

# DISABILITY LIAISON GROUP

## 18 April 2005

Present:

Chorley Borough Council Representatives:

Councillor Cath Hoyle (Chair)

Councillor D Dickinson

Councillor D Gee

Councillor Mrs Walsh

Roger Handscombe

Jane Meek

Alan Capstick

Cindy Lowthian

Neil Houlihan

Ruth Hawes

Head of Property Services

Head of Economic Regeneration

Engineering Services Manager

District Liaison Officer

Property Services

Democratic Services

Disability Forum Representatives:

Eileen Bee

Harold Rimmer

Terence Reynolds

Maureen Kay

Robert Winder

Devi Nicholson

Ken Miller

Maurice Waterhouse

Bill Coxhead

Judy Daniels

Sue Richmond

Dennis McCallum

Disability Forum Co-ordinator

Disability Forum (Chair)

Disability Forum (Vice-Chair)

Disability Forum

Disability Forum

Disability Forum

Disability Forum

Shop Mobility

Disability Forum

Disability Forum

SELF

SELF

Also attending:

Julie Lenton

Sign Language Interpreter

### 1 WELCOME

Albert and Rita Jeffrey

### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Brown, Parr and R Snape, Nancy Banks and Albert and Rita Jeffrey.

### 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The issue of recycling bins being left on the pavement that partially sighted people might fall over had been raised with the Head of Environmental Services and this would be monitored.

Alan Capstick reported that a leaflet entitled "Pavements are for pedestrians" was being developed.

**RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Disability Liaison Group held on 17 January 2005 be confirmed as a correct record.**

#### **4 ACCESS TO CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL SERVICES BY DISABLED PEOPLE**

The Head of Property Services requested any comments the Group had in relation to the access to Chorley Borough Council services for Disabled people and noted that the focus tended to be on physical access to buildings rather than services.

**RESOLVED – That a discussion item in respect of access to Chorley Borough Council services by Disabled people be placed on the next agenda.**

#### **5 TOWN HALL/LANCASTRIAN ALTERATIONS**

The Head of Property Services reported that the demolition aspect of the works at the Town Hall was almost complete and that the project was progressing well.

**RESOLVED - The architects to be invited to attend the next meeting of the Group to discuss the finishing details, such as signs and handles.**

#### **6 FUTURE PLANS FOR ASTLEY HALL**

The Group received a presentation from Jane Meek, the Head of Economic Regeneration, regarding the future plans for Astley Hall.

Jane reported that the Council had been working on the project for five years with £2.4 million funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and a percentage from the Council. Proposals had been drawn up and consulted on; the Park had been split into zones, with the area next to the Hall being zone 1.

The Coach House, footpaths, the lake and woodlands would be refurbished and a walled garden would be created. Thought had been given to adding value to the Park for people with disabilities, such as the surfaces used on pathways, signage and scented flowers.

The Group heard that the play area would be refurbished and the pets area would be relocated and redesigned to be more interactive. There would be a ranger presence, better lighting on pathways and security cameras throughout the Park.

The project would be ongoing for the next few years and further consultation would be undertaken in respect of finer details over the course of this. Work was scheduled to start at Christmas.

The Group discussed the proposals and queried several points.

**RESOLVED – That Jane be thanked for her presentation.**

#### **7 ONGOING ISSUES**

The Group considered the schedule prepared by the Head of Property Services listing the issues considered at past meetings of the Liaison Group.

##### Pavements

1,a, Poor access to pavement from Halfords and Netto. The location of this issue was clarified.

##### Dropped kerbs

Alan Capstick requested that any proposals for dropped kerbs be emailed to him on [ala.capstick@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:ala.capstick@chorley.gov.uk) or telephoned on 01257 515252.

#### General Highway Issues

4,a Trees obscuring lighting on Park Road. The location of this issue was clarified.

4,b, Completion of re-surfacing on Lancaster Lane, Clayton-le-woods. Cindy reported that this was scheduled for completion in May 2005.

#### Other Issues

6,a, Chorley Railway Station. An update on this would be requested for the next meeting.

6,c, Chorley Library, provision of accessible toilet. Cindy reported that the LCC survey of Chorley Library had not yet been completed. It was agreed that the Disability Forum and Disability Liaison Group write a letter to LCC voicing their concerns.

6,f, Difficult access to business premises. Roger reported that a letter had been sent to the business in question and three responses had been received. The premises were in a conservation area and two of the businesses had a side entrance for use by wheelchairs. The other business provided a home service.

#### **RESOLVED –**

**(a) That the ongoing issues be noted,**

**(b) That the Disability Forum and Disability Liaison Group write a letter to LCC voicing their concerns regarding the lack of provision of an accessible toilet at Chorley Library.**

**8**

#### **TOUR OF ALL SEASONS LEISURE CENTRE**

The Group had a tour of the Leisure Centre and noted the improved facilities for people with disabilities.

**RESOLVED – That the manager of All Seasons be thanked for his tour and hospitality.**

Chair