



## **Runnymede Community Learning Partnership**

### **Minutes**

Manorcroft School, Egham.

Tuesday 11 October 2011

#### **Present;**

Tony Woodward (chair)	Strode's College
Elizabeth Whiddett	CLP Runnymede (SLLP)
Kate Shore	Strode's College
Peter Sims	Runnymede Borough Council
Megan Metcalf	Runnymede Schools Confederation
Samantha Stapley	Beacon Church
Susan Warwick	White Lodge
Sylvia Carter	SCC Partnership in Community
Kathy Hooper	SCC libraries

#### **1. Welcome and Minutes**

TW welcomed the group and thanked Megan Metcalf for arranging the use of the room.

Actions from the minutes. KS sent out a leaflet outlining the last chance for some learners to access government funding and had some replies. However over the summer the funding conditions changed and other types of benefits may be eligible if the learners are active job seekers.

**Action points;** EW suggested space in the RBC newsletter, PS to progress.

#### **2. Speakers**

##### Sylvia Carter – SCC Runnymede Partnership

SC explained the background to her job in the community. Originally Egham Hythe and Chertsey St Ann's were targets but now the concentration had moved to Chertsey Meads, and the new targets of Addlestone North /Addlestone Bourneside and Englefield Green West. The Family Needs Assessment 2011 identified child/family poverty in these areas and SC has been working with a team to respond to the need as recognised in the document. Chris Hunt and Suzanne Harrison are the lead bodies in RBC.

**Englefield Green West.** The East is a wealthier area and site of the new Village Community Centre which was originally the Methodist church. The centre has impressive facilities including an IT suite. The Community Centre is in the East is used as a Children's Centre during the day and a Youth Centre in the evenings. A

new Home School Link Worker, Charlotte will be based here from November. It also has IT and Apple Macs that can be used at various times by the community. The West has a housing estate and over a 1/3 of the residents study at Royal Holloway.

### **Chertsey Mead,**

A play session will take place in the local hall and give the parents a chance to be consulted over what support they might like with jobs, learning, debt etc. They will have access to an adviser if wanted.

### **Addlestone Project – Samantha Stapley**

The Surrey Towers area is being targeted through a project led by Richard and Louise Fox of Kings Church; by early 2012 a new building will be available for activities including a homework club, adult skills and lone parents meetings. Both the Beacon and King's Church made separate but similar bids and they are now working together. SS works with Debtscape and also with the Trussle Trust on food projects and explained the latter; the authorities need a minimum of 72 hours to react to a crisis so meanwhile the church would be able to provide three days of meals to a family in need. The church would also take the opportunity to talk to the family, with sensitivity, about other support or help they might need, including finding work. **Action point;** KS to talk to SS about signposting and learning opportunities available.

### **3. Market Place**

#### Tony Woodward, Strode's College

Despite intensive advertising the 'back to work' free courses did not proceed. The top jobs wanted by job seekers are in cleaning, retail and administration although few jobs are available for the latter. GCSE qualifications were very popular and those who attended to the end all passed but about 50% dropped out.

The reduction of the Connexions Service was discussed and TW thought that, without guidance, some learners were not taking the right courses, not realising that some vocational courses will not qualify towards A levels. However younger students are taking the advantage of visiting open days to become better informed.

#### Kathy Hooper- Surrey Libraries

Both New Haw and Virginia Waters now had support groups writing business plans for the running of the library. KH reported that Parent/Child activity in the library was not well attended, and even when, many had over Level 2 qualifications or just wanted to leave the children there.

KH gave an update; Woking Library was closed and moving besides Boots; Stanwell library to the Health Centre and Dorking Library to adjacent Marks and Spencers. Contact Kathy on [kathy.hooper@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:kathy.hooper@surreycc.gov.uk)

#### Megan Metcalf – Runnymede North Schools Confederation

Concentration at present is with staff training but investigating links to learning with Strode's at Thorpe Lea. Megan suggested that school can help with the food parcels.

#### Elizabeth Whiddett– Surrey Lifelong Learning Partnership

EW reported that SLLP is now a charity. A funding bid has been sent for some 1-2-1 literacy support but as it is National Lottery funds, the chances for success in Surrey is quite slim. The SLLP conference will be held on 29 November, please contact if you

wish to attend and have not had an invitation. At present SLLP has won bids for Digital Community projects to help get people on line.

#### Sylvia Carter – SCC Partnership

An update on new people/activities. Zoe Felix, Manager of Chertsey St Anne's Children's Centre is leaving and a replacement is to be announced. Jane Oborn from Lyn and Longcross School is the new Head of Pyrecroft Grange School; the Literary Festival will be in March next year led by Royal Holloway.

#### Peter Sims - RBC

The Magna Carta Trust is applying to build an interpretation/educational centre ready for 2015, for its 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Runnymede Neighbourhood officers were now available on Twitter, and piloting at present, a programme that would allow the public to trace where the officers are on their mobile phones.

#### Samantha Stapley - The Beacon Church, Addlestone

The Beacon is running parent courses, life skills courses and a toy library. SS has acquired funding from GSK and P&G but is always looking for support. Anyone wanting to help out should contact SS.

#### Susan Warwick – White Lodge

IT has been restructured and now computers are available for use with all discussions groups and classes. Courses were not well attended with the exception of Carers courses but individual skills needs are still taught as required. Space is rented out to other groups and Surrey Supported Employment is using for learners with some learning difficulties.

#### Kate Shore – Strode's College

Ongoing work at Chertsey Children's Centre is now seeing parents taking harder skills such as Maths as well as Childcare courses. An IT accredited course will be offered in 2012 at Sun Ash Children's Centre in Spelthorne. Classes need to have 5/6 learners complete and so 8-10 enrolments would be perfect number.

#### **4. AOB**

Chertsey St Anne's is no longer No 1 for learning disadvantage in the 2010 IMD score, the group thought this should be attributed to Kate's efforts who has been working in this area since 2003. Well done Kate!

#### **5. Date of next meeting**

W/b 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, date to be advised after by the Methodist church who agreed to host a session.