**Newington Big Local**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Newington Community Centre**

**21st October 2015 6.30pm**

**Attending:**

Cara Thorpe - Community Development Officer

Liam Clark – N.B.L Apprentice

Tammy Sains – N.B.L Volunteer

Keven Gabriel – N.B.L Gardener

Becky Vincer – People United

Samantha Voak – N.B.L Volunteer

Hannah Todd – N.B.L Volunteer/Ambassador

Charlie Fox – L.T.O

Sandrra Sudds – N.B.L Volunteer

Sandra Herring – N.B.L Volunteer

Bob Mower – Academy Fm

Sarah Fox – People United

Mike Harrison - N.C.A02

Richard Nicholson – N.C.A02

Marie Thomas – N.C.A02/N.B.L Volunteer

Hannah Rhodes – Forest School

Carl Adams – Local Trust

**Apologies:**

Tess

Richard Barnard– Porchlight

Steph Todd – Chair

Norma Kelly

Sarah Nicholson

Debbie Day (Academy FM)

Simon Crouchman – N.B.L Volunteer

Caroline Pinchbeck

**Minutes of last Meeting**

Minutes of last Meeting were agreed as correct and were signed as such.

**Chairperson**

Steph (N.B.L) Chairperson is taking 6 Months off for personal reasons, Richard Nicholson has been put forward by Carl Adams as her Stand-in and this was unanimously agreed by the group.

A suggestion was made that after the 6 Months, Richard could maybe take the role of Vice Chair, as it was felt his experience would be of great Value to the position.

**N.B.L Apprentice**

Liam Clark was officially introduced as N.B.L Apprentice. Liam has been working alongside Cara, his role and what he has been tasked with to date was explained to the Meeting.

**N.B.L Gardener**

Keven Gabriel was introduced to the Meeting as our new Gardener. Keven gave us an insight into his Background and also explained what he has been doing in his role so far.

**Forest School**

Hannah Rhodes was introduced. Hannah is a Level 3 Forest School Practitioner, currently working at Chilton School. Hannah explained what this involves, how it benefits so many and also some ideas of how she would like to potentially set a Forest School up in The Copse.

***Q:*** would there be a charge for the Service? ***A:*** Hannah explained that it could be that Schools and others who use the service could be charged or that she could be employed by N.B.L.

***Q:***Is Hannah insured to do this? ***A:*** She is covered by Public Liability Insurance.

***Q:***Is Hannah OFSTED Regime Bound? ***A:*** No this is not needed.

***Q:*** Do you need to be a Teacher to run a Forest School? ***A:*** No, but would need a Level 3 Practitioner Qualification. – Adult Helpers do not need a Qualification.

*- This proposal is to be discussed further at a future Meeting*

**Academy Fm Thanet**

Bob Mower from Academy Fm spoke about how they have been working with Newington Big Local this year.

He went on to explain how Academy Fm currently has funding issues which they are seeking help with. The figure they are asking for this year is £5,000.

Bob explained their idea of potentially putting together a Community Magazine for Newington, which could help advertise the radio station as well as groups, etc, within the area. He also spoke about how they have an empty Studio that could possibly be put to good use by the Community.

***Q:*** Are they also seeking funding elsewhere? ***A:*** Yes they are.

***Q:*** Is the funding requested just for Academy Fm Thanet? ***A:*** Yes

Concerns were raised that if we fund them for a 2nd time, they may just keep coming back to us in the future instead of trying elsewhere. It was suggested that we make certain stipulations such as a Member joining their Board. – Cara pointed out that Steph is indeed already one of their Board Members.

Ideas regarding the possibility of N.B.L doing our own Newsletter and so not needing the Magazine were discussed.

*- Bob is to be invited to our next Meeting for Q & A’s regarding his Proposal.*

**Advertising Budget**

The possible purchase of various Marketing materials, such as shopping Bags, Trolley Coins, etc, to give away at Events, etc, for publicity was discussed and generally agreed as a good idea.

**Future Planning**

Richard mentioned that we need Core Strategy Planning with regards to how we can reach more of the Community, as there are still too many who do not know who & what N.B.L is. It was suggested that we could maybe set up a Marketing Team to achieve this and maybe start a Campaign next year with a Steering Group of maybe 3 N.B.L Members.

**Spice Credits**

Charlie explained what Spice Credits is about and how it could be used in our Community.

A brief summary is that it’s Credit earned for Volunteering. Further info can be found at [www.justaddspice.org](http://www.justaddspice.org)

**Community Development Officer Update**

Cara gave us an update on how she has been busy working with Liam (N.B.L Apprentice), People Unlimited and the planning of the upcoming Community Events.

**People United**

Creative Champions: Nova gave us an update of what has been going on so far, how they have been working with the Rainbows Group, Youth Club and schools, the Trip to London some of the group went on, how the Oral Historian has been working with local people and schools to research the History of Newington.

The planning for Best Fest was also discussed with us and we were shown a draft copy of the Program for the Event.

**Citizens Advice Bureau**

Info days for people to find out more about what is planned with regards to C.A.B are to be arranged.

**Dame Janet School**

We were given an update on the Annex that was funded by N.B.L. This provision is looking great and is being well used already.

**Halloween**

The Plans for our Halloween Disco, Zombie Walk & Spooky Copse Event were discussed and the importance of plenty of volunteers needed was mentioned. – There is also a Pumpkin Carving Day next Thursday at 1pm, at Newington Community Centre.

**Christmas 2015**

Some of the Plans for our Christmas Event were discussed, Mike has agreed to once again be Santa and there will be the opportunity for people to get a Photo & gift. It was suggested that the Salvation Army Band could be included in the day.

**Secretary**

There has been one application for this role. The application was from Marie and it was agreed that she be allowed to fill the position.

**A.O.B**

Carl mentioned that Richard will be a great asset to the group as Stand-in Chairperson, as he has a lot of experience/knowledge that we as a group could learn from.

\*\* For future reference anyone who has Any Other Business to include, should ensure they notify the Chairperson, Community Development Officer or Secretary at least a week before the Meeting, unless it is an urgent late addition, in which case permission may be given by the Chairperson.

Sam Voak notified us that she no longer wishes to be involved with the Credit union as she feels that she isn’t supported in this enough.

Meeting Closed

Next Meeting Monday 16th November 10.30am

Newington Community Centre