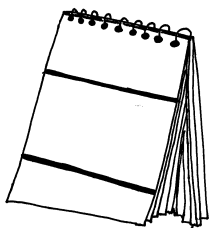


## Social Inclusion Working Group

*(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: 28 January 2010**

## Members of the Council who were at the meeting



**Nigel Ayre**  
(Chair)

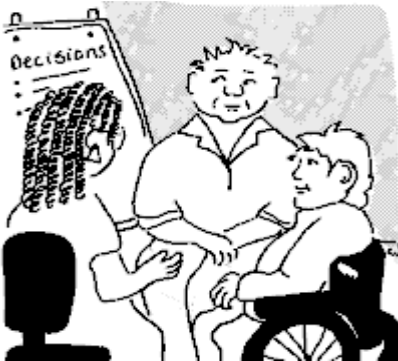
**Sonja Crisp**  
(Vice-Chair)

**Keith Aspden**

**Jenny Brooks**

**Julie Gunnell**

### People who were at the meeting representing community groups and as expert witnesses:



Nicola Bedford (Higher York)

Sarah Fennell (LGBT Forum)

Corry Hewitt (York Interfaith)

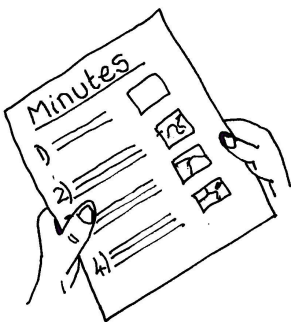
Sue Lister (York Older People's Assembly)

Daryoush Mazloum (York Racial Equality Network)

Carolyn Suckling (York Access Group)

Paul Wordsworth (Churches Together in York)

### 1. Minutes



The Group decided that they would look at the minutes of the meeting of 2 December 2009 when they next met.

Details were given of the actions taken following the last meeting.



## SIWG Display Boards

The Group agreed that it would be a good idea to use the SIWG display boards during International Women's Week. Evie would talk to Sue after the meeting to agree the best place to put the boards.



## Hate Incidents

At the last meeting the Group said that improvements should be made to the way hate incidents were reported. A Community Cohesion Strategy was also needed as soon as possible. This is about respect fairness and inclusion for everyone who lives in York.

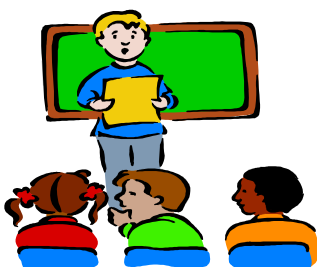


Sally Burns - the Director of Neighbourhood Services for the Council was now working on an action plan to improve the situation. Sally would ask SIWG for their views about the plan.

## 2. Workshop: Council Budget 2010-11 - Equality Issues



The Group heard about how the Council's revenue. Revenue is money for people. The Council gets its money from businesses, residents and grants.



The Council spends over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of its revenue on:

- Children and young people
- Adults needing social care
- Housing benefit

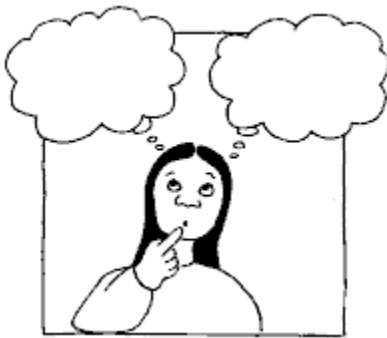


Over the next three years the council will need a lot more money for:

- Adults and children
- The waste we produce
- Helping people through the recession

The council had sent questionnaires to residents to ask for their views about how the council should decide on where the money should be spent.

SIWG were asked for their views on the following budget proposals:



- Reducing the mediation service for private tenants
- Reducing the availability of respite care
- Reduction in Adult Social Care Assessment posts
- Increase in warden call charges
- Increase in residential care charges
- Reducing support for community arts



SIWG worked in small groups and recorded their comments on post-it notes. Comments from the notes would be taken into account with the Equality Impact Assessment on the budget was written. The Executive of the Council would also look at the comments that SIWG had made.



Some members of the group said that they were not happy with the way in which SIWG had been consulted. They wanted more information about the proposals and more time. The group gave ideas about how things could be improved.