, in need of attention.
- iv Sarah will send Joan more details on the Gold Standard for Care Homes.

3. Neighbourhoods Partnerships

Cllr. Cooke reported that a draft is coming out on 'Neighbourhoods for the Future', and that the West is continuing meetings until something else is set

up. Charlie is writing up the points made at the Seniors Council meeting on involvement, ready for the meeting with Cllr. Williams.

4. Dementia Strategy Consultation

Sarah summarised the Government's consultation on the National Dementia Strategy. It was agreed that there is little support for people with dementia, especially those living alone. Sarah will send the easy access version of the consultation document to Edna, Joan, Don, Pat P, Yvonne, John, Liz, Mary C and Jean. It was agreed that responses should be returned to Sarah before the next meeting.

5. Macmillan Project

As Ginny Cranshaw was unable to attend, Edna outlined the Macmillan Project. The project offers information about cancer for people affected by putting it in all Southampton libraries, including mobile libraries.

6. Reviewing the council's care charging policy

Cllr. Cooke agreed to find out more information about the closure of day centres. It was agreed to invite someone from the council to the August or September meeting to talk about the options being developed.

7. Any other business

- a. Charlie introduced Julie and Jackie and outlined their roles. Linda, who will be taking on the role of admin assistant, is starting on Monday.
- b. The bid to Europe has been successful, bringing €250 000 into the city. This will include funding a development worker for the Seniors Council.
- c. Don reported on a government review of social care.
- d. Pat P highlighted that the Department for Work and Pensions is sending people out to review seniors' income and entitlements.
- e. Julia Neuberger's book 'Not dead yet: A Manifesto for Old Age' is available at the library or Charlie has a copy.
- f. It was highlighted that dial-a-ride services will not cross the boundary between Southampton and Eastleigh. It was suggested that for hospital appointments, people can use the ambulance service, or those in Thornhill could try using the Thornhill Plus Bus.

NEXT MEETING

18th August 2008, 3rd Age Centre