

Minutes for RBDSLFL meeting on Monday 1st June 2009.

At: 2 West Street, Rochdale.

6 – 8pm.

In Attendance: Graeme Hill, Keith Barker, Paula Duffy, Gary Smith and Mansoor (surname)

Apologies: ????????

Item 1: Minutes of Previous meeting – unavailable

Item 2: Matters Arising –

- no minutes available unable to re evaluate properly
- RBDSLFL events have dropped off and committee under represented
- There is reduced publicity of RBDSLFL need to reinvent and re-launch RBDSLFL
- Julie Durant has stepped down as Secretary, Paula elected to fulfil position

Item 3: Re-launch of the forum –

- Need new members on the committee and more representation
- There is a loss of structure to RBDSLFL need to consider and re structure so there are more reference points and easy access
- Need to build up E mail contacts and clientele base
- Real push Water Sports activities
- Goalball should be used as a vehicle of promotion and news item
- Use Keith Swifts attendance to the meeting and press release to promote
- RBDSLFL again eligible to apply for Awards for All up to £10, 000
- Good idea to keep with the core as taster days and sessions and build outwards
- Use consultation methods to acquire knowledge of people's needs and desires to implement tasters and on going activities to suit, can be incorporated into Link4Life work if successful
- Cycling taster day collected 80 people to their database, would be useful to use a similar method in data capturing, maybe questionnaires.
- Data Capture at Water sports and point people towards RBDSLFL website
- Contact previous partners and bridge the partnership once again, have open access to keep the links. Find out what worked and what has not and help evaluate and progress
- Keep the website fresh and up to date – try to have a new item up every week
- Promote Duke of Edinburgh on the website use it to promote the award to others

- Fun Day! Have an open fun day for all people with disabilities to attend, working with local clubs and organisations providing opportunity for them to promote their clubs by providing a small taster session and giving information to people with disabilities and offer activity.
- There is a budget available from Link4Life to host the Fun Day
- From the Fun day hopefully then work with the clubs and organisations supporting them in providing sustainable activities to the people with disabilities.
- Apply for Grants and fundraise for the taster sessions so they can be sustained

Item 5: Buddy Scheme booklet –

- Outstanding usage of the booklet
- Good positive feedback about the directory
- Directory needs to treble in size, need to be in more contact with local clubs

Item 6: Sunsport Programme –

- Still running extremely well had a good take up over May half term
- Referrals coming through rapidly
- Aiming High have awarded a grant to appoint a deputy for Sunsport

Item 7: Sports Unlimited –

- 4 Activities on offer specifically for young people with disabilities
- Boccia having the best sustained take up
- To run a Boccia league need commitment from Boroughs to develop a team, Graeme is currently chasing this up and hopefully will be developed

Item 8: Sports Events –

- Hollingworth Lake Water Activity Centre (HOLWAC) sent 2 staff members over to the Blind Sailing Championships to help out, they raised £20, 000 to go. Came first in an event
- Achieved Sailability status
- A hoist will be installed by the 12th June 2009 at HOLWAC
- Rochdale Goalball team came 6th out of 32 at this years Goalball Championships, best ever positioning
- Redwood School have been successful in both Area and North West Athletic tournaments and from this 9 pupils will be competing in National Competition: 2 are wheelchair users and 7 pupils are classified to have learning difficulties

- Redwood had a Local Assessor in who assessed the pupils to classify their disabilities no longer attending, would be good to have back to continue assessing so that pupils can be classified for activity.
- 6th June Redwood attending an Athletics Competition at Leeds Sports Village
- 8th July attending the replacement games to the Youth Games due to the Youth Games now disregarding disability sport and becoming elitist
- Heywood Sports sessions running well, averages around 25 people per session
- Gymnastics and Athletics dwindling in attendance needs promoting again, Redwood trying to link with Harriers so that pupils attend will help pick up attendance numbers

Item 11: Any other Business –

- Website running well
- Space available on hard drive still
- Talks over changing servers due to the costs, having a look at others
- Ring and Ride becoming more popular maybe stronger links need to be made where activities are concerned and transport an issue
- Mansoor highlighted he still very much enjoys all the sessions he attends, especially the Thursday sessions at Heywood.

Meeting Closed, next meeting scheduled for Monday 3rd August 2009.