

Minutes of the Community Care Committee Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on 17 March 2011 at 11.05am in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: IF May (chair) R Day TA Drummond M Ellwood HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters
T Ebbon – Warden Community Care Scheme
D Driver – Manager Barnabas Court
The clerk and assistant clerk to the Council

1 Apologies for absence - D Chamberlin L Harding.

2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial - none.

3 Minutes - the minutes of the meeting of 14 October 2010 were approved and signed as a true record.

3.1 Wheelchair (CC3/10-10) – had been repaired. A new one was therefore not needed.

3.2 Donation (CC6/10-10) – suggestions considered:

- Taxi fund (IFM, having his own taxi business, declared an interest)
- Elderly
- Youth – towards courses eg baby sitting course, first aid

Noted that there were various youth groups in the village.

AGREED to recommend that Council set up a ‘youth fund’ and invite bids from youth groups.

4 Mobile Warden Scheme

Policy on accepting gifts and ‘conflict of interest’ (CC6/10-10) – from Age UK:

“We allow staff to accept only small tokens of appreciation such as flowers or chocolates. These must be recorded in our gift book. Small monetary gifts from any one client must not exceed more than £10 in a year. Again, this would need logging in our gift book.

If any conflict of interest is highlighted, this is noted on a risk register.”

To be discussed at Staff Committee meeting 11 April.

Update – 22 clients. Noted that numbers fluctuated but Committee would need to bear in mind the number of clients when considering budgets in 2012.

AGREED to advertise the scheme in the Village View and advise the doctors that there was room for more clients.

Grants: £1,200 from SCDC for 2011/12; £1800 from CCC Small Grants fund.

The assistant clerk reported on the Small Grants Workshop, Tuesday 15th March 2011. The main point of the meeting was to apprise voluntary groups of the change in how the CCC would distribute funds after this year. To date CCC had disbursed funds to voluntary groups through their Small Grants Scheme. After this year, a new programme called Self-Directed Support would be in place.

Under Self-Directed Support, CCC would assess individuals (through means-testing) to determine who would be eligible for publicly-funded social care and fund these individuals directly. The individuals themselves would then make their own choice as to how to spend the funds.

The Challenge

To let go of traditional service solutions and support innovation and different ways for people to meet their needs.

Reaction from those attending the meeting

- Some/many older people will not be willing or be frightened by the prospect of having an assessment and fall through the cracks.
- Major concern that many individuals will not be eligible for public-funded adult social care according to the means-tested Community Care Assessment. Viability of voluntary organisations such as Mobile Warden Schemes may come under threat if individuals are required to pay themselves.
- How will this new scheme be monitored? Potential for abuse by clients/families on how monies are spent.
- The scheme will only result in an added layer of bureaucracy which will involve added admin costs for voluntary organisations. (Voluntary groups will need to review their accounting systems, e.g. concerning billing. Also, groups need to calculate the full cost of their services.)
- The paperwork generated by such a scheme would be daunting.

The chairman reminded committee that as grant-aid funding was changing it was essential to monitor costs closely.

5 Barnabas Court update (CC4/06-10)

DD reported that CHS was cutting her funding by 50% as from 1st April. Two tenants (one with Milton connection) had been transferred from Crossways.

6 Purchase of chair trolley for Day Centre

RLEW explained that the volunteer helpers at the Day Centre needed a chair trolley to help move chairs. He and RD both helpers at the Day Centre declared an interest and did not vote.

AGREED to buy a chair trolley at £35. Action: *the clerk*

7 AOB

Digital TV switch over – the clerk would ask the Milton volunteer to contact DD at Barnabas Court.

Work experience – a young resident hoping to study medicine was scheduled to accompany TE on her rounds during April.

8 Date of next meeting – Thursday 09 June 2011 at 11am.

The meeting ended at 11.50am.

Signed..... Date.....