

MINUTES

of the

Shropshire Wheelchair Users Group

www.swug.org.uk

held on

Thursday 8th January 2009
@ 12:30pm

at the

Disability Resource Centre, Lancaster Rd. Harlescott

Present:

Sue Wood (Chair), Rob Hood, Peter & Audrey Selwyn-Smith,
Krys Jarvis Martin Wood, Gill Bradley.

Apologies:

Trevor Mytton, Martina Hallewell, Debbie O'Keefe, Helen Lake,
Sue & Frank Napper.

1: Welcome

Sue opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. The Apologies were read out and accepted as above.

2: Minutes of previous meeting and Matters Arising

The Minutes of our previous meeting held on Thursday 4th December 2008, having been previously circulated, were agreed to be a true record. The Chair duly signed the Minutes.

Further to the comments about our website, it was apparently now working normally. It was suggested that we should have a link to SWUG from the PCT Website.

3: Guest business

Krys introduced Mark Onions from the PCT – their Clinical Support Services Officer. Mark has had 23 years experience with NHS, mainly in finance. His new role is as a Business Manager and he would be working with Krys to understand the Wheelchair Service and find ways to improve it. Comparisons with other PCT's and Services would be made and it was emphasised that quality was just as important as costs. Consulting with groups like SWUG was very useful. Krys said that she was looking forward to working with Mark and was confident that the outcome would be very positive for the

Wheelchair Service.

4: **Wheelchair Services Report**

As Sue and Krys were unable to attend the last meeting we returned to the tips on setting up (and maintaining) a Wheelchair User Group, prepared by Krys. A few more suggestions were made and it was agreed to circulate the document to members for any further comments. Krys would then present it to the next meeting of Wheelchair Managers scheduled for late January.

We also returned to what was understood by an assessment that looks at your (a) Clinical Need ? and (b) Functional Need ? It was a question of how far the NHS should go to meet individual needs. The current criteria was discussed and it was concluded that there was "no simple answer". It was very likely we would be returning to this subject in the future.

Finally, Krys mentioned that she was planning to make changes to the number of Clinics, the main idea being to have less home visits and more clinics. This would better utilise trained staff and enable them to see more people quicker.

5: **Chairwoman's Report**

Sue reported it had been a quiet month for a change. She had attended a meeting of the DDA Liaison Group and also mentioned a planned Information Day for Children with Disabilities.

6: **Secretary's Report**

Correspondence

- 1) Minutes of the Shrewsbury & Atcham Access Group.
- 2) Latest edition of Newslines from Telford & Wrekin CVS.
- 3) Annual Reports from Telford & Wrekin Council for Voluntary Service and Community Mobility Transport.
- 4) Dates for meetings of Disability Action Wyre Forest.

Other Items

None.

7: **Treasurer's Report**

Nothing to report.

8: **Any Other Business**

It was suggested that we distribute a small supply of our leaflet to G P Surgeries and that we should consider also including a poster for notice boards. This was thought to be a good idea but costly in terms of postage. However the PCT was obviously distributing items to G Ps on a regular basis and it was felt that SWUG could use the facilities of their distribution system. It was also suggested that we may be able to approach Julia Meakin of the PCT Joint Commissioning Team to assist with any financial costs involved.

There being no further business, everyone was thanked for their attendance and contributions, and the meeting closed at 2.30pm.

Shropshire Wheelchair Users' Group

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 5th February 2009
@12.30 – 3:00pm

at

DRC, Lancaster Road, Harlescott, Shrewsbury

A G E N D A

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 8th January 2009 and Matters Arising
3. Guest Business
4. Wheelchair Services Report
5. Chairwoman's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Any Other Business

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