

BAAS Meeting Wednesday 31st May 2017

Chairman's report

1. Meeting of Autism Partnership Board 8th May 2017

The meeting dealt mostly with a report of the Autism Friendly Town proposal and an update from Graham Heywood on a sub-group meeting he had chaired at which John Slater (Bolton Housing Department), Mari Saeki (National Autistic Society) and Dr Anna Dodd (Clinical lead for Autism, Trafford Extended Services) were present. The report informed the APB of work undertaken by Aberdeen Council, Wigan, Liverpool, and Aylesbury Vale Town Council and from which much valuable information had been gleaned that would help inform Bolton on its proposal to move to an Autism Friendly Town status.

A summary of this sub group meeting is attached

A discussion of this brief report ensued and it was agreed that Graham Heywood would continue to lead the sub group but that the group needed to be widened. GH would invite representatives from Breaking Barriers and Bolton Parents and Carers Consortium to the next sub-group meeting.

2. Presentation of Grant Cheque 10th May 2017

Graham Heywood together with Barbara Brooks attended a gathering with other local Charities at the Old Links Golf Club. The meeting was convened by Bolton Lever Rotary Golf Club from whom each charity present received a cheque of £130.00. Photographs were taken of the cheques being presented and GH has asked David Ramsbottom to put the images on our website under 'Breaking News'. It is proposed that the grant will be put towards a much needed refurbishment of our pop-up banners.

Other charities represented were Bolton Jigsaw Stroke Group, Bolton Caribbean Elder Association and Bolton Network for Deafness.

3. IAG Meeting 22nd May 2017

At this meeting much time was devoted to the revision of various documents that comprised the recruitment package in need of urgent attention. The Chairman had reported at our meeting in April the need for the Bolton Information and Guidance (IAG) to widen its membership to more fairly represent the various communities in Bolton. Since the previous IAG meeting the Chair Person and Secretary had spent a great deal of time updating the recruitment documentation but the meeting felt that this heavy burden should not in fairness be left to the small number of members still attending. Rather, it was seen as a job for the Greater Manchester Police especially as the same updated documents would be used throughout all the Boroughs in Greater Manchester.

It was agreed to refer this matter to the Chief Constable's representative with our recommendations for the changes needed.

There was an update on modern day slavery. BAAS members may already be aware that modern day slavery is also happening here in Bolton which is being addressed by the Police.

The meeting discussed a letter that had been constructed by the Chair Person and sent to all Mosques in Bolton. The purpose of the letter was to introduce the Bolton IAG to each Mosque and to seek a point of contact for future reference (particularly important in light of the atrocity in Manchester on the evening of Monday 22nd May 2017).

There was a brief discussion of training needs for members of the group and it was agreed that members be invited to GMP Headquarters when activities of interest were planned, such as the previous presentation on use of Tasers.

Other matters were considered also to be important such as Police operational procedures that were not fully understood by members of the wider public.

Finally, there was a presentation by DCI Bridges on Serious crime in Greater Manchester. Topics covered included terrorism threat/vigilance; child sexual exploitation; drug dealing and modern slavery.