

NOTES OF MEETING

SHEPWAY LOCAL BOARD

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2008

Venue: Palmarsh Primary School, St Georges Place, Hythe, CT 21 6NE

Present:

Local Board Members: Chris Capon (Chairman), Robert Bliss, Susan Carey, Richard Pascoe, Roland Tolputt and Frederick Wood-Brignall

Apologies for absence:

KCC Officers:

A8.	Welcome to the meeting – Mr C Capon, Chairman
	Chris Capon welcomed everyone to the meeting. He was disappointed with the low turn out (16 people present) but anticipated the event would be useful.
A9.	Declarations of Interests by Members in Items on the Agenda for this Meeting.
	There were no declarations of interest
A10.	Why Kent needs a new adult care and support system - consultation
	<p>Jo Pannell talked about the governments consultation on the future of adult care. A third of Kent’s population are over 65 and the ageing population is expected to keep growing. KCC has pioneered the use of new technology; such as Telehealth and direct payments, which gives people control of their own care. The challenge is how we meet expectations and care of older people with the right resources – see attached PowerPoint. In the next 20 years there will be a £6 billion shortfall in funding needed.</p> <p>Q. The Chairman said when KCC had its own residential homes Members used to visit them and there was constant complaints that KCC was robbing some of them of their assets whilst those who had not been prudent during their working life were given the same level of service for free and this was unfair and unjust.</p> <p>Dick Pascoe said he was aware of a number of other injustices. A resident had her “carers allowance” stopped because she was over 60; despite needing to carry on with her carer role.</p> <p>Jo said she was aware that claiming allowances was not easy however there was government talk of having one generic application for all benefits/allowances.</p> <p>Susan Carey said she would feel very resentful if someone had been feckle and not saved for their old age and got services free whilst others had to pay.</p> <p>Apparently in Germany single people pay a higher rate of tax to cover their costs in old age as they will not have family to look after them.</p> <p>Q. I don’t think the state should expect children to look after their elderly parents. Maybe we need an insurance system like they have in America.</p>

	<p>Dick Pascoe made the point that we already pay National Insurance. In the USA Americans can opt in or out of insurance and in the UK we can't. Everyone working has to pay NI which means we have the best and fairest welfare system in the world.</p> <p>Joe Pannell said our system in its present form was not sustainable; hence the current consultation.</p> <p>Q. How do you plan getting feedback ?</p> <p>A. Joe said there would be submissions from a variety of sources including housing associations, young people's groups and from individuals.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Joe for an informative presentation.</p>
A11.	Victim Support in Shepway
	<p>Alison Donnelly, Area Manager, gave a brief presentation as attached. She said Victim Support central unit was based in Ashford and the service was reliant on volunteers. Most referrals were from Kent Police but any resident can self refer. Volunteers provide a professional service to any victim of crime and can even offer witness support for court appearances.</p> <p>The feedback from victims is outstandingly positive and Alison hoped KCC Members would support the raising of further volunteers in each of their divisions.</p> <p>Q What is the process for recruiting volunteers?</p> <p>A. Normally by word of mouth. Volunteers bring friends to awareness events and we also advertise in the local press and in universities etc. Sometimes even victims of crime choose to become volunteers. Following initial selection the training is intensive and costs £475 per person. This funding includes training volunteers to deal with more serious crimes. Then we have a final selection and a probation period with a mentor.</p> <p>Q. Are you not doing the same thing as Samaritans?</p> <p>A. No we offer practical support as well as emotional support. We do home visits, accompany victims to court and sometimes do extensive follow up which might include working in partnership and sign posting to other agencies All volunteers have CRB checks.</p> <p>Q. How many volunteers do you have and what level of referrals?</p> <p>A. Kent has over 25,000 referrals of which about a 1,000 come from Shepway. 80% of these are initially done over the phone. 65% of referrals have a home visit and 35% have on going support.</p> <p>Q. How are you funded and do you have charitable status.</p> <p>A. Most of the funding comes from the Home office (80%) however 20% must be raised locally. Each Victim support area was a separate charity but we are now a single a registered charity. People can contact us at anytime even if it is long after they have been a victim of a crime.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Alison and her colleague and most Members agreed Victim Support was worthy of grant funding.</p>

A12.	Community Grants

The following Small Community Capital grants were agreed:

Project Title	APPLICANT	Grant
Task Force Vehicle	Shepway Volunteer Centre	£6,100
Brookland Youth Area	Brookland Parish Council	£6,100
Powered Stair Climber	St Johns Church Folkestone	£4,000
Club house Ramp	Folkestone Park Bowls Club	£2,100
Play shelters	Cheriton Primary School	£5,000
New Kitchen	Sandgate Heritage Trust	£1,100
New Bins	Hythe Civic Society	£5,100
New Room Extension	Headway	£1,000
Sports Facilities	Sellindge & District Playing Fields Benevolent Society	£6,100
Total grant recommended by Local Board		£36,600

Following Local Scheme Grants were approved:

Project Title	APPLICANT	Grant (£)
Playground Painting	Seabrook School	£2,000
Electronic Score Board	Hythe Cricket Club	£2,600
New Floor for Club House	Hythe Scouts	£1,460
New seating around Hythe	Hythe Civic Society	£3,240
Lyminge Bowls Club	Lyminge Bowls Club	£2,957
Everist Court	Age Concern	£1,000
Junior Play Area	Lyminge Youth Action	£2,303
New Windows	Lyminge Scouts	£2,000
Youth Shelter	Etchinghill Village Hall	£1,000
Refurbishment HMS Durlocks	Harbour Ward Residents Ass	£2,250
Fire Alarm Equipment	Folkestone & District Mind	£3,598
New Furniture	Folkestone Youth Project	£1,178
Carriage Restoration	Leas Lift	£2,234
Subways	EFEP	£6406
Arts Project	Castle Hill Community School	£500
New Gates	Hill Road Residents Action Group	£2,354
Pageant	Dymchurch Day of Syn	£1,000
Twinning Parade Band	Cinque Port of New Romney	£1,000
Developing Young People	1 ST New Romney Scouts	£1,000
Young People Initiative	Marsh Youth Project	£2,000
New Notice Board	Newchurch Parish Council	£1,000
Improving Facilities	New Romney Sea Cadets	£3260
Cheriton Drop In	What 4	£2,500
Hale N Hearty Club	Kent Well Being	£750
Children Matter	All Souls	£6,010
Total Recommended by the Local Board		£55,600

A13. Question Time – Your opportunity to ask questions about local public services

	There were no questions on other issues nor any other business.
A14.	Any Other Business
A15.	Future Local Board Meetings in 2007/8 – Dates, venues and possible agenda topics.
	The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and said the next meeting would be on 20 January 2009.