**Wellspring West Sussex**

**Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday 1 May 2019**

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

**Apologies**: Adam, Bernie, Lorna

**Minutes of last meeting - Agreed**

**Matters Arising**

Printing the newsletters now by InstantPrint which has reduced the cost.

**Financial**

Bank account balance **£6131.46**

Lizzie - £320.95

Wheely Wonders (WW) - £1124.66

Adam - £2000

Chris - £592

Reserves - £2093.85

The funding of £9900 from Awards for All secured by Nick from Fit Well and Connected was used to buy the following equipment

3 mini Macs with screens, keyboards and mice

CD writer for mini Mac

Data projector

2 Apple ipads

2 Makey Makey music circuits

2 Scoog music boxes

Roll out wheelchair track.

This accounted for £5500, the rest being used for music sessions with Adam, poetry sessions with Chris and the newsletter. Funding of £500 has been received from the Thornton Trust, for the Wheely Wonders Family Days.

**Funding**

Funding is needed for the Wheely Wonders Family Days, also new weekly sessions for adults with learning difficulties in Woodland Activities and Curious Minds for SEND children age 2 to 11.

Chris has had great success with the poetry sessions and would continue working with the Library Service if funding was available.

Applications to the following Trusts/Foundations will be considered

CLA Charitable Trust - a membership organisation for owners of land, property and businesses in rural England and Wales, dedicated to helping those who are disabled or disadvantaged benefit from access to the countryside, to take part in educational activities that they would not otherwise have been able to enjoy.

Hedley Foundation – offer average grants of £3000 and is concerned with the outdoor education of young people

Rank Foundation – will only consider applications if one third of the project costs have already been raised

D’Oyly Carte Charitable Trust – grants of £500-£5000, interested in theatre, music and gardening and helping disabled and disadvantaged young people

Other options to consider

Tudor Trust

Hall and Woodhouse

Rolls Royce

Ferry Farm Solar Farm

NFU

**Lizzie Craft Club and Wheely Wonders**

Lizzie talked about her Saturday term time Craft Club, she had received some money from her godmother which funded 3 places for disabled children. This included a 4 year old autistic boy at the Christmas club, and an 11 year old autistic girl who only came to one session and an 8 year old visually impaired boy at the Spring club. The 2 boys particularly enjoyed the activities and the inclusive atmosphere, with the younger autistic boy particularly gaining self-confidence. Lizzie has had some great feedback from parents about the club and we talked about the importance of these personal statements when making funding applications as they give a real impression of the impact on families.

The Wheely Wonders Family Days have been a great success, with one Family Day in September attended by 11 children and young people, and 2 in October, the first with 7 children and the second with 6 children. There was an issue with 2 families on the first day in October, they did not stay for the whole day and have not been back since. There was a discussion of how to avoid this happening in the future, with the whole day being funded this may lead to bookings that are not completed. Jen from the Forest School has suggested that a £5 non-refundable deposit be paid, it was decided to wait and see the outcome of funding applications if no further funding is secured then families will have to pay the full cost anyway. There have been 2 Family Days in April, both well attended and successful, there is a further day booked in May for PACSO and funded by Wellspring. Future dates are 9 June and 25 July for Kangaroos.

**Adam – Music Project**

There is an article in the current newsletter

**Chris – Poetry Project**

Chris gave an overview of his project Lifting Poetry off the Page which has been hugely successful. He has been working closely with the Library Service and has provided sessions in Worthing and Durrington libraries which were well attended. Also there have been sessions at Lyminster and Manor Green, and next at Fordwater School. See attached details of a circus poetry session at Lyminster.

**Newsletters**

Issue 1 Creative Adventures, this has been sent to the printers and will be distributed next week. The mailing list is now about 350 names with another 50 on the email list.

Issue 2 You Can Do It – will focus on equipment and grants. Chris will contact Louis Coward who takes part in wheelchair karate. Deadline is 30 September.

We talked about last year’s issue about Transition and the controversial article from Peter, it was suggested that we contact WSCC to offer them the chance to respond and also get a follow-up from Peter.

**AOB**

25th Anniversary celebrations in 2023, Madehurst Cricket Club was mentioned as a possible venue for this although accessibility needs to be checked.

Joining VAAC, Lizzie asked about this, DN said we were already a member although not with a login, we just received weekly bulletins/updates. Lizzie will contact them to see if she can get volunteers for the WW Family Days. The University of Chichester was also mentioned as a possible source of volunteers.

Next meeting either 18/9 or 23/10, tbc

DN

01/05/19