**Wellspring West Sussex**

**Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday 13 Nov 2019**

**Present**: Lizzie, Carole, Chris and Debbie

**Apologies**: Adam, Lorna

**Minutes of last meeting - Agreed**

**Matters Arising**

None

**Financial**

Bank account balance **£6258.60**

Outstanding invoices to be paid **£1051.63**

Remaining balance as follows -

Lizzie - £270.95

Wheely Wonders (WW) - £1744.30 (this is approx. 5 more WW Fam Days)

Adam - £315.00

Chris - £198.10

Reserves - £2678.62 (this includes £1000 grant from The Entertainer, see discussion below)

**Funding**

Funding has been received from

Hedley Foundation £2920 for WW outdoor activity days

The Entertainer £1000 unrestricted

Hall & Woodhouse declined our application but invited another application in 2020

The Tudor Trust do not normally fund projects that involve arts and culture

Ferry Farm Solar Community Project – application form not available

NFU – no funding for small charities

Other options to consider

CLA Charitable Trust – funding for WW Family Days

DN will also research other possible funders

There was a discussion about the £1000 grant from The Entertainer, it was decided this would be split between Chris £450 for more poetry sessions, Adam £450 for more music sessions and the newsletter £100.

The cost of postage and problems with folding the newsletter were discussed. From the last mailing there was one returned envelope marked ‘insufficient postage’ which was returned to DN because it was not collected. If the newsletter is folded it becomes A5 and the second-class postage is 61p if it does not exceed the max thickness which is 0.5cm. The returned newsletter obviously did not fold sufficiently and exceeded this thickness. If the newsletter is sent out unfolded it becomes a large letter and second-class postage is 83p. We are sending out approx. 300 copies now. It was decided that the remaining 61p stamps and A5 envelopes would be used and then A4 envelopes and the increased postage would be used for the remaining copies to be sent.

An information leaflet about Wellspring was discussed, CN said this would be helpful when approaching potential funders or companies as it could be given with a copy of the newsletter to explain what we do. LB also said this would be helpful to give to families attending the WW Family Days. LB has a template used on a previous occasion that can be updated and used, she will investigate and circulate a draft.

**Lizzie – Craft Club/Wheely Wonders**

The craft club continues to offer children with disabilities and their siblings free places thanks to the Thornton Trust. LB talked about a boy with visual impairment and how his confidence had grown as he became familiar with his surroundings, she also talked about how the children mix well together and help each other and how former members come back as volunteers to help.

There have been over 90 children attending the Wheely Wonders days since it started and now there are 14 children at each family day. The project has been hugely successful and there is a waiting list of families wanting to come.

As two families did not attend the last WW FD when they had booked there was a discussion with Jen Kiel from the Forest School about this. It was decided it would become too complicated if families were asked to pay a deposit so the event will remain free while there is funding however, as Wellspring is charged if families do not turn up (because supplies are purchased according to the number of children) then clearly this is not acceptable. It was decided that bookings will only be taken directly from the families and it will be emphasised strongly that adequate notice must be given for non-attendance so that place can go to another family.

**Adam – Music Project**

There is an article in the current newsletter about the music workshops, they have been very successful with over 80 young people with disabilities taking part in the sessions and having fun with the new equipment bought with funding from the National Community Lottery Fund.

**Chris – Poetry Project**

This project has also been successful with 115 children attending the various sessions in a wide range of settings and with an emphasis on inclusivity. There is also an article in the newsletter giving a flavour of the sessions and highlighting the fun had by the children in constructing their poems.

**Newsletters**

**2019 Issue 2 You Can Do It!**

LB is putting the finishing touches to this edition and has a great range of articles. It will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

**Themes for 2020**

Issue 1 Paralympics to coincide with the Games in Japan later in the year. Suggestions include Karate, Boccia, Fencing, Swimming, Albion in the Community.

Issue 2 Celebrating Diversity – This Is Me

To include art, poems, cartoons

**AOB**

Relaxed Performance of The Wizard of OZ on Friday 27 December at 2pm Chichester Festival Theatre

Carousel are looking for new learning disabled members to join their team

Contact David.parker@carousel.org.uk 01273 234734

DN

13/11/19

Notes about funders

Hedley Foundation – this is a grant giving foundation supporting small to medium charities which work with young people. The Hedley family were coal mine owners till nationalisation in 1947. The Foundation was set up in 1971 using money received by the family as compensation following nationalisation. It is a registered company and charity.

The Entertainer – chain of toy shops, contact came from the Horsham branch. They have a charity scheme called Jack Gives Back, customers are asked if they would like to round up their purchase (i.e. if the cost is £9.95 they are asked to donate the 5p) and this additional money is given to a local charity.