

## Northampton Borough Council Northampton Women's Forum

Tuesday, 15 July 2014

### Present

Cllr Anna King (Co-Chair) (NBC), Jane Carr (Co-Chair) (NVC), Alice Morgan (NBC), Neelam Aggrawal-Singh (IHWO), Moya McVicar (Soroptimist International), Ann Bodsworth (Northampton Women's Aid), Rachel Packman (Northampton Police), Rufia Ashraf (Sumaiya Women's Group), Khatija Barday-Wood (Eiman), Priti Chavda (minutes) (NVC)

### Apologies

Morcea Walker (NBHA/Carnival), Julia Bush (NABPFA), Aly King-Smith (Clearworks Coaching), Pauline Woodhouse (BME SRP), Susan Ward, Nisha Mejer (Northampton Museum and Art Gallery), Vicki Rockall (NBC), Ann Corner (Positive Futures), Pindy Chahal (Sikh Community)

### In attendance:

Shovorne Brown (NAYC), Wendi Buchanan (SOLAR Northamptonshire)

## 1. WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Cllr Anna King welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made by everyone in the room. Apologies as listed above.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

**Amendment: Page 5:** The family day was organised by NIFF. The minutes were approved with the above amendment.

## 3. NORTHAMPTON ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH CLUBS (NAYC) - SHOVRNE BROWN

NAYC help to start up groups working with younger people aged 7-21 years. They offer £250.00 to help with set up costs.

- They usually receive referrals from councillors who may have issues in their wards.
- NAYC provide on-going support to groups and help with funding support, set up costs, policies and procedures, mini-bus hire, use of multimedia equipment etc.
- They also provide training for group leaders, staff and volunteers such as safeguarding, life skills, working with youth groups etc. Training is free to affiliated groups.
- They run holiday clubs across Northamptonshire and also have a wide range of free activities for young people.
- NAYC also provide support to parents to help let them know what activities are taking place in their area.
- Costs to affiliate to NAYC are currently £37.00.

### Questions and answers

Q. As the younger people are in school during the day – do they provide activities out of this time?

A. NAYC runs after school clubs and activities during the holidays.

Q. Are there any activities for people over 21 years?

A. They have several activities planned in the county for people aged over 21 years. Contact Shovorne Brown if you would like further information or would like a presentation at meetings, events etc.

Shovorne Brown, NAYC, Tel: 01604 499699,

Email: [northamptonnorth@nayc.org](mailto:northamptonnorth@nayc.org). Website: [www.nayc.org](http://www.nayc.org)

#### 4. SOLAR - WENDI BUCHANAN

Solar was established in August 2006 as a voluntary organisation to provide support to people living with and affected by HIV in Northamptonshire and to additionally provide education, HIV transmission prevention work with partner organisations in Northamptonshire.

- Solar provides support, advice, signposting, Rapid HIV Testing service, education and volunteering opportunities.
  - Sunrise is their sister company and covers the Corby area
  - Northampton and Corby are second highest in the country with number of people who are HIV positive. This has an impact on resources.
  - The highest demographic groups are young people of all ethnic groups and women aged over 40. HIV through blood banks or sharing needles has been mostly eliminated through screening blood and campaigns around not sharing needles.
  - They have different messages for different groups of people with the aim to educate them to be responsible.
  - It is rare to die from HIV nowadays. The quicker it is picked up the better. It can lay dormant in your system for years.
  - They are working with surgeries/doctors to get people tested who regularly pick up viruses such as thrush or flu etc.
  - Solar also support people who may be affected in other ways i.e. they may become ill and are unable to work or they may need help with housing etc.
  - They also work with other agencies such as NBC – Gateway Team, CAB and Serenity etc.
  - Solar are working on a Facebook page which offers support to families and will be putting in a bid to Northamptonshire Community Foundation for funding.
- Contact SOLAR if you would like further information or would like a presentation at meetings, events etc.

Wendi, Mab, Phil and Mary, Charlie – Client Services

Email: [Solar\\_northants@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Solar_northants@hotmail.co.uk)

Tel: 07790 250067 and Client support on 07870 930282

#### 5. PLANNING THE WORK OF THE FORUM

##### **Action Plan 2014**

**Health & Well-being event:** Event to take place in August or September 2015. Date to be confirmed

**International Women's Day:** 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015, 12pm – 3pm Format of day had been discussed and agreed at the previous meeting.

**Facebook Page:** Alice Morgan confirmed that a Facebook Page has been set up. She will add people that attended the meeting to the Facebook Page and will provide log-in details to Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire.

**Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northampton-Womens-Forum/244625579071081?ref=hl> or search for **Northampton Women's Forum**)

#### 6. COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

**Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire:** Jane Carr said that they have the contract to deliver the infrastructure services across Northamptonshire. Currently updating new website [www.voluntaryimpact.org.uk](http://www.voluntaryimpact.org.uk). There is lots of information on there and in the near future it will have various toolkits that groups can use. They will also be doing more work around collaboration and partnerships.

**Sumaiya Women's Group:** As part of the Growing Together project taking place in Lumbertubs, Blackthorn, Golding and Lings they are helping to organise an EID celebration. This will take place on 9<sup>th</sup> August from 11am – 2.30pm at Blackthorn Children's Centre. Rufia to email poster to Priti Chavda to circulate. Rufia is also the new elected councillor for Labour in St James ward.

**EIMAN:** Khatija Barday-Wood spoke about the summit and the aim to convince the government to look at the campaign about ending violence against women. She also spoke about a couple of events planned over the next few months about supporting the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and working in collaboration and consortia with the police, particularly as they funding from the police is changing. Further information to follow.

**Northampton Women's Aid:** Ann Bodsworth spoke about the risk of closure for the refuges around end September. They were successful in their bid for some money through the Northampton Borough Council's Partnership fund; however some of the other districts don't have these resources. She also said the Police were under the impression that all refuges were funded due to the impact on health.

The group spoke about the impact of domestic violence on women; the issues surrounding this if the refuges were to close and further cuts on the health budget over the next 3-5 years. Discussions also took place about the need to educate at an earlier age – prevention rather than at the problem stage. Suggestions included going into schools and empowering young people and help to build confidence. **ACTION:** Agenda item for next meeting to start to take a strategic view at the health and well-being priorities and to build a bigger picture. This will also help to provide funding opportunities.

**NBC:** Alice Morgan said that Enterprise Solutions are providing some free training for women to start their own business. Alice to send information to Priti Chavda to circulate.

**Solar:** Wendi Buchanan will send information to Priti Chavda to circulate regarding the campaigns etc.

**Northamptonshire Police:** Will have new information/leaflets available soon.

**IHWO:** There is a coach trip to Southend-on-Sea planned which is open to all. Neelam to send information to Priti Chavda to circulate.

**NIFF** (Northampton Inter-Faith Forum) has their AGM coming up. Nisha Mejer has been appointed chair of NIFF as Sikh faith representative. They will be at the Umbrella Fair 16/17 August.

## **7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING**

1. Strategic plan
2. NHFT – consultation

## **9. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014, 11am – 1pm  
Venue: Guildhall, Northampton (Jeffrey Room)

The meeting concluded at 7:35 pm