

BOLTON ADULT AUTISM SUPPORT

Minutes of Meeting held 31st May 2017 at Thicketford Care and Community Centre

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Vice Chair, Roselle Gorman took the meeting whilst the Chairman was away on a well earned holiday.

There were 8 members present including 2 new members. Roselle extended a warm welcome to all.

Apologies were received from Graham Heywood (Chairman), Eira Heywood and Helen Green.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held April 2017

The minutes of the April meeting were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the above minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report – see attached

- i) APB meeting 8th May 2017.
- ii) Presentation of Bolton Lever Rotary Club Grant cheque 10th May 2017.
- iii) IAG meeting 22nd May 2017.

5. Vice Chair's Report – see attached.

- i) Autism Awareness Training Presentations = 11 to date.

6. Any other Business

- i) Carers Trips – our application has been successful and trip suggestions were:
Boat trip on the Lancashire canal system, Trentham Gardens, Port Sunlight Village and a Manchester theatre trip in the winter months.
- ii) Voluntary & Community Sector Forum Wednesday 25th May 2017 – see attached report.
- iii) Discussions:

Lively discussions took place on various subjects and a variety of experiences shared between members present.

Concerns were voiced about the length of waiting time for autism assessments to be conducted. Two members advised that they had waited 18 weeks for an assessment for their daughter, whilst another member has been awaiting a date for 6 months now.

Alison Thompson advised that she had attended the Bolton Commissioners meeting held at Bolton Arena in February 2017. Opportunity for service users to give input, opinions and feedback relating to

services e.g. how services were accessed, what was found to be difficult/easy with the process, what people would like to see in the future etc. Several workshops took place, taking into account the various comments from service users, to look at ways of planning services for the future.

There was a follow up meeting of smaller groups on 24th May 2017 at which Commissioners gave feedback from the February meeting e.g. regarding housing - choices of where to live, with whom, support, activities etc.

Proposals for new ideas for supported housing options were discussed and plans were shown of the purpose-built apartments in Farnworth with on-site support, dependent upon the needs of the resident.

Roselle thanked everyone for their attendance and most enjoyable and lively discussions.

7. Date/s and times/s of next meetings

Drop-in session at Commerce House, 2pm Saturday 24th June 2017.

Monthly meeting, 2pm Wednesday 28th June 2017.