

Herefordshire Lifelong Learning Development Unit

Family Learning Development Group

Minutes of meeting held on Tues, 25 Sept 2007, 1pm, at South Wye Learning Centre

Present:

Gillian Scott-Lee	(Chair)	WFL (Wider Family Learning)	Co-ordinator
Christine Hodson		FLLN (Family Literacy, Language and Numeracy)	Co-ordinator
Chrystella Bieler		ACL (Adult and Community Learning)	Co-ordinator
Jane Denny		Extended Schools Officer,	Weobley
Martyn Davies		Extended Schools Officer,	Whitecross
Kim Thorpe		Extended Schools Co-ordinator,	John Kyrle High School
Chris Dunlop		Parent Involvement Officer,	Herefordshire Children's Centres
Jane Denny		Extended Schools Officer,	Weobley
Paul Haley		The Share Initiative	Dot Wright Hollybush Family Centre
Julia Radburn		Herefordshire Libraries	Sue Cooper Caring for God's Acre
Janet MacGladrie		Hereford MIND	Jo Hardwick Start Here
Lorna Williamson		Sure Start	Liz Davies Early Years

	Action
<p>1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence New members to the group were Janet MacGladrie, Sue Cooper, Kim Thorpe, Jo Hardwick, Chris Dunlop, and Lorna Williamson Apologies were received from Jacque Purdy, Meg Hughes, Sue Cobourne.</p>	
<p>2 Minutes of last meeting The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.</p>	
<p>3 Matters arising Paul's bid to Basis had been unsuccessful</p>	
<p>4 Caring for God's Acre - Sue Cooper Sue explained that she was standing in for Andrea Gilpin and that CfGA ran family events in churchyards throughout Herefordshire. They were now running a new 5-year project called Churchyard Task Team, which had two parts to it. One is based on volunteers working in churchyards to learn new skills in areas such as dry-stone-walling. Hilary Smith, volunteer co-ordinator, was running this section. The second part is being run by Andrea, (project co-ordinator) who is presently on maternity leave, which is to organize events and exhibitions to improve access to heritage for disadvantaged groups - pre-school, teenagers, young adults, low income households. Andrea will return in April and would be happy to work with whoever might be interested - has outputs to achieve. Jane said that teachers in Weobley regularly took groups of school children to churchyards. Jane was also interested in working together with hedge-laying and coppicing. Martyn said that he might be able to work with CfGA with his involvement with butterfly conservation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">All</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jane</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Martyn</p>

5 Family Learning Lottery Bid - Chris Hodson

The LLDU was working with Dave Tristram and was in the process of bringing together prospective partners who would like to be involved now or later. The theme was Ground to Table, focusing on families learning together about food - both traditional recipes and those of other countries. Current partners were WEA, CfGA and Deaf Direct. Jane said that Herefordshire Rural Hub might be interested in participating (Cathy Meredith), with voluntary and community main partners. Jane explained that this was the year of food and farming with an event being held at the Three Counties Show Ground; there was also to be a Herefordshire Food Festival. Other suggested contacts were Herefordshire Voluntary Action (Will Lyndsay), Hereford Gardening (allotments); the Wasteless Society, Slow Food, Farming in Countryside Education and Malvern Hills and Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Chris/
Gill

6 Adult and Community Learning - Chrystella Bieler

Funding had decreased but ACL could now offer opportunities to any adult aged 19+ for a minimum of 9hrs per course. Courses were not free but heavily subsidised, costing the learner £3.50 per learning hour, eg a 10-hr, 5-wk course would be £35.00 with a 50% fee remission for those on benefit = £17.50. Chrystella was currently working with specific groups of Age Concern, LEAP, Extended Schools at Kingstone and SWLC. If anyone had a group of 10 or more learners, Chrystella would try to run a course for them.

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Chrystella

7 LEAP (Leisure, Education and Art Programme - Janet MacGladrie, Contact Number 359635 (3 days per week)

LEAP's remit was to run courses for those aged 18+ with a mental health need. LEAP was working with the WEA, HCT, Growing Point and ACL (Chrystella). Attendance fluctuated amongst attendees. Members were given a leaflet at the beginning of each term, giving a core of classes and extras. Many students like to attend courses at Heffernan House, the Day Centre in Widemarsh Street, whilst others prefer venues away from the centre. Janet said that they sometimes use the Courtyard and Riverside Learning Centre; SWLC was not easy for learners to reach. Clients did not need to be referred to be able to attend courses. Usually 10 learners were needed to make a viable course; LEAP had approximately 80-100 students accessing courses. Currently badminton was being run on a Tuesday afternoon and football on a Friday afternoon. There were Mind groups in Ross, Leominster and Ledbury.

8 Webb-SHARE - celebrating our Victorian Astronomy Heritage

This 3-year science heritage project is being run by The SHARE Initiative with Your Heritage lottery funding. It includes family and adult opportunities including local history research, re-enactment of Victorian star parties and a touring exhibition. Taster sessions will begin this autumn at Clifford Community Centre (next to Clifford Primary School) - on 8 Nov and 6 Dec with a 7.00 pm start. These will be run by Janet & Mark Robinson and supported by Paul Haley. 15 volunteers would be an ideal number for the local history research. Paul has a few places available in his car for anyone travelling from Hereford - more details please contact Paul on 01981 251029.

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9 Start Here - Jo Hardwick

The project provided introductory and certificated education and training in areas such as computing (various levels), food hygiene, first aid and counselling for 20-64yr olds. Target learners were those with less than level 2 qualifications or (if qualifications exceed level 2) lone parents, those returning to the labour market, ex-offenders, drug or alcohol abusers and refugees. Those wanting anymore information or any leaflets please contact Jo on 07792 880 211

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10 Information Exchange

Gill: In order to inform provision for 2007/8, the audit of Family Learning provision for 2006/7 is needed from everyone asap, please - otherwise FLEDG will not be funded. The form for completion is attached.

Chris H: Chris was trying to make courses more practical, eg Family Health with literacy and numeracy embedded. To attend FLLN courses, learners should be working at below Level 2 and could be grand-parents, brothers, sisters and/or carers. Some areas within the county had a cross-section of the community and the able people were usually those who wanted to join. Whilst trying not to discriminate, if parents of the children with the lowest abilities are encouraged to attend, they are likely to be the parents FLLN is seeking. Chris mentioned that she is short of tutors at present - especially in Family Literacy; any applicants must have their Cert Ed/PGCE.

She also needed a dynamic FL supply teacher as some schools are unable to provide staff for the sessions.

Dot: Baby Yoga had been a great success. Hollybush had been busy with an African theme, making headdresses, music sessions, carnival day, Leintwardine visit, beauty sessions, 2 new gym instructors, Viv Baker with Fun-2-Talk, Take and Bake sessions, OCN courses re personal fitness and healthy eating and visits to Madley Environmental Centre.

Jane: People were now participating in Extended Schools' services. Jane had run a dance workshop, crafts, summer sports, Taste for Adventure visit, family cycle training, Man in the Kitchen, computer courses (HELP), Community Access Point in the Rookery, continued the TEDDYBEAR project and a family

Gill

history course - but needed more to be happening at feeder primary schools. Jane also said that new nutritional standards for children had been disseminated.

Julia: The libraries failed to get the lottery bid for the museum animateur but had applied to the Arts Council for alternative funding. 2008 was to be the National Year for Reading. The new museum in Friar Street had been completed, offering a learning room, sinks and a whiteboard. Parking was possible at the Military Club, using discretion. FLW had been planned, with bouncing bats, building wigwams, collage on pumpkin soup. Friday, 28 September was the premiere for children who had written and directed their own films, two of which had been entered into a national competition. There was to be an Arts Supermarket at the Courtyard on 3 October from 4-6pm; those interested to contact Sarah Laws.

Chrystella: Now that Chrystella could offer more adventurous courses, she was looking for tutors who must have the Cert Ed/PGCE and also empathy towards adults. Andy Dawson and Lisa Pendlebury were suggested.

Paul: The T3 network across Herefordshire was seeking funding. More money had been received for Spacewatch. 2-day family learning events had been planned - Paul wanted to deliver one in Ross. 80 families had attended the Kindle Centre in June. In August they ran a successful event at Headway House with brain-injured families. Please contact Paul if you would like an event linked with global ideas - magic planet. Their film-work had produced 2 films with families in schools.

Martyn: Martyn said that he had sent out the cluster newsletter; had been on TDA course with Kim and had sent a project proposal to look at Whitecross and schools in the catchment area. Other pages were to be produced by other groups. Parenting classes had begun at Whitecross. Taster sessions were being run in Yoga and fitness classes; computer courses could be next, followed by craft. Whitecross became involved with TEDDYBEAR at the end of 2006 and went to Disraeli Court with a Producer from the Courtyard. The students prepared a sketch which they performed at the Picnic at Lucton School. They would like to do something similar again, looking at the history of Whitecross.

Kim: Kim was working with 13 primary schools and one secondary school to build partnership-working. The PCT was interested in becoming involved, with parenting-support classes. In conjunction with the Courtyard drama was being run at Kings Caple, Dancefest with the Courtyard and they were in touch with HALO. They were working closely with Ross Children's Centre and had received a grant from West Mercia. There was a proposal for extended work-experience for young people - if anyone might be interested in mentoring a Yr10 or Yr11 student.

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Chrystella

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Chris D

Chris D: A Saturday morning course "Dads and Kids", for fathers with their children, had begun - the next session will be on 6 October, the first Saturday in the month. 5 Dads and 9 children had attended the first session - Circus Skills. Craft, music, exercise and story-telling were to be included as future activities. Please see attached activity sheets for Green Croft. A new venue from the North Hereford Children's Centre was Jump Start - at St Barnabas, Tues, 10am - 12noon; also at Trinity Hall in Whitecross. A Polish post-natal group was meeting at Springfield where ESOL was needed (10 learners). "Coffee and Craft" was being run at Green Croft - £6,100 had just been awarded.

Lorna: Coningsby Children's Centre in Leominster was holding a Women's Aid Freedom project; Tasters co-ordinated by Jo Alker; parent and child activity sessions; a baby-sitting course in Wigmore (Kington and Weobley in 2008); baby play; CLD youth counselling; a crèche; First Aid, story-time club from w/c 1 Oct; Dads' group, events planned for Parenting Week - creating family tree - tell your story - inviting parents to tell their story of how they parent or were parented, resulting in the creation of a book. Health Visitors and Midwives were also centred there.

Liz: Lea was a 30% disadvantaged ward. 3 play-days were delivered and 14 of the children who attended were from the estate. They had worked with Hereford Nature Trust - Wildplay - to run 10 sessions for 131 children; parents had enjoyed being with their children.

11 Any other Business - there was no other business

12 Date, time and place of next meeting: Please note that the next meeting will be held at, 1pm-3pm, at South Wye Learning Centre, at a date to be arranged.

Contact Information

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