

Kent Acquired Brain Injury Forum (KABIF)

MINUTES

of meeting held on Thursday 5 April 2007 at 2.30 p.m..

East Kent Hospital School Service, City View, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8PT

In attendance:

Michelle Balderston
Frances Beaumont
Liz Bray
Jan Cartmell
Sophia Chung
Nicky Coffey
Rebecca Coffey
Di Drummond
Ros Eastwood
Gerhard Florschutz
Rikki Gandolf
Tony Hart
Emily Heath
Michael Lindo
Jenny Mazur
Chris Merriman
Pam Munro
Sandra Rafferty
Patti Simonson
Dennis Smith
Linda Theoff
Alice Visser
Kath Wilkinson-Carr

1. Apologies

Louise Brown
Delia Elliman
Elizabeth Francis
Mike Hope
Tony Merriman
Mary Ryan
Martin Terrell
Don Young

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held 8 December 2006

Dennis Smith confirmed that on page six, at the end of the first paragraph, Headway was not only in Dover and Ashford but also Canterbury and Margate (known as East Kent Headway). He also confirmed that Headway Tunbridge Wells had been set up by Michael and Pam Munro in 1988 and not 1986 as noted in the minutes. The minutes were approved with these changes.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting Held 8 December 2006

Nothing more has been heard from UKABIF after our attendance at a meeting there.

4. Neuro Rehab Stakeholders' Group and NSF Update

NHS in general:- All PCTs sorted out and changed to: -

- Medway – co-terminus with the unitary authority.
- East Kent – Canterbury and Coastal, Ashford, Shepway, Swale, Dover, Deal and Thanet.
- West Kent – SW Kent, Maidstone, Weald, Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley.

Nicky will update all the new contact details when they become available. This will be linked to the website mapping exercise.

Re ABI and neuro-rehab. Previously there have been lots of different groups working hard but now due to the changes there is planning across Kent and Medway. Within 12 – 18 months funding is to change and will be channelled via Nicky Coffey to co-ordinate . It will become more strategic and will look at the bigger picture as well as local initiatives.

West Kent: Darenth House: there are plans for the middle floor to become a 15 bed unit. This is a joint venture with neuro-psychiatry. Currently it is all out-patient but will slowly start taking in-patients. (10 NR + 5 NP beds) plus 1 bed in a transitory flat.

East Kent: Buckland Hospital: the services here are still under consideration.

Across NHS all hospital sites are being reviewed to assess what is available and where and how it all fits together.

Legislation. Frances will meet with Nicky to discuss where recoument from NHS is possible.

5. Mapping Exercise/Website Update

Frances Pierce confirmed that Mary Ryan had sent her apologies and wasn't able to attend the meeting. However, Chris Merriman was available and confirmed that the mapping is now live on the website and gave an excellent demonstration showing how it can be used.

There is still a lot of work to be done behind the scenes to ensure that all of the service areas are appropriately covered. This will be an ongoing project over the next year to ensure that all involved in KABIF check their details and feedback to Chris where appropriate so that amendments can be made. It was agreed that we would look at the website at each meeting so that we can capture changes and keep our contacts up to date.

This will be an agenda item each meeting so that it is kept up to date.

Frances explained how the map worked to access data succinctly and how the 'layers' of info worked – area – town - service – independent websites. This will cover all contributors regardless of size.

Chris was thanked with a spontaneous round of applause for all of his hard work in ensuring that the website is now working and kept regularly up to date.

A number of people commented with regard to the forthcoming events page and how helpful this had been. Frances Pierce encouraged everyone to let her know of events so that she could pass these on to Chris Merriman and the website could continue to be updated.

Frances Beaumont kindly updated the meeting with regard to a new development in East Kent, Bridgeford Brain Injury, headed by L J Conradi. A flyer was circulated confirming the details of the new service.

6. Headway Kent - Di Drummond

East Kent – no update.

S.E. Headway co-ordinator has asked them if they will attend KABIF meetings and they are going to be encouraged to provide a report if they cannot attend.

Tunbridge Wells - the keys for the new centre will be handed over on 21.4.07 and builders will start on 23.4.07. They hope to move in in September. They are still fund raising.

The members have settled in well in Tonbridge Football Club and this move has enabled a lot of old habits to be broken. Because of the access to the grounds they were all doing more walking and going out into the community. This will prepare them well for their new building where members will be encouraged to become involved in the design of the garden.

Di will use the website events page to keep people up to date with progress and to advertise the 'Brick Appeal'.

Open Day 21.4.07 11 am -1 pm to see what the building like prior to its refurbishment.

7. Focus on Young Adults - Ros Eastwood

Ros confirmed that she had pulled all the information together that she had had from the feedback. She hasn't completed a leaflet yet, but is working on that. If anyone has any further case studies or material that would be helpful she asked them to let her know. Please contact her at reastwood@ekhnes.kent.sch.uk.

8. PPI Forum (Patient and Public Involvement) - Dennis Smith

This has been going for 3 years and its main remit has been to try and find out what the public and patients are concerned about in regard to local services.

As a result of the merger of the P.C.T.s the PPIs have merged to 1 forum with locality groups in order to keep a local presence.

They have suggestion boxes in 37 local surgeries and undertake a variety of visits to focus groups to address them and ask what problems they encounter.

As a result of the changes in W Kent PCT the Chief Exec has appointed a director for Patient Matters. Julia Ross, Director of Civic Engagement. People have got to work with NHS and not be combative.

PPI is to be abolished in March 2008. The new organisation LINKs (Local Involvement Networks) will be rooted via social services. There is a question as to whether this will have the same local involvement and impact. There are 4-5 pilots already one of which is in Medway.

Frances asked if KABIF could do anything about the role of PPI and what good it had achieved and what would be lost. The new service won't offer this. It was felt that as enough wasn't known about the new set up yet any intervention at this stage wouldn't be fruitful.

9. Talk by Patti Simonson and Michael Lindo on the Work of RHN Putney

Please see slides attached.

Several questions were asked about how much of the work was funded by the charity side of the provision (80% funded, 20% charity funding which goes towards therapies such as Art and Music etc.

There were also some questions raised about referrals for people who had already been sectioned under the Mental Health Act.

They do take referrals for people with mental health conditions and they have specialists to assess and work with them. They need to ensure that the mental health

condition will not develop so that sectioning will be required. However they do have a procedure in place should it be required. There is always a Medical Officer on site.

Other info: Mostly medical referrals, High Profile for PVS, part of the Cambridge Project on MRI scanning and PVS.

10. Talk by Frances Pierce on the Process of Bringing a Personal Injury Claim

Please see slides attached.

Points:-

English Civil Law – we must look at everybody individually

A receiver should be appointed if a claimant lacks capacity. This needs to be part of initial discussions so one is appointed early enough.

Frances answered some questions from the floor about individual issues and concerns.

11. Any Other Business

People were asked to complete the Data Protection Sheet so that their details could be published on the database.

Frances Pierce confirmed that she was leaving Thomson Snell & Passmore and would be joining Rix & Kay Solicitors in Uckfield. She was willing to continue to chair the Forum and confirmed that her new contact details were as follows: - Rix & Kay, The Courtyard, River Way, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 1SL, telephone number 01825 761 555, email francespierce@rixandkay.co.uk. Rix & Kay are happy to provide administrative support to Frances, although she has asked for assistance with minutes at meetings.

The KABIF events arranged at the offices of TS&P for the rest of the year, TS&P have kindly agreed to honour and Frances thanked TS&P for allowing that.

Frances Pierce confirmed that there was a joint event taking place in respect of the Kent, Sussex and Surrey Forums, please see attached flyer. She encouraged everyone to support the event if possible.

Pam Munro put forward the idea of KABIF having its own headed paper.

Jan Cartmel mentioned a new facility that will soon be opening in Gillingham for nine people in a similar model to Wren Park.

Gerhard reported that they also had some an 8 bedded unit for PVS at The Raphael Centre. He will speak in more detail about this next year.

The meeting ended at 5.00 p.m.

Next meeting:

On:

7 June 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

At the offices of:

Royal British Legion Industries

Capel Morris Hall, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent,

ME20 7NL