

Bradford and District Disabled People's Forum (BDDP Forum) Meeting

Thursday 7th February 10.00 - 11.00am

Held at the Library on Carlisle Rd due to Carlisle Business Centre being evacuated because of a gas leak in the cellar!

Present; Gill Grant, Paul Anderson, Linda Hanson, Dennis Bowland, Jenny Collins, Paul Dreary, Cath Stevenson and Yvonne Slater.

Apologies; Neal Heard and Steve Grisag

The meeting was a brief business meeting due to the unusual circumstances.

- It was agreed that the recent Event; 'Creating a Stronger Voice' held on 17th January at Carlisle Business Centre, had been very well attended and was a real success.
- Paul Anderson reported back from yesterday's meeting by the Involving Disabled People's Action group that the consultation from the 'Creating a Stronger Voice' day held a great many good points, useful ideas and suggestions as well as possible areas of work for development. In order to sort out what were important problems and areas of concern for disabled people attending the Event, the action group had decided that Janet Andelin should organise the consultation feedback for easier discussion to take the work further.
- There is a Consultation workshop; 'What do you want from our city centre in 15 years time?' From 12 noon til 4pm, lunch provided at The Thornbury centre. The aim is to improve the city centre for disabled people (creating a city centre that's more friendly and human; i.e. accessibility, signs). It has been suggested that this workshop be advertised on the Disabled People's forum website. It was agreed that Yvonne would ask Neal to have the information (poster advertising it) put on the website, a.s.a.p. due to the consultation being very soon.

- Paul Anderson talked about changes to the 'BLUE BADGE'. There are going to be FOCUS groups. It is very important that disabled people come to these focus groups and make their voices heard to stop plans to make the badges far more expensive, and to oppose plans to make people have to apply for them every year. It was suggested that Neal arrange to advertise these focus groups on the DP forum website too. Paul Anderson informed the group that Matt Loob is going to hold a focus group about this.

- Jenny Collins talked a little about loss of funding for WHAT. It was agreed that an update on all the different groups funding would be useful and should be an item for the agenda in the near future.

- Yvonne Slater offered to do a 'ring around' to invite more people to the next full meeting of the Bradford and District Disabled People's Forum.

The date and time and place of the next meeting:

Thursday 28th February, 10am - 12.00am at The Cellar Project, in the Craft room; The Cellar Project, Farfield Road, Shipley, BD18 4QP.

Please let Neal or Yvonne know as soon as possible if you will need a disabled parking space in the car park there so we can book spaces.

*Due to the late notice (because of holidays and sick leave) it might be better if you phoned the cellar project yourself to get a space to park;
01274 586474*

Thank you.