

Northampton Disabled People's Forum

on Friday, 24 July 2015 at 10:00 am until not later than 12:00 pm

in The Holding Room, The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE.

Agenda

1. **Welcomes, introductions and apologies**
2. **Minutes and Matters Arising**
3. **Northampton Partnership Homes - Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour**
4. **Community Bus Stop - Town Centre**
5. **Action Plans**
6. **Community Information Exchange**
7. **Items for Next and Future Meetings**
8. **Date of the Next Meeting**

Friday 25th September, 10-12pm, the Holding Room, The Guildhall
Friday 27th November, 10-12pm, the Holding Room, The Guildhall

Map and directions at: www.northampton.gov.uk/guildhall

For more information about this meeting please contact:
Alice Morgan, Community Development Officer



alicemorgan@northampton.gov.uk



Tel: 01604 837795



More information about the Forum generally is at: www.northampton.gov.uk/forums



Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthamptonDisabledPeoplesForum?ref=hl>

Please note that this Forum is supported and funded by Northampton Borough Council. The Forum may work in partnership and collaboration with other community groups, councils and local services from time to time. The views expressed and decisions taken by the Forum are not necessarily those of Northampton Borough Council.



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Code of Conduct for the Forums

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards that the Forums expect of its members. It aims to provide members with an effective ethical framework in which to do business. It is not intended to be exhaustive, or to cover every eventuality, but sets out some common sense requirements to enable the forums to function smoothly and successfully.

It is the responsibility of the Chair to encourage and enable input from forum members, to ensure all voices are heard.

1. Meeting Etiquette

As an attendee you must comply with the following requirements and any others that may be stated from time to time:

- 1.1** Contribute positively to discussions concerning the issues of the meeting
- 1.2** Be friendly, polite, courteous and respectful at all times to fellow members, and others present
- 1.3** Not insult, abuse or use offensive language or behaviour
- 1.4** Comply with Northampton Borough Councils Equal Opportunities Policy
- 1.5** Demonstrate actively that you are interested in and care about the issue that you are discussing and want to make a positive difference
- 1.6** Show respect for buildings, facilities and equipment being used
- 1.7** Speak only through the Chairman of the meeting and not interrupt, heckle, make distracting noises or gestures
- 1.8** Speak clearly into any microphone provided and comply with any instructions given about its use

2. Being Objective

- 2.1** Your own experience and views should inform, but not dominate or dictate how you participate.
- 2.2** If you have a specific issue with regards to a service matter to raise these can be discussed with a member of staff at the end of the each meeting or you can ask for the appropriate officer details. Meetings attended by other residents are not the place to raise any issues of this nature.
- 2.3** Be Fair
- 2.4** You must have and show respect for the people you deal with, and take their circumstances and personal differences into account. This is about putting equality into practice. The key is simply to respect differences fairly, so that you do not exclude anyone, or treat anyone inappropriately or unfairly because of their particular circumstances.

Breaching the Code of Conduct

If any person's behaviour breaches this Code of Conduct, they will be required to leave the meeting and vacate the premises where it is being held. They will not be permitted to attend future meetings unless they provide satisfactory evidence to Northampton Borough Council that they will comply with the Code – e.g. a letter of apology.

If you would like further information or if you would like to discuss the Code of Conduct please contact Vicki Rockall, Partnerships and Communities Manager at vrockall@northampton.gov.uk or on 01604 837074

Northampton Borough Council Northampton Disabled People's Forum

Friday, 27 March 2015

Present: Cllr Larratt (Chair, NBC), Martin De Rosario (Co-chair, Independent), Keith Goodwin (Northampton Door to Door Service), David Smith (Independent), Larry Barber (Independent), Barbara Barber (Independent), Simon Burgess (Independent / NPH tenant), E. Bassett (Independent), Carl Weininger (Northampton Polio Fellowship), J. Forrest Smith (Independent), Rashmi Shah (Independent), Andrew Holden (NBC Planning) Vicki Rockall (NBC), Alice Morgan (NBC)*

*Took minutes

1. WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Stefanie Weldon (NAB), Graham Wilson (Northamptonshire Sport), and Jessica Marayan (Deafhub),

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes were agreed as a true record

Matters arising:

AM shared data around employment of disabled people at Northampton Borough Council. This data can be found here: <http://www.northampton.gov.uk/downloads/download/1826/workforce-monitoring-report>

3. DAVID SMITH - NORTHANTS POLICE DISABILITY ACCESS SERVICES

DS gave an overview of the Keep Safe Scheme, which has been designed primarily for adults with learning disabilities, but also for adults with other disabilities or illnesses that make them more vulnerable, such as physical disabilities and dementia. Keep Safe can be accessed on smart phones and on the internet. More details about the Keep Safe scheme can be found here: <http://www.keepsafenorthants.org/>

ACTION: AM to make sure service is promoted in the One Stop Shop.

The service is promoted in BAME and diverse communities through various networks and the equality and diversity board. DS said that more is still to be done, and would like to promote through other networks in the future.

DS gave an overview of how Northants Police services can be accessed by those with hearing impairment, or difficulties using the telephone. The Force has pioneered Live BSL services – this can be accessed by anyone with a device with webcam facilities between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday. This is not necessary an emergency service, and is more like the 101 service. For emergencies, there are

local and national 999 emergency texting services – to set this up, text ‘Register’ to 999.

4. NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL - PLANNING PROCESS

Andrew Holden from NBC’s Planning team, advised that Building Regulation Officer’s ensure disability access is taken into account in the planning process.

DS told the forum that he trains organisations to ensure plans are accessible. DS gave the example of Crawley Borough Council, which has a forum of disabled people that looks at every planning application at the design stage, and can make recommendations on accessibility.

Attendees discussed issues experienced with the disabled toilets and lift in Northampton train station, and difficulties visually impaired people have experienced using Abington Street.

DS questioned how the community is engaged with in the planning process, and whether this is just through the Compliance Officers. DS asked whether a subgroup for the forum could be used to consult with on accessibility issues on new planning applications for public buildings, sheltered housing and future homes – especially on homes for people who have mobility difficulties. Also, a forum attendee asked whether it could be a planning condition that signage would have to be agreed with Northamptonshire Association for the Blind, to ensure suitability for visually impaired people.

ACTION: AH advised he will take this back to his team, to see if this would be possible.

ACTION: AM to discuss internally regarding the setting up of a sub group.

ACTION PLANS

Forum attendees discussed the possibility of holding an event for Disability Awareness Week, and combining with hate crime awareness raising. International Day of Persons with Disabilities falls on 3 December. More details can be found here: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp/default.asp?id=111>

ACTION: AM to look into booking a space for this.

6. COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

MDR – Issues with bins in Goldings, has spoken to Warden and Housing Officers.

LB – Bellinge football cage (MUGA) is never litter picked, and nor is pathway up to village. **ACTION: AM to pass onto Warden.**

DS – Asked for the justification for cancelling the Disabled Go website. DS commented that NBC is the first Council not to renew their contract. VR advised that Disabled Go have recently become a social enterprise, and as a result were advised

to go through the Partnership Grant process, as other organisations have to do in the borough for funding to provide a service. 46 organisations applied for funding this year, and applications added up to a value of £1.3 million, where there is only £550,000 available. The decision on who is funded is made by a cross party panel, which also includes the Chief Executive of Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire, and 2 VCS representatives elected by the Northampton VCS forum. DS commented on the impact of the decision. VR advised that other funding is available for the organisation to apply for, and the support of the Partnership and Communities team has been offered.

7. ITEMS FOR NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Northampton Partnership Homes
Further discussion of planning process
Opportunity for a community bus stop

8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Friday 24th July, 10-12, The Holding Room, The Guildhall

The meeting concluded at 12:00