

## Access Group Meeting No 14-01, 14 January 2010 at 2:00pm

### 1. Present

H Langen - Chairman  
B.Cleevely - Treasurer  
Councillor C Cavill  
Councillor S James  
Councillor J Codd  
M Goodall  
A Hunt  
J Price  
S Butler  
J McNamara  
A Tinnuche

### 2. Apologies for Absence

E Rich, P Murphy, (Secretary), A James, B Thomas Cleaver, M Bell

### 3. Speaker – S Butler, PCC Equalities Officer

Stephen was welcomed to the meeting. The post had been in place since November 2009. His aim was to meet the Group and to identify when matters were of concern.

New legislation relating to disabilities is being progressed. The Disability Equalities Scheme was signed in December and is the template for future action on employment and other matters. Stephen was keen to attend the monthly meetings when available. He is also to attend the Children with Disabilities Forum.

The Post is full time and covers all aspects of equality whether it is age, disability, gender or religion.

### 4. Minutes of 10 December 2009

a) Reg. Owen may not be able to be on the Board of Disability Wales, as no local groups other than this group are available for his membership. H. Langen agreed to discuss the difficulty with Disability Wales. **H Langen**

b) A pen portrait was requested from members by the Access Officer.

c) M. Goodall attended the taster day on Pembrokeshire Greenways Bike Ability. Few members of the public were present but Councillors and Council Officers were at the event. A further event with more advertising is being considered for February. The Team from Swansea was present and indicated that daily Bike Ability days are held in that City. A range of equipment was at the event for people to try. The aim is to run a weekly event in Pembrokeshire. Future funding needs to be researched.

**M Goodall – S James**

### 5. Treasurers report

The balance of £2612.89 stands with few recent transactions.  
Councillor J. Codd joined the meeting.

6. Correspondence

a) Disability Wales has indicated posts are available for disabled persons on Equality 2025 who have committee background. R. Owen to be informed.

**A Hunt**

b) Welsh Vision Statement Strategy is being promoted with comments requested on the Plan.

c) Guide Dogs for the Blind have a campaign in respect of the use of Public Transport. Audio visual equipment is considered essential to give blind users confidence in using public transport.

7. Pembrokeshire Passport

Arriva Trains would accept the use of wallets providing pre-printed messages. The wallet would be recognised by staff on trains/buses or taxi operators that the user of the service requires a degree of assistance. Initial costings are £1,400 for 1000 wallets. Sponsorship in exchange for the use of a logo may be worth investigating.

Administration of issue of the wallets would be researched for feedback to the group.

**A Hunt**

8. Numbering of minutes

It was agreed that the meetings be numbered relative to the year since 1996 when the Pembrokeshire Access Group took effect. The sequential meetings through the year to be 01-11. The current meeting would thus be meeting No. 1409.

9. Press Releases

Pierce is considering a release on flush kerbs. A brief report of each meeting would be accepted by the Press at no charge. A specimen draft was read to the meeting. The Western Telegraph, County Echo, Tenby Observer, Carmarthen Journal and Milford Mercury to be approached.

The routine release to be made following each meeting, with additional articles produced by the Secretary from time to time.

10. Disability Wales Issues

The CPS held a conference in Carmarthen to discuss hate crime attended by H Langen. The Police and CPS sought input from the audience.

A press release of the meeting was briefly discussed.

J. McNamara left the meeting.

An offer was made of making a presentation to the group together with local individuals, local Police and the Community Safety Partnership. Henry would investigate dates and a venue.

**H Langen**

The involvement with schools in this matter was raised. A list of attendees to be agreed.

11. Access Officers Report

- a) The reform of the Blue Badge Scheme was publicised recently. The actual intention is to now complete the 2008 review. English Authorities have already been provided with a plan, target dates and review circulars. The lack of progress with the Welsh models could be raised at the Group meeting when our AM attends. **A Hunt**
- b) Charging to Blue Badge holders in car parks was raised. The Parking Manager to be invited to a future meeting to expand on the matter.

The meeting finished at 4.05pm.

Next meeting No. 1410 11 February 2010