

Notes From the Informal Meeting of SIWG Reps Wed 22 Oct 08, Kings Manor, 6-7 pm

Present: Pete Blackburn, Sue Lister (notes), Daryoush Mazloum

Apologies: Lynn Jeffries, Janet Looker

Invited but no reply: Becca, Tricia Castle, Stephen Rouse

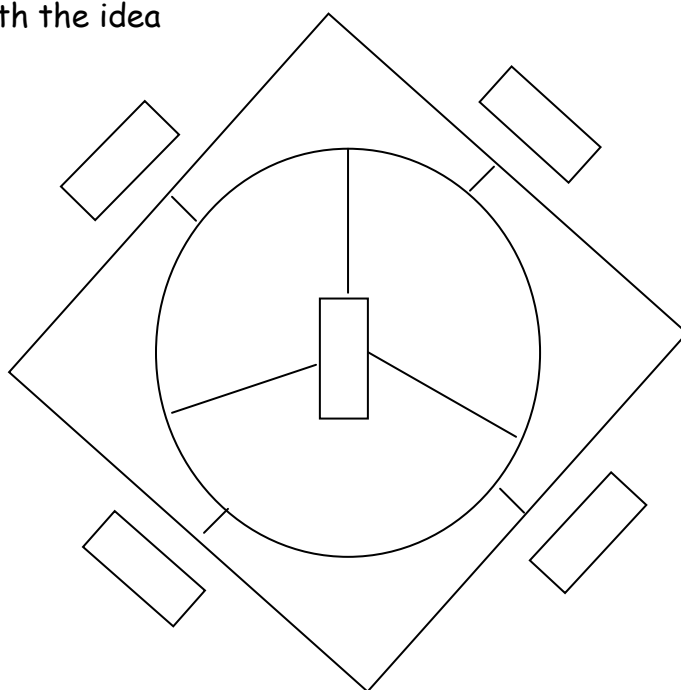
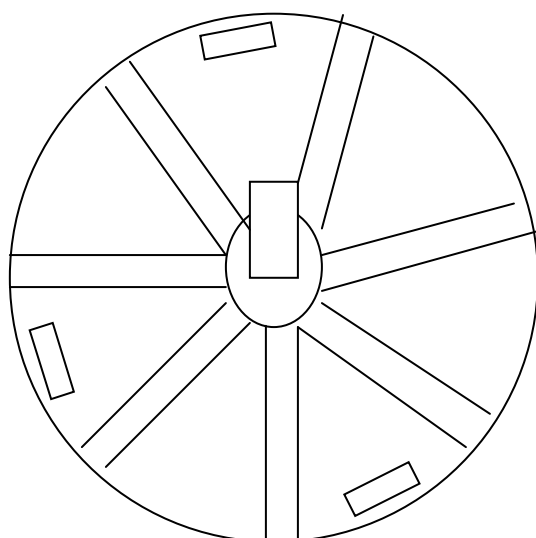
Suggestions for projects with our groups working together with funding from the SIWG budget 08-09

1. Diversity Exhibition

- a) Each group to create its own part of a diversity display
- b) Buy display boards big enough to mount a display from each of our groups and strong enough to last for years
- c) Provide money to each group, say £200, to put together its display, showcasing its activities and putting across a clear message about the value of its work
- d) The exhibition could travel to festivals, or be split up for small events put on by the individual groups; it could travel round libraries, or be put up for Council or public events, etc.

2. Diversity Garden

- a) The groups design their part of a shared garden which would be a place where everyone would feel welcome - fully accessible, a sensory garden for people with sight impairment, lovely to visit at all times of the year
- b) A focal point for locals and visitors. Something different for York to be proud of
- c) A plaque or central feature explaining what we are trying to achieve through social inclusion
- d) Work together with council experts to find the right spot, design and create the garden
- e) Could the groups continue to be involved in caring for their section?
- f) The key is to inspire people to run with the idea



g) We thought of dividing it into 7 sections to include women.

3. Diversity Fun at Festivals

- a) Put on events, workshops, speakers, displays, presentations, performances, stalls at festivals run by our partner groups eg Pride Picnic in the Park, 50+ Festival, International Women's Week, One World Week, YUMI, etc
- b) Show we are an inclusive community and when we celebrate, we celebrate together
- c) Issue invitations through our networks and encourage participation
- d) We could do a joint presentation of poetry, song, music, drama, dance and tour this to other venues, festivals, towns
- e) Have vision, will travel!

4. Diversity Day

- a) Have a special day in York each year to celebrate diversity
- b) In the summer, outside, somewhere like Tower Gardens by the river
- c) Stalls, our Diversity Display, balloons, picnic, performances, crafts activities, food, games, quizzes, circle dancing for all to join in
- d) Or in the autumn as part of, say, One World Week (last Saturday of October), and hold it in the Guildhall, or the Early Music Centre, or.....
- e) Form a working party from each of the groups, led by a paid City Council Coordinator. Offer honorariums to the working party members.
- f) Would the SIWG budget continue to be invested in such an annual event, or would it have to find its own budget in subsequent years? Would the City Council want to take it on as part of its inclusive community responsibilities?