

## **BOLTON ADULT AUTISM SUPPORT**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

#### **Item 1. Welcome and apologies**

The chairman extended a very warm welcome to all present. There were 12 members in attendance, namely: The Chairman, Charlotte Horrocks (Treasurer), Roselle Gorman, Brian Robinson, Janine Robinson, John Ellis, Barbara Brooks, Rachel Nelmes (Befriending Plus Service Co-Coordinator, Gerry Melling, Elaine Birch, Eira Heywood (Safeguarding Officer) and Lisa Griffiths, representing Bolton Cares. Guest speaker David Gibbons representing Respect4All.

Apologies were received from Alison Thompson and Yvonne Poulson.

**Item 2.** Minutes from the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were agreed.

#### **Item 3. Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising

#### **Item 4. Presentation from David Gibbons on Respect 4 All**

David gave a brief history of the background to the establishment of Respect4All. He had formalised a partnership with Respect4All in 2002. The charity is funded by the National Lottery and Greater Manchester Boroughs, being a shared service with CCG resources. Referrals are usually via a GP and can offer 8/12 sessions. Respect4All also visit schools, colleges, accepts referrals from social services and can also offer a crisis counselling services which can be accessed via self referral or via the Respect4All website. Following David's presentation members asked various questions which clarified a number of issues regarding accessing the service. The Chairman thanked David on behalf of members and said BAAS looked forward to working closely in partnership with R4A.

#### **Item 5. Befriending Plus Service update**

Rachel Nelmes, Befriending Plus Coordinator gave a brief update on the progress of the service, after which members congratulated Rachel for the admiral progress and results achieved to date, being:

- Social media posts on Facebook from April
- Bolton FM Radio slot and coverage throughout April on the work of BAAS
- Organising a stall in Bolton Market Place for Autism Month on the 12<sup>th</sup> April
- Feedback from ASDA on future fund raising activities within the Stores.

#### **Item 6. Chairman's report on Meetings attended since the last meeting**

The Chairman reported on two meetings he had attended since our last meeting, namely;

- The Greater Manchester Autism Strategy Launch in Greater Manchester
- The IAG (Independent Advisory Group) at which it as reported an ongoing hate crime initiative; establishment of a multi agency team and inter faith groups working within the community, at Brightmet, Castle Hill and Dean and a dedicated team on knife crime; and stop and search procedures to ensure compliance with PACE (Police and Criminal Evidence Act) 1984.

### **Item 7. Update from Lisa Griffiths – Bolton Cares.**

Lisa advised that DBS checks for those members who had not yet completed the necessary paperwork needed to do so before the end of May at the latest.

Lisa asked members to think of activities they wished to see on offer which should include special interests, this matter now needed to be firmed up so as to enable this initiative to commence as soon as possible.

Lisa advised that the Autism Champions Programme was now in operation and the first drop in with this service will be some time in May, yet to be confirmed.

Parent/Carers Drop - in now take place on the second Thursday in each month from 10am to 12pm in the Art Room at Thicketford House Health Centre.

### **Item 8. Update on Parent/Carers Trips**

The Chairman wishes to apply for funding to enable parent/carer to enjoy trips in 2019, the deadline being 26<sup>th</sup> April members present were asked if they had any ideas/preferences. Suggestions included:

- Harrogate and Harlow Carr Gardens
- Return trip to Ellesmere Port Sunlight Village
- Salford Quays
- York and the Minster
- Anderson's Boat Museum and Garden Centre.

### **Item 9 Any Other Business**

The Chairman confirmed that he had notified the Charity Commission of the resignation of Vice Chair Roselle Gorman, Roselle will continue to attend meetings as a member.

Roselle discussed the possibility of using the 'ticket bank' (a maximum of 15 people per month may benefit) and advised that members could apply on line, this may be an option to take up if we would like to go on a theatre trip this year, could members please confirm if they are interested and we will consider this, the website for this [www.theticketbank.org/reg](http://www.theticketbank.org/reg) (all in lower case).

### **10.0 Date of next meeting:**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm – Thicketford Health Centre.**