

Community Learning MINUTES



Website www.yourtestvalley.com

NOTES OF MEETING

Team:	Test Valley Community Learning Group		
Date:	22 nd January 2009	Copies to:	As Listed

Present		
Lesley Anken (Jobcentre Plus)	Eileen Buckell (Andover U3A)	Paul Connor (TABS Training)
David Gleave (Co-ordinator, TVBC)	Clive Graham (Chairman and Harrow Way Community School)	Lesley Johnson (Mountbatten School)
Bev Jones (Hampshire Learning)	Jan Lefley (Romsey Community School)	Melody Mew (Enham)
Sue Muldowney (Hampshire Learning)	John Oliver (Andover U3A)	Terri Sandison (The University of Winchester)
Jane Selby (Libraries - Test Valley & Forest Group)	Amber Skyrnig (Eastleigh Community Learning Partnership)	Jenny Stevens (Andover Museum)
Tina Turner (Andover College)	Alli Williams (Sure Start Children's Centres)	Susan Wilson (Solent Skill Quest)
Apologies		
Debbie Dean (Connexions Consortium Manager Eastleigh)	Emma Keegan (Jobcentre Plus)	Martin Simmons (Andover College)

Agenda		
1.	Apologies for Absence	See above
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Agreed
3.	Welcome and Introduction (CG)	
4.	Terms of Reference	
5.	Dates of Future Meetings	

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Summarised notes of the discussion and action points

3. **Welcome and Introduction (CG)**

This group has its origins in the 1970s and 80s, when it concentrated on Andover and pre-dates the Test Valley Partnership. It became district-wide about 7 years ago when it became part of the learning arm of the Test Valley Partnership. It includes statutory education, Further and Higher Education, accredited adult and family learning as well as informal adult and community learning.

It reports to the TVP Education and Learning Group, which meets at lunchtime and whose chairman sits on the TVP Board.

BJ re-capped on Hampshire County Council's revised approach to Adult and Community Learning. The Secretary of State's anticipated report on Adult Learning is likely to say that Government values informal learning and will put money towards it but delivery has to be joined-up not competitive or duplicatory. Hampshire County Council is interpreting this to create a new delegated approach with operational groups at district level, under the Hampshire Learning brand. Test Valley was chosen to pilot the idea because of its history of effective partnership working. There never was going to be more money but present economic circumstances underline even more the need to use existing resources more effectively.

The 11 district groups will sit under a county strategic group comprising the chief executive of the PCT, Heads of Children's Services, Recreation and Heritage and Adult Services, a College Principal, Area Director of the LSC and voluntary sector representative.

It is intended that funds are aligned at this top level and the 11 district groups will help shape local provision and report back to the County group.

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How does your organisation support Community Learning in Test Valley?

Andover College (TT)

- Many Leisure courses, full/part time, short/long; Adult Literacy/Numeracy/IT; informal/formal ESOL; involving mostly LSC funding.
- 30% of work is with employers, most in the workplace.
- Many adults are now paying to re-train and enhance their job prospects eg. environmental and wildlife courses.
- Scope for outreach but difficult to make it viable.
- Small amount of PCDL eg. working with TVCS; flexible on-line packages on English, Maths, IT.

U3A (Andover) (JO, EB)

- Activities for (semi) retired; self funded and informal.
- 350 members, 40 groups (eg. languages, music, walking); ICT difficult therefore need for partnership, Arts, wildlife “Quester groups”.

U3A (Romsey)

- Work with Romsey School (reduced room hire etc) on literature, creative writing - again 350-400 learners.
- Perhaps mobile van service (being launched 04.02.09) at cost of £30 per day could help U3A? They would just need a MIDAS driver.

University of Winchester (TS)

- Not funded for community learning but have a mission to engage and are working with TVBC, Sparsholt College etc to gain a presence in Andover akin to Chute House in Basingstoke.
- Growing work-based learning which is progressing through Foundation Degrees (eg. in Management).
- Aimhigher – Andover’s secondary schools and college are eligible for Aimhigher work which focuses on young people and their parents.
- The University also has an Education Faculty and can offer research, evaluation and knowledge-exchange to support any kind of learning.
- Partner organisations can find it useful to include the University as a partner in funding bids.

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TABS Training – Andover-based (PC)

- Learndirect provision for adults (19+) funded by LSC – a flexible way of learning aimed at the individual – free to the learner.
- Skills checks.
- Train2Gain, aimed at people in employment – free to the learner.
- NVQs, including IT NVQs (or ITQs) which is available to those without a job in Customer Services, Team Leadership – non funded.
- Can provide free Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS), cards for construction workers and Forklift Truck Training if essential skills included.

Hopefully, T2G will soon be extended to cover people who are unemployed.

Mountbatten School (LJ)

- Looking to develop from just leisure-based to a skills-based programme; strengthen relationships with other providers; delivers NVQ Level 3 in Playwork.

Romsey School (JL)

- 1,000 people on Family Learning Courses (arts, languages, exercise).
- Delivering NVQs in Basingstoke, Andover and Baughurst; in Childcare, Learning and Development.
- Delivering Learndirect to strengthen basic skills for childcare workers.
- Franchise with Totton College to deliver NVQs.
- Government wants all childcare workers trained to Level 3 by 2015 (which requires supervisory skills and is not what many go into the industry for!).
- Working with older people in residential homes, LDD students.
- Links with Children's Centres and Carroll Youth Centre, Winchester.

Enham (MM)

- A charity, company limited by guarantee and housing association.
- Mostly funded by Adult Services.
- Provides 24 hour cover for clients with the aim of supporting clients to become independent within a supported living context. Based in Portsmouth, Southampton, Fareham and elsewhere with more people

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- employed outside Enham than at it.
- Delivers T2G.
- IT suites and IT maintenance facilities.
- Wildlife project behind Wyevale Garden Centre, Andover following on from work placements.
- Wants to work more closely with other agencies.
- Teaching, IT, Cookery, Catering and Horticulture.

Andover Museum (JS)

- Venue for craft groups and lectures eg. WEA.
- The Dream Programme, project worked with Mencap.
- Andover Adult and Family Learning, Icknield School etc. Also working with Living Links – inter-generational history outreach project.

Romsey and North Baddesley Children's Centre (AW)

- Covers southern Test Valley from Braishfield to Nursling and Chilworth.
- Fixed base in Romsey and more outreach work in Baddesley, linking with other agencies outreach work.
- Deals with families with children aged under 5; sign posting; training courses for back-to-work; links with JC+ (consultation of need; partnership forum, parents forum). Outreach very important.

Harrow Way Community School (CG)

- Adult Learning Programmes.
- Andover and Adult Family Learning based at Longmeadow Centre.
- Skills for independent living.
- First Steps return to work.
- Huge volume of learners: 2,000 enrolments, 1,000 people, 250 programmes, most pre Level 2.
- This is achieved not through advertising but referrals among a strong network of partner agencies.
- Trend towards to more accredited learning but there is still a lot of non-accredited.
- Undertake National Skills Test Checks.
- Work with TABS training.
- Provide Information and Advice as a sub-contractor to Next Step at Andover Jobcentre Plus on 2 days a week (possibility of more from Feb '09?).

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- Manages a Mobile Creche Service.
- Huge scope to work more closely with Andover College on curriculum development and outreach to achieve progression from Entry Level up to accredited learning.

Jobcentre Plus (LA)

- Signposts to Learndirect, Andover Adult and Family Learning.
- Deal with unemployed persons but because courses not mandatory some claimants don't take them and sign post to training providers.
- Work with Andover College (on job-readiness courses, which TVBC will fund).

Libraries (JS)

- Andover, Romsey, North Baddesley and mobile.
- Signposting IT suite in Romsey library.
- Links to Romsey Community School's 5 week course plus soft learning for pleasure.

Solent Skill Quest (SW)

- The Educational Business Partnership covering southern Test Valley (First Partnership, the EBP covering Andover and Stockbridge gave apologies).
- Deal with >30 secondary schools and 6th Form Colleges.
- T2G Contract (NVQs in Customer Services, Teaching and Learning in schools).
- Work experience for pupils, as part of WEX (7,000 p.a.).

Housing Associations (AS)

- Amber Skyrnig chairs the Eastleigh Learning Partnership and is Regeneration Manager for Atlantic Housing (part of First Wessex).
- 70% of the most disadvantaged people are housing association tenants.
- Atlantic provide an IAG service, NVQ assessors and informal learning eg. Smart Workshops.

Other partners not present? Connexions.

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	<p>Hampshire Learning (SM and BJ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HL draws down money from LSC, HCC and Big Lottery. • Its facilities for learning include libraries, records offices, museums etc. • Its provider-network draws down funding for: PCDL, Family Learning, Impact Funding, First Steps, NLDC, T2G, On-line Learning, Learndirect, Investor in Quality Licenses, NCFE-accredited programmes. • HL is approved to run NCFE qualifications. Generally delivery is run through agreements with providers not from the centre. Hampshire Learning's Link person is sue.muldowney@hants.gov.uk
<p>4.</p>	<p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>Minor revisions following discussion.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>10am - 12 noon at the Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge on:</p> <p>Tuesday 31 March 2009 Tuesday 19 May 2009 Tuesday 14 July 2009 (restaurant) Tuesday 15 September 2009 Tuesday 8 December 2009</p>
<p>Signed: Date:</p>	

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21 Members		