

Communication group minutes 19th September 2006

Who was there?

Fiona Wallace, Margaret Hurcome, Lyne Gibson, Tommy McLean, Rob Kay, Jimmy McIntosh MBE, Senga Menzies, Anne Edmonstone, Carol Flack, Robert Campbell, Dennis Rowley and Laraine Munro.



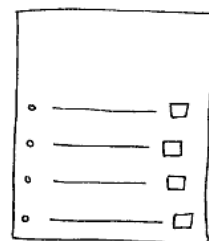
Supporters were Allison Hossack, Rhona Neill, Neil McCarthy, and Emmanuelle Le Coz.

Who could not come?



Michael White, Simon Willoughby Booth, Suzanne Munday, Kelly Housten, Mairi McReynolds.

Tommy and Anne read the minutes from the previous meeting. They were agreed apart from on page 6. Anne had not said that she would support communication at the events herself and would need to think about that.



Events



Allison and Tommy came today to find out details of the event as West Lothian's is the first one and they want to make it work well. Senga and Jimmy plan to be there, Tommy will be chairing the event.

The newsletter will be out at the end of the week but everyone will try and spread the word even before then.



Newsletter...ready to be printed, poster inside it.

1000 copies to Midlothian Council to go to day services and libraries.

1000 copies to FAIR's mailing list covering Edinburgh.

1000 copies to FAIR who will take 500 to ELCAP and 500 to East Lothian Council to distribute.

1000 copies to Lothian Health to go through primary care centres.

1000 copies to Allison in west Lothian to go out through "Our Voice Our Choice" membership and through outreach services.

Newspaper and Radio



Dennis contacted the Lothian Health press office that are happy to give advice on how best to use the television and radio contacts that people are suggesting. As chair and vice-chair Fiona and Jimmy would be the ones who should be interviewed.



The only way to make sure that only what you want is said in a newspaper is to take out an advert. Advice from the press office and using known contacts should avoid bad publicity as best we can.

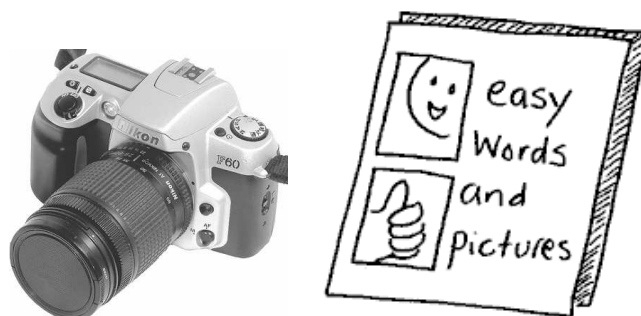
Using local radio will mean that people who cannot read are more likely to hear about the events.

Communication Support



There are 10 or 12 volunteers from "Our Voice Our Choice" who will be there to provide support at the West Lothian event.

West Lothian has one person who can sign and will try to get someone from "Powerful Partnerships" to do graphics.



Pictures and worksheets, taken from the easy read interim report can be used to aid in the gathering of information. A meeting of Margaret, Anne, Laraine and Dennis was arranged to do work on this.

Anne told the group that she cannot commit herself or her colleagues to the events but all information will be passed on to those who may wish to offer their time.

Laraine said the same for her area but is willing to help personally at the West Lothian event.



Anne told the group about a project that will be running to allow information to be gathered from individuals with profound communication difficulties.

This will involve 10 people across Lothian and use such methods as "talking mats".

What happens at the events?



The group thought that these questions should be asked about each of the topic headings in the interim report:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to go?
- How will we get there?

The group agreed that the chair of each "sub-group" should be responsible for deciding what is asked at the events. Dennis will contact all chairs tomorrow 200906

Dennis and People First will liaise about this.

Next meeting 10th October, 2.30pm, Easter Road.

