

Notes of Meeting of RPCAG
10.00am Friday 10 September

Attendees: John Doherty
 Joanne Kemp (Chair)
 Barry Woodward
 Paul Leonard
 Christine Duke
 Sharon La Ronde
 Stella Mabb
 Salima Bourick Horn
 James Holstead

Pat Leggett (Administrator)

The attendees were informed that the improvements to the Croft Centre will not now go ahead as the funding has been withdrawn by the Local Authority. Discussion followed as to what RPCAG should do to register their concerns regarding this decision. John Doherty is to write a letter and liaise with Paul Leonard as to the contents. John Doherty will also liaise with his contact Christine Flemming at The Richmond and Twickenham Times to express our displeasure. Joanne Kemp will lobby MP Zac Goldsmith. John Doherty will lobby Vincent Cable MP.

It was also discussed as to what would be the best way to get RPCAG's views heard. Stella Mabb said she knows Polly Tommey, (The Autism File) so it was suggested, once John has drafted his letter, Stella will talk to Polly Tommey as to what she thought might be the best way to get RPCAG's views made public.

James Holstead joined the meeting to discuss RPCAG's requirements for improvements to the website.

A number of things were suggested e.g. a system for voting on issues, ability to add agendas and minutes of meetings, updating the current image and photographs, links to other sites, and a photo gallery of RPCAG events. It would also be necessary to have someone who would update the website regularly. Barry Woodward is to liaise with Joanne Kemp Anne Marie Asgari and relay information to James Holstead on our requirements. Joanne Kemp expressed RPCAG thanks to James Holstead for his kind offer. It was agreed that Joanne would get a clearer picture of what the requirements are and then get in touch with James.

Anne-Marie came to the meeting and introduced her guest, the Head Teacher of Strathmore School in Ham, Ivan Pryce. He said he was very interested to find out what parents requirements were. Joanne asked him if he would be willing to attend a meeting where parents and their children's needs could be discussed. He said he would be more than happy to do so.

Future Meetings

- 15 October Becky Powell from Aiming High is attending to explain grants that are available for families to cover short breaks and application forms will be available.
- 29 October Information Day. There will be displays from many local groups and information on their services, etc will be available. There will also be fun things for the children.
- 5 November Carl Burgess, Transition Officer for the Borough will attend the meeting to answer parents questions regarding transition and their children.

For the December meeting it was suggested that a discussion about the Borough's provision for our children and what their plans are for the future. The Borough's secondary schools will be invited along with top council officials to create a focus meeting.

The Information Day was discussed and it was agreed that RPCAG should invite high profile people so they can see what RPCAG is all about.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

17 December RPCAG'S Christmas Party at the Turks Head.

13 September 2010