

Older People's Council – Public Meeting

Tuesday 19 June 2018, 10.15am – 1pm

Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton

No	Item	Who
	<p>Present:</p> <p>Colin Vincent Chair, Older People's Council</p> <p>Mike Bojczuk Older People's Council</p> <p>Francis Tonks Older People's Council</p> <p>Jack Hazelgrove Older People's Council</p> <p>David Brindley Public Health Programme Manager, BHCC</p> <p>Rachel Cashman CEO, Age UK</p> <p>Neil Kelly</p> <p>Bobby Bleach</p> <p>Val Cane</p> <p>Richard Scott</p> <p>Kathy Newman</p> <p>L. Doyle</p> <p>Lilly Kennard Possability People</p>	
<p>407</p> <p>407.1</p> <p>407.2</p>	<p>PROCEDURAL BUSINESS</p> <p>Apologies received from Michael Whitty.</p> <p>It was noted that the section 'Declarations of Interest' can be removed from the agenda for future meetings, as this is more of a Council formality.</p>	
<p>408</p> <p>408.1</p> <p>408.2</p> <p>408.3</p> <p>408.4</p>	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>ACTION: Signed agreement with Possability People to be sent out with the minutes.</p> <p>On 402 of the last minutes, it states the next business meeting is on the 8 July, when it is actually on the 10th.</p> <p>ACTION: Amend the dates in the last minutes and re-send to members.</p> <p>On 404, John Cook has requested that the minutes be amended regarding the wording used on the topic of Grey Matters. John stated he is happy for Grey Matters to be discussed at future meetings, should it be requested, but</p>	<p>LK</p> <p>LK</p>

408.5	that it doesn't need to be on the agenda every month, ACTION: LK to amend the minutes with information given from John Cook's email to Mike.	LK
408.6	ACTION: LK to re-send minutes and a copy of the email to OPC members.	LK
408.7	Jack – Regarding 405.5, knowing how uncooperative the council were on supporting our elections, it's going to be difficult enough to access the electoral roll, let alone find the funding for elections.	
408.8	Colin – Francis and I were asked to arrange a meeting with Age UK which we have done. I did email Community Works, and I had an email response from Jess Summer which will be circulated	
408.9	ACTION – Circulate email from Jess Summner along with the minutes	CV/LK
408.10	John - regarding 399, I was at the last public meeting where I was saying that we were against the use of Possability People for use of administration. I see from the minutes that the decision was made to use them to administrate. How was this conducted? How many people voted for/against?	
408.11	Colin – Half of the OPC members voted for Possability People to take on the secretariat role, and the other half voted against. Colin with the casting vote as chair passed the vote that Possability People would take on that supporting role. We had contacted Age UK, before Rachel was involved, we contacted Community Works and others to take on the role but we did not have a response from anyone other than Possability People. It is a 6-month contract initially which can be reviewed at any point. They are providing minute-taking, general administration, and support to find funding. We did not have any members or other people interested in taking on this role, and so we have asked Possability People.	
408.11	John Cook - I was one of the three people who voted against the contract with Possability People, but I do acquiesce what Mike has said that we need administrative support. If we had volunteers to do each of the strands that PP are taking on board, then we could do things differently if others made a greater contribution.	
409	SPEAKER 1: David Brindley – Age Friendly City	
409.1	The Age Friendly City (AFC) is holding a public meeting to invite older people in the city to come along and give their input into the future of the AFC and to relaunch the work if there is an appetite for it. The event is at 10am on Thursday 12 July at the Brighthelm Centre. To book your place, visit https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brighton-hove-age-friendly-city-the-future-tickets-	
409.2	The aim is to engage more older people in AFC B&H moving forward so that the work of the AFC can be expanded by Public Health, giving it more of an	

	<p>older people's voice, instead of just hearing from staff. We want to hear from older people with their voice, get them more involved.</p>	
409.3	<p>The morning itself is just a few hours. Robert Percy from Adult Social Care is going to give a talk and the national AFC Communities will also be giving talks on work done in other areas of the country that we could learn from here in B&H.</p>	
409.4	<p>Then there will be discussion groups to hear from older people what they want as a group moving forward. Nick Taylor, Dick Paige, and Karen Barford are the councillors invited to listen to the issues.</p> <p>Rachel Cashmanm, CEO of Age UK and Peter Huntbach, head of Senior's Housing, will also be there to help facilitate the group discussions.</p>	
	<p>Q&A with David Brindley</p>	
409.5	<p>Question - It's been planned over the last 6 or 7 months, but why has the date has only just been circulated? Not enough time has been given to have advance warning for people to be able to attend.</p> <p>DB – Ideally, we did want to have the date out earlier but we weren't able to. There may be another meeting after the summer to follow on from these discussions.</p>	
409.6	<p>Question – At the last meeting, you said you were going to focus on social participation and engagement as two major priorities. Are these still the areas the AFC is focussing on?</p> <p>DB – I think it has changed, as we want to hear from older people themselves and consult with them to see what the current priorities are.</p>	
409.7	<p>Question – What is the difference between the AFC steering group and the Forum?</p> <p>DB – We don't have two any more. There is only the AFC Forum, there is no steering group any more. The steering group was formed mostly of staff, organisations and Council officers and the forum was for older people to attend.</p>	
409.8	<p>Question – What is the difference between the OPC and the AFC Forum?</p> <p>DB – The AFC is looking at one particular thing, having an Age Friendly City. I haven't been very involved in the OPC, but I agree there needs to be a bigger differentiation.</p> <p>Mike – Now that the OPC isn't being supported by the Council, our aims could be more in line of those of the AFC – the 9 aims they hold. We are happy to move along in parallel with the AFC but also look at our own agenda too. I'm</p>	

	not clear if the two are clearly married or not.	
409.9	<p>Question – Is the AFC still in line with the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) aims AND OBJECTIVES TO BECOME AND Age Friendly City?</p> <p>DB – the WHO officiation has ended now. We put the initial application in, but it only lasted 2 years, and unfortunately it wasn’t renewed. However, we are part of the UK Network of AFC Communities, but not WHO.</p>	
409.10	<p>John Cook – I am confused of the relationship between the AFC and the OPC. I’m not convinced we need two forums. An effective body surely can represent two interests of the older people in the city, and make it meaningful for older people living in the city.</p>	
409.11	<p>DB – I’ve heard a range of views, and I hear what people are saying about the 2 groups. I don’t see why you couldn’t have 2 or 3 groups as long as there is a differentiation between the two.</p>	
409.12	<p>ACTION – Lilly to send the invite to the AFC meeting on 12 July with the minutes.</p> <hr/> <p>--</p> <p>SPEAKER 2: Rachel Cashman, Age UK</p>	LK
409.13	<p>Age UK B&H have been through a few changes in the past couple of months, and today Rachel is sharing some updates with the OPC.</p>	
409.14	<p>Age UK B&H have new members on their board, and they aim to become more aligned with the national Age UK agenda.</p>	
409.15	<p>In practice in B&H, we are working towards looking at the following three main strands:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delivering our mainstream services. We want our services to be of good quality and meeting the needs of local residents. 2. Information and advice – we have to run a comprehensive information and advice service for anyone who is 50+ or anyone who is interested in information for someone who is 50+ 3. Thought Leadership and Campaigning, which is where we will work best with the OPC. Some of the issues Age UK want to start to work on include ageism, community transport availability for older people, patient safety, and much more. It is important for Age UK to continue to make links with the OPC, as hearing your voices will help us in our campaigning on these wider issues. 	
409.16		

	<p>I'm here today to introduce myself and find out the ways in which the OPC work, and how we can work together. Age UK B&H have not historically been that campaigning voice, but we will be working closely with Public Health and the AFC to ensure that older people's voices are being heard across the city within this work.</p>	
409.17	<p>Q&A with Rachel Cashman</p> <p>Question – do Age UK still provide low cost counselling?</p> <p>RC – We are currently continuing to deliver our counselling service. However, we are currently analysing all our services as to the cost, quality and safety of the service and ensuring these 3 things are aligned. We are also looking at whether we are best placed in the city to continue to deliver these services.</p>	
409.18	<p>Question – other organisations including Possability People used to have free or low cost counselling, but don't deliver it any more. Why are these services being reduced across the city? If you use volunteer counsellors, isn't it low-cost?</p> <p>RC – Highly qualified counselling supervisors who volunteer their time are hard to come by now. The running costs of a service can be high even if volunteers are used. Possability People weren't funded to provide that service, and it isn't always financially viable to continue running.</p> <p>Our advocacy service is also running until March 2019, but this, and other advocacy services, will then re-tendered. It may be that services will look differently in future, as they may be commissioned differently.</p>	
409.19	<p>Question – Who is your chair of trustees?</p> <p>RC - Peter Worcester</p>	
409.20	<p>Question - Do you think there is any possibility that Age UK could work towards being less reliant on public sector contracts so that it could be in a better position and be better placed to criticise and campaign against the council's way of working?</p> <p>RC – Age UK have had several commissioned products from the council for a long time, as have many Community and Voluntary Sector organisations (CVS). The ideal split for us would be a third from public sector contracts, a third from commercial activity and a third from legacies or fundraising. We are traditionally between 50-60% from public sector contracts in B&H historically, and some of our work coming up will be to rebalance that.</p>	
409.21	<p>Question - There seems to be a current lack of public consultation on Council</p>	

<p>409.22</p> <p>409.23</p> <p>409.24</p> <p>409.25</p>	<p>contracts and decisions, and how they are consulting with older people if at, all including on the Health and Wellbeing Board with the recent advocacy contract.</p> <p>We need to speak to Daniel Yates, leader of the Council, and commissioners of services about service specifications being made more available for public consultation.</p> <p>ACTION: Invite Daniel Yates to meet with the OPC.</p> <p>Question – has the OPC got any sympathetic people on the council, councillors or MPS, to further advance the welfare of older people in Brighton?</p> <p>Mike – A couple of meetings ago we have discussed appointing someone such as the new lead for Adult Social Care, and councillors such as Karen Barford, Claire Moonan and Daniel Yates to the OPC to take up our issues.</p> <p>Question – The OPC is in a fortunate position of being a democratic group. The next election is beyond our means, and the £5000 parting gift from the Council will dwindle quickly. We need to become more sustainable if we are to continue.</p> <p>Jack – we are looking at funding streams to remain sustainable, and also working towards making sure the Council support us.</p> <p>Question - Can we work towards getting funding from external sources to move in a more independent direction?</p> <p>RC – we hold a list of external funding streams that you could look at to keep the OPC sustainable.</p> <p>ACTION: RC to share the funding list with Colin</p>	<p>CV/LK</p>
<p>410</p> <p>410.1</p>	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a correct record of the last meeting, except for the points made in 408.2 and 408.4, which have now been amended. The amended minutes of the last meeting will be circulated to the members.</p>	
<p>411</p> <p>411.1</p> <p>411.2</p>	<p>CONSTITUTION, DRAFTING MEETING 10 JULY</p> <p>Michael and John are working together on drafting a new constitution which will be shared and discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Jack – can we agree that holding elections ward by ward is not going to be achievable, as it is too expensive. Can I suggest that we still hold an election, but it is one election for all members of the Council?</p>	

411.3	John – to add this to the draft constitution, we need to discuss it at the next meeting.																																																																												
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	Mike has been through the accounts and has reconciled everything from January 2015, as shown below:																																																																												
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01/08/16	£50.00		£50.00	Transfer from Bank
15/05/17		£17.90	£32.10	Printing for meeting
23/05/17		£10.00	£22.10	Printing for meeting
19/06/17		£4.80	£17.30	Printing for meeting
11/09/17		£4.80	£12.50	Printing for meeting
	?	?	?	
08/02/18			£34.09	

CV/MB

ACTION: Work towards factoring in projected costs into the budget in the future.

413 MEMBERS' UPDATES

413.1 John met with the long term multiple condition forum, and has attended the book launch by Age UK on their new publication on reimagining the elderly.

413.2 Mike has continued visiting Tower House on a regular basis, which was closed down by the Council as a Day Centre but is now being run by the St Vincent de Paul Society. They provide meals on wheels, a café, and provide transport for people. It's a working progress and its slowly growing.

Mike also went to a meeting with Kings College Hospital Research Group, who are carrying out research on how to treat older people in a community hospital environment, which is where some people who leave hospital go when they can't return home yet, in order to relieve pressure on hospitals.

Mike also went to a meeting at Sussex University to provide advice on how to structure one of their courses on Wellbeing in Old Age.

Ageing Better was another meeting Mike attended, there are many older

<p>413.6</p> <p>413.7</p>	<p>people that still don't want anything to do with digital technology. There are IT drop ins at seniors housing schemes but very few have taken it up. However, there are many that would like access to the internet and there is work progressing towards achieving this in housing schemes.</p> <p>Jack – the Age UK book launch the other day was very successful, with very good speakers.</p> <p>I have been involved in research at Pallative Care at King's College, London, and self-funders of social care is also being included in the book. The social care aspect has once again been kicked into the long grass, the government are still unable to deal with the issue.</p> <p>Colin – On 4th June, I attended the AFC meeting. The notification of the public meeting probably was too short, which hopefully David Brindley has taken on board for the next one.</p> <p>**COLIN TO SEND MORE INFORMATION THROUGH</p>	
<p>414</p> <p>414.1</p>	<p>GUEST SPEAKERS FOR NEXT MEETING</p> <p>ACTION: Daniel Yates will be contacted to speak at the next OPC meeting, or meet with OPC members another time.</p>	<p>LK</p>
<p>415</p> <p>415.1</p> <p>415.2</p> <p>415.3</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>It was asked if the OPC could, as early as possible, write to the individuals of the political parties to see if they can incorporate into their manifestos about the needs of older people.</p> <p>It was also noted that there are many meetings that members are attending, and that there are many good pieces of work going on, but could it all be brought together in one place to refer to? We can't concentrate on everything – people have to focus on specifics that are relevant to all older people, we should be more of an action group that focus on a few topics, not drown on too many topics all at once.</p> <p>It was also asked why there is a separate LGBT lounge for residents at Brook Mead, where the OPC hold their meetings, and why a mixed lounge isn't sufficient.</p> <p>Mike answered that he did not know the answer, but we would ask Brook Mead.</p>	<p>MB</p>

	<p>Next OPC meeting details Tuesday 10 July, 10.15am – 1pm AT Brook Mead, Albion Street, BN2 9PY</p>	
	<p>Meeting ended at 1.15pm</p> <p>Signed (Chair) Date</p>	