

## THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR COMMUNITY FORUM

Minutes of Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Held in The Pivot Centre, Glenmanor Avenue

<b><u>Present</u></b>	John Rose (Chair)	(Chryston Community Council)
	Marvyn MacKay	(Stepps & District Community Council)
	Anne Tobia	(Moodiesburn Community Council)
	Norrie Mills	(Moodiesburn Community Council)
	Oona Scougall	(Chryston & Stepps Guides)
	Cath Paton	(Honeypot Nursery (Spark Initiative))
	Billy Bell	(Deaf Blind Scotland)
	M. Avila	(Guide – Deaf Blind Scotland)

**In Attendance**

Brian Pearson            Lanarkshire Links

**Apologies**    Norman Lancaster, George McArthur, June Blanchard, Rosalyn Griffiths, Cllr Frances McGlinchey, Douglas Keith (Scouts), John Barr (BB)

**Welcome**     John Rose welcomed everyone present, and wished us a Happy New Year.

**Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes were approved on the motion of Anne Tobia, seconded by Marvyn MacKay, subject to the correction of “Parenting Classes” to read - - Parenting Group - -, in paragraph 6 on the last page.

**Matters Arising**

There had been no reply to the problem raised regarding the 36 bus.

**Lanarkshire Links**

John Rose introduced Brian Pearson to the meeting and invited him to make a presentation before the rest of the normal business proceeded.

Brian thanked John and explained that he was the Development Worker with Lanarkshire Links. He circulated amongst those present an information pack containing prints of a slide presentation, and a CD. He was encouraging his members to attend community meetings such as Forums. The group for our area is centralised in Cumbernauld, but there are members locally. He had previously been a Chartered Engineer with Scottish Water before he became ill with bipolar disorder, but getting married 6 years ago had stabilised his life. He mainly works as a benefits adviser.

Brian then took members through the slides he had presented, explaining who Lanarkshire Links is, the staff resources, and who is involved in the Management Committee and the volunteers. They work in partnership with many organisations, including NHS Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire and

South Lanarkshire Councils, and many independent organisations in both Council areas. They are also involved nationally with many other organisations such as Choose Life, the Samaritans and the Mental Health Commission. With reference to two maps, he advised that North Lanarkshire covers about 181 square miles, whilst South Lanarkshire covers 665 square miles. He then answered a number of questions, including advising that associate membership was open to people who are carers.

More details may be obtained from Lanarkshire Links, Dalziel Business centre, Rooms 3.5 – 3.6, 7 Scott Street, Motherwell ML1 1PN, telephone 01698 265 232, e-mail:LRN@lanarkshirelinks.org.uk or for more information on mental health, well-being and recovery visit: [www.lanarkshirementalhealth.org.uk](http://www.lanarkshirementalhealth.org.uk)

John thanked Brian for his presentation, and invited him to stay for the remainder of the meeting if he wished.

### **Chair's Report**

(i) NHS Reference Group

North Lanarkshire Health Board has placed a series of questionnaires in Monklands Hospital, Wishaw Hospital (café and waiting room) and Douglas Clinic, and a survey is going to be carried out to gauge client satisfaction.

(ii) Licensing Forum

Minimum pricing for alcohol is being pressed, and Dial a Drink is being pressed to tighten their monitoring of their alcohol-related delivery service.

### **Financial Report**

Current balance is £781.91, with £677 to be returned by Lanarkshire Health Board for the auditory hearing system (Hearing Aid) which was demonstrated before the start of the meeting.

### **Sub Group Report**

Norrie advised that he, Oona and Ros had met. It had been suggested that an open day event aimed at children and youth be held during the mid-term break in February, and there had been a few ideas suggested for the proposed leaflet. The meeting agreed that it was probably too late to get an open day organised for February but that Norrie, Oona and Marvyn should meet with Ros again on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, if Ros can manage that date, to progress the leaflet.

### **Hearing Aid Trial**

Billy Bell had said that he would rather use his existing hearing aid system. The system could make use of a hand held microphone, and John had demonstrated the system at a previous meeting where a deaf person had said it was successful. He would also be demonstrating it other future meetings.

## **LAP Meeting**

No report had been submitted to the last meeting, but another meeting was coming up next month.

The Forum Network organisation has elected two members with a view to having a member elected to the board.

## **Community Interests**

Norrie stated there was still some interest in having something done on the Stoneyetts Hospital Ground such as a park with, possibly, some kind of care facility, but the ground still belonged to the GGHB and could probably only be purchased by a charitable organisation such as the Northern Corridor Regeneration Company, which appeared now to be defunct. Play areas in the Northern Corridor were also mentioned, but it was pointed out that many residents did not like them as they provided a setting for young people to drink and use drugs. The possible use of the existing Chryston Library as a centre for a Social Work Office, Police office and/or Health Centre when, and if, a new library was built in future at the proposed Chryston High School development was also mentioned.

## **Other Competent Business**

Billy Bell enquired about a possible extension to the Tuesday Lunch Club facility in Gartcosh, where two courses could be purchased for £2.50, for example to include additional days, and also about improvements to the street lighting since the work done previously had not gone far enough.

Regarding the gritting done during the winter weather, it was stated that an official of NLC had been quoted as saying that the crews had been out 7 days a week from the start, but there had still been very many complaints from all over the community. It was agreed that this would be raised at the next LAP.

Cath Paton asked about our room at The Pivot Centre, and John advised that he was not prepared to sign a contract with BT for telephone and broadband services unless and until we were assured of long term future funding.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Tuesday March 4 2010 at a venue to be advised, that it should be the AGM and that tea and coffee should be served

Signed..... (Chair)      Date.....