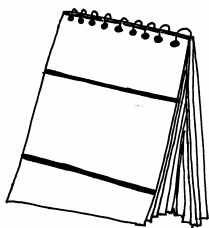


Social Inclusion Working Group

(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: 8 July 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



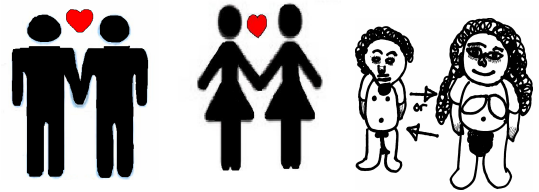
Jenny Brooks

People who were at the meeting representing community groups:

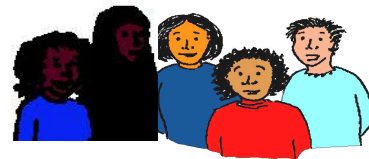
Sue Lister and Jack Archer from the Older People's Assembly



Peter Blackburn from the LGBT Forum (LGBT stands for Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender)



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



Jan Jauncey from York Interfaith



Lynn Jeffries from the Disabled People's Forum



1. Introductions and Welcome



The new Chair and Vice Chair said that they were looking forward to working with the Group.

2. Community Forum Reports and Feedback

YORK 50+ FESTIVAL 2008

The Older Peoples Assembly representative told the Group about their 50+ Festival which was to take place between 27 September and 5 October 2008.

The Festival would include:

- Buddy Holly at the Grand Opera House - reduced price tickets;
- Rag rug display at the Spurriergate Centre;
- Information Fair;
- 50+ Games.



The York Racial Equality Network circulated their Social Working Group background and progress report for July 2008



**York Pride in the Park
Picnic
Tower Gardens
York
Sunday 17 August 2008
12.00 – 4.00pm**

The LGBT Forum reported on their Summer Newsletter. The York Pride Picnic on 17 August 2008 would have live music, community stalls and a dog show.

The Scarborough branch were looking to arrange an Older LGBT Conference.



University of York students were helping the Disabled People's Forum develop and find a voice. Work carried out by them would be reported back later in the year.



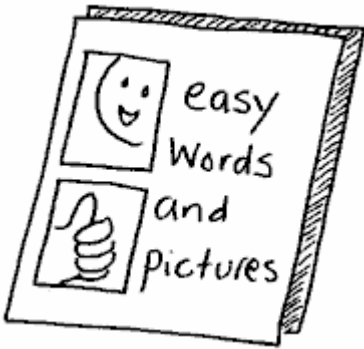
York Interfaith met at Priory Street on the first Wednesday of each month. They were asking faith and belief groups in York questions about their work and concerns.

3. Draft Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) from the Marketing and Communications Team



The Council's Head of Marketing and Communications told the Group about his draft Equalities Impact Assessment. This document looked at the affect that a Council policy would have on different groups of people to try and ensure that everyone was treated equally.





The Group said that he should look at:

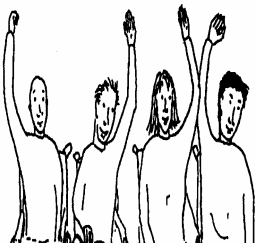
- making the document easier to read;
- carrying out consultation with the York Blind and Partially Sighted Society.

It was decided to note the report as long as the Groups points were taken into account.

4. City of York Council Draft Single Corporate Equality Scheme - July 2008 to July 2009



The Equality Officer presented this report, which had been prepared to make sure that the Council continued to be fair and inclusive as an employer and the way it provided services.



Officers wanted Members comments on the scheme.

It was agreed that the draft scheme should be made available for consultation.

5. Workshop on Developing Cross Strand Working and Projects

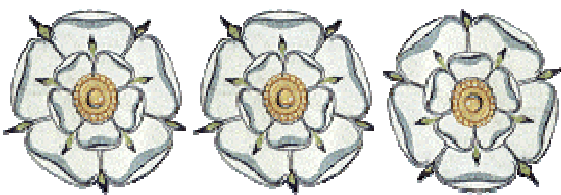


Members formed into 3 discussion groups to look at joint projects, which could be developed to receive money from the Groups budgets in 2008/09.

The Groups made the following suggestions to try and cover all the 6 equality strands of gender, race, disability, age, religion and belief an sexual orientation:

Group 1

- Celebrate Yorkshire Day together with representatives from all the strands
- Database of photographs, to obtain a better awareness of who we are and to show others (with permission this database of images to be shared with other authorities)
- Inclusive Lord Mayor's Day: representatives from each of the equality strands and groups in York



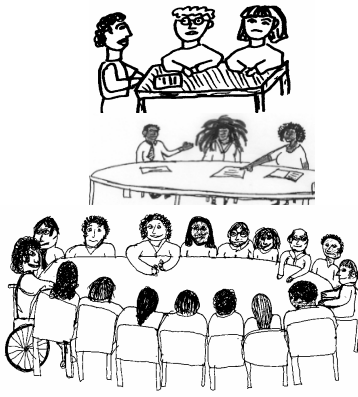
to be invited to attend the occasion and accompany the Lord Mayor's parade to the Merchant Adventurers Hall

Group 2

- Schools extended services to provide and support family learning or intergenerational events (all schools are required to provide extended school services by 2010)
- Expansion of work with BME elders' group e.g. Befriending Schemes
- Community development capacity - support for interstrand networking required
- Raise awareness of equality issues of people in care

Group 3

- Higher York Students' Forum offering to undertake voluntary activities with groups inc. older people (social activities, bingo, visiting etc)
- Celebration Day to cover all the strands



Officers agreed to examine the suggested projects that covered the most strands and report back to the Group.

Heather Rice, Director of People and Improvement, also agreed to examine the suggestions made by the Group regarding Lord Mayor's Day.

The Higher York representative also said that the Students Forum would carry out voluntary activities suggested and without needing any of the Groups Budget.