



COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP

30 June 2010

Present

Angie Balcombe
Kitty Barrett
John Brown
Judy Cuddeford
Ken Edwards

Suzanne Harris
Sheila Jackman
Alison Jennings
Pooneet Mahadeo
Chris Rust

Joy Sheppard
Darren Smart
Brenda Towle
Paul Williams

1 Welcome and Introductions

John Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approved for accuracy.

Matters Arising

- Ref 2 – DS rep to KM – SH to add CVS details
- Ref 2 – PCF – CR – pending – JB invite to PCF
- Ref 3 – KE – LSP chairs – last mtg overshadowed by future of LSPs – not right time – too much uncertainty
- DS – CLP & Housing packs on mobile libraries
- AB – CLP in bulletin

3 Taking the Action Plan Priority Further

Brenda Towle from ECVYS gave an informal presentation commencing with a short introduction to ECVYS.

She advised that the funding situation for youth organisations had gone from challenging to dire.

Victim Support had launched an anti-bullying campaign – not hugely rural.

ECVYS has a handbook with contact details for youth organisations; Brenda had brought copies.

What can be done in rural communities?

Young people don't necessarily want something specific, they just want to be included; want somewhere safe to meet with friends.

What we have is imposing on young people. We need to ask young people what they want. Adults think young people want a youth club – this is not usually true.

Need to make sure whole families are included.

Inclusion. Belonging. Respect.

JC Vinvolved – have new people in post

SJ Do you visit Parish Councils?

BT resource issue but yes, when able to.

AJ - what needs to happen?

BT Need to see young people as people.
Need to do 'with' not 'to'
Good practice – young farmers – work hard, play hard
Need to help young people to see realities on their own/for themselves

KE – agree, but... so what can we do?

Brenda agreed to have a stand at EALC AGM.

EALC are involved in a regional project, showcasing good practice from each county; Essex using Billericay Town Council and youth council. Series of resources will be available.

BT – youth council can be exclusive; offers training etc to a small select group.
Loose voice of majority.

KB – people concerned about CRB / bureaucracy / accusations, etc

BT – desires not restrictions – good practice – CRB, insurance etc are recommendations

JB – ECVYS staff?

BT is only paid officer. Member orgns.

BT suggested ERP could look for an adult to represent youth.

4 Potential Project

JS spoke about plans for a new project to encourage new parish councils.
There followed a discussion about Parish Councils and advantages of having one.

5 Improving Communications with Communities

JB reported the working group had met the previous week.
PM had brought along a map – showing parish boundary, district boundary, schools... it will show libraries, village halls and possibly more. Work in progress.
This relates to the action plan priority.

6 AOB

EALC AGM 12-6pm Foakes Hall on 29 Spetember.