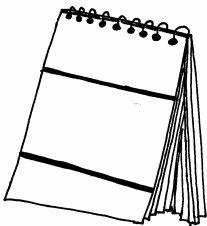


Social Inclusion Working Group

(Social inclusion means including everyone in society. The Social Inclusion Working Group has been set up to look at how all different communities in York can be given the same chances to take part in life and be included)



MINUTES



Date of meeting: 17 September 2008

Members of the Council who were at the meeting (to be known as 'Members' in these minutes):



**Christian
Vassie
(Chair)**



Julie Gunnell



Keith Aspden



Janet Looker



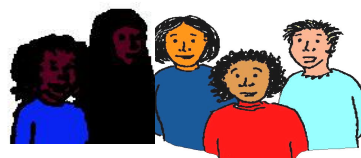
Jenny Brooks

People who were at the meeting representing community groups:

Sue Lister and Jack Archer
from the Older People's
Assembly



Daryoush Mazloum of the BME
(BME stands for Black Minority
Ethnic) Citizens Forum



Lynn Jeffries from the Disabled
People's Forum



Tricia Castle from York
Interfaith



1. Matters Arising from the Minutes



The Council's Head of Licensing and Regulation came to the meeting to talk about taxis and problems reported by members of the Group at the last meeting.

More problems were reported and so the Officer agreed to report back to the next meeting on:

- What could and could not be charged for by taxi drivers.
- The possibility of starting a scheme for taxi drivers, which registered complaints and gave them points for good service.

2. Chairs Comments

a) Forward Plan 2008/09

The Group looked at their Forward Plan for the following meetings:



SIWIG Equality Impact

Assessment's Fair - 5 November 2008

Meeting on 19 November 2008

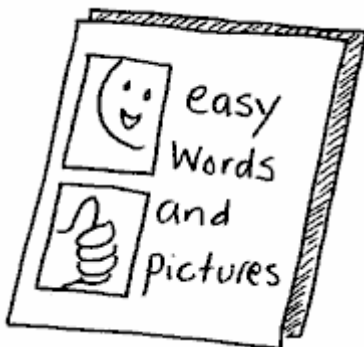
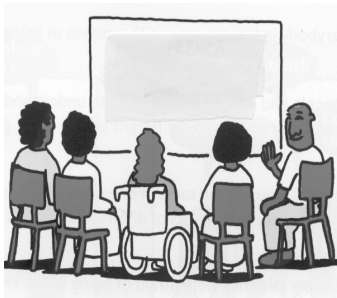
Meeting on 14 January 2009

SIWIG Development Day - 20 February 2009

Meeting on 11 March 2009

Meeting on 13 May 2009

Some of the items to be discussed included working with Ward Committees and looking at how all ages and races could be brought together in communities.



b) Equality Impact Assessment's Fair - 5 November 2008

The Chair explained that there were nine Equality Impact Assessments on which the Council wanted the Groups comments. The Assessments covered the following areas:



- Leisure facilities (such as swimming pools and libraries) and information about them.
- The future of our city (documents called the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement).
- Homelessness Strategy (how we will help homeless people in York to have a home).
- Making contact with the council easy for our customers.
- The way we deal with waste and recycling.
- Plans for the future for our children and young people.
- Helping adults decide on the type of social care they need and how to access it and pay for it.
- Dealing with housing and council tax benefits abuse.
- Safeguarding adults.

Six volunteers would help arrange an Assessment Day in November.

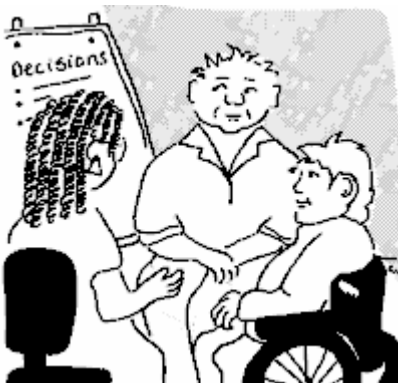
They would also give comments on the above areas to help Officers make sure that the Council provided its services in a fair way and that it was a fair and inclusive employer.

3. Community Forum Reports and Feedback

YORK 50+ FESTIVAL 2008

The Older People's Assembly representative spoke about their Photograph/Information Fair held in the Guildhall.

She also gave out copies of the programme of events for the York 50+ Festival to be held from Saturday 27 September to Sunday 5 October 2008.



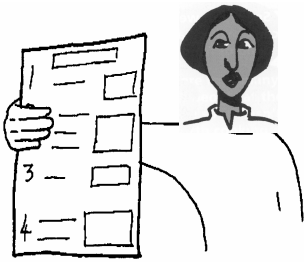
The Chair of the Valuing People Partnership told the Group that improvements had been made in finding a single strong voice for all disabled people in York. Disabled people would lead this.



The Group were reminded that the Disabled People's Forum was being developed with the help of students from York University. As some of the students had now left Higher York had offered to give their help to the project.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Young People's representative told the Group that students from Applefield's School had been on an expedition for their Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which had gone very well.

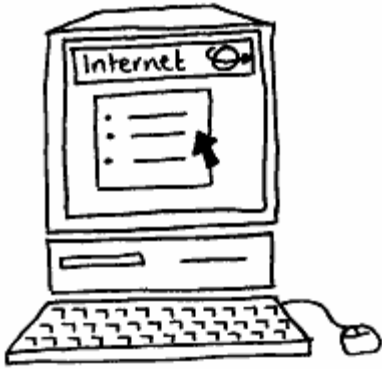


The BME Citizen's Open Forum had taken part in the Early Music Festival on 22 July and they were helping to organise the International Shared Meal event on 25 October 2008 at the Central Methodist Hall, St Saviourgate.

York Interfaith Calendar of Events 2008

York Interfaith had updated their calendar of events on their webpage.

They had also used some of the money received from the Social



Inclusion Group to hold meetings at the Priory Street Centre, which had good access.



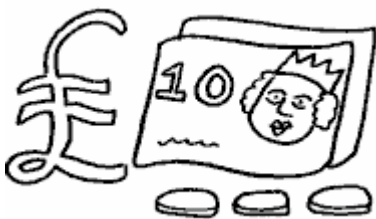
York First were involved in "The Dream Snatcher" a project in the Studio at York Theatre Royal on 29 November 2008.

The Group were told that the author and performers would answer questions after the performance.



Copies of the newly published York People First Autumn newsletter were passed round the Group.

4. Possible Cross-Strand Projects for Funding from the Social Inclusion Working Groups Budget for 2008/09



The Group discussed possible one year projects, which they could give money from their budget to help.

They wanted projects that would help as many York people as possible covered by equality legislation which

covered gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion and belief and age.



International Women's
Week:
Celebrating Women -
March 1 to 31 2009

There was not enough money in the budget to do all of the projects so it was agreed that a report should be brought to the next meeting with details of how much it would cost for the following projects

- Explore a Day Event, which brings all the strands together.
- Diverse York photo database
- BME elders befriending project
- Event during International Women's Week

5. Local Development Framework Core Strategy - Equality

Officers from the Council presented a report on the Local Development Framework.

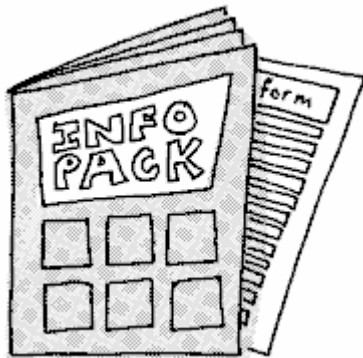


They told the Group that this document described what the Council thought York would be like to live in and look like in 20 years' time.



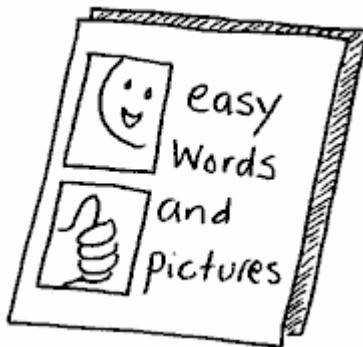
They asked how they should consult other groups. They said that the main equality issues were

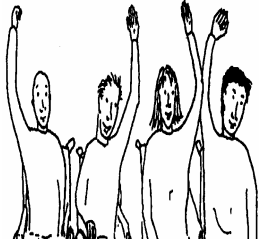
- Housing
- Accessibility
- Employment
- Community Space Buildings



The Group said that Officers should look at:

- making documents smaller and easier to read;
- talk to the Young People's forum and to people in residential homes;
- train officers on the best way to write and present reports;
- talking was better than printed documents;
- short documents and a CD to explain the subject in more detail;
- employment for young people, affordable and special needs housing were all important.





It was agreed that Officers should look at the comments of the Group when they prepared their report.