

Severn Vale Partnership for Learning

NOTES OF MEETING

Date: Wednesday 14th January 2009

Venue: Dursley Library

Time: 2 – 4.30 p.m.

Present: Jan Rose, Ann Wheeler, Viv Jones, Louise Dembny, Abby Conway, Marie Muitt, Shirley Crandon, Patricia Gibbs

Item	Actions
	<p>Jan Rose agreed to be Chair for this meeting Marie Muitt agreed to take minutes</p>
1	<p>Apologies:</p>
2	<p>Notes of Last Meeting Request for confirmation of further details of the meeting to be held on 8th April. It was suggested that the meeting minutes be published on the Library or GL11's website. Jan Rose to enquire whether this would be acceptable from the Library's position. Ann Wheeler was in favour and agreed to upload a representation of the minutes on GL11/TLC's website.</p>
3.	<p>Partner Updates</p> <p>Adult Education – Patricia Gibbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat introduced herself as the newly appointed Adult Education Development Officer. • Lip Speak training for volunteers – a questionnaire has been issued in Stroud and Cainscross • Ongoing project with GL11 involving an employment questionnaire <p>Library – Jan Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cobra fact sheets (starting up in business) – COBRA is available online, access is free on Library PCs, can also be accessed at home through Library's website. Shirley Crandon requested promotional flyers to be sent to the Hucclecote Centre • Snapper Project Workshop to be hosted in the Library on Thursday 19 February, involves a taster training opportunity for 16 – 18 year olds in digital photography resulting in participants producing a portfolio of their work • Volunteers are still needed to help as Computer Buddies in the Library – Marie to forward details of 2 potential candidates • Gloucestershire County Council Family Information website • Saturday, 2nd Saturday of month – Representatives available to discuss energy conservation issues, your carbon footprint and suggestions how you can take steps to reduce it <p>Job Centre – Louise Dembny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise confirmed the current difficult situation in the employment market with a huge increase in those unemployed and signing on, and an acute shortage of job vacancies. She suggested that there was a requirement in particular for language courses (EFL), NVQs in Care Skills and Customer Service courses.

GL11 Community Project and TLC – Ann Wheeler

Courses:

- Childcare – now offering levels 2 and 3 Apprenticeships in Children’s Care, Learning and Development – fully funded through Rapido Training. This is a ‘package’ of learning including a Certificate and NVQ (L2/L3), Employers Rights and Responsibilities and First Aid.
- Computers: Beginners and Intermediate – 10 weeks from 12 January.
- Creative Writing – Level 2 – 10 weeks from 14 January
- Digital Photography – 5 weeks from 26 February
- Basic Maths – 1 year from 7 January
- Basic Skills – 1 year from 7 January
- Winter into Spring Creative Workshops for parents and children – from 26 January
- Healthy Living – 12 weeks from 23 February
- Usual referral groups: Home Start, Treetops
- “Bedlam” Youth drop in
- Sparkles Teenage girls drop in
- The Bike Shed Drop in for 13-20 year olds
- Over 50s
- Little Ducklings Twins Group – from 19 January
- POPPs – reminiscence training
- Art Link programme in partnership with Orchard Medical Centre
- Community Art Group run by GAMH
- Re Engage

Full listings are on the website www.gl11.org.uk

Ann commented that she felt the local press were not supportive enough of local organisations and events and that there was an unfair bias towards the Thornbury & the south of the county. Others supported this view. She also raised concerns over the cost incurred by carrying out CRB checks on staff and volunteers.

TLC – Viv Jones

- Uley dragon- project now completed and signed off
- Health talks- run every two weeks by Orchard Medical Centre and GL11 and a progressing to over 50’s
- Learner Forum – ongoing
- ‘Try to Remember Project’ involving volunteers capturing reminiscences and memories from people in the early stages of memory loss. Linking with a creative writer to transform their words into poems.
- Funding for the project via POPPs ceases at the end of March but it is hoped to prolong the initiative by finding sustainable funding elsewhere.
- A Digital Storytelling Workshop is planned using visual representation of people’s memories, through film, stills and narration. Filming the read back of the poems to be used for an accurate and honest evaluation of the project.

Childminding Service – Shirley Crandon

- Learning Opportunities available through the Workforce Development Team for childminders include:
- 31 January - 1 day – Early Years Foundation Stage involving aspects of planning, observation and self evaluation in the childcare business
- March – 1 day - Closing the Gap – Considering the difference in achievement between the genders, equality of opportunities in ethnic groups and the provision for those with

	<p>disabilities in mainstream provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June – Partnership Working. Any form of childcare must link with other organisations providing continuity of care and the sharing of information • ‘Letters & Sound’ early communication – half day sessions held on Saturdays in February and April <p>GCC has a training bulletin specifically for childminders</p> <p>Prema – Abby Conway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abby Conway introduced herself as the new development officer organising workshops within Prema. They are looking to offer health related projects reaching out to families who may be grappling with issues such as anxiety, depression and bereavement. Their aim is to strengthen links with the community, enhancing school curriculum’s, working with the Library and Adult Education providers. <p>Volunteer Centre – Marie Muitt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining close working relationship with local organisations supporting them with the provision of volunteers where possible • Initiated the Employer Supported Project between Lloyds/TSB and GL11 which resulted in a makeover at the GL11 premises • Support and personal involvement in the ‘Try to Remember’ Project • Involvement with the Snapper Workshop in the Library
<p>4</p>	<p>Funding – Working as a Partnership</p> <p>PG informed the group that Adult Education funding is changing in the future. A discussion took place around the fact the GAVCA is enlisting the services of ‘Learning Curve’ to secure their funding and they will take 15% of the proceeds. Previously AW had suggested that the group consider developing a partnership to work towards creating a business plan and applying for funding. She added that a realistic and achievable training programme was required based on need (as identified through collective local consultation and knowledge) which would be attractive to major funders and meets their long term strategies. PG thought the group had the necessary enthusiasm, local knowledge, capability and commitment to achieve this and felt further consideration was required. She was interested in the role Stroud & District VCA played in securing funding and their representation at the Local Strategic Partnership Meetings. MM informed that Doreen Frusher, Development Manager at Stroud VCA attended these meetings. Marie agreed to find out more information and feedback. She was also keen to learn more about the proposal of new locality hubs within the County.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Next Meeting – Wednesday 8th April 2009 – venue and Chair to be confirmed.</p> <p>Future Meetings – to be confirmed.</p>