



Agenda for GDA Meeting
7pm
26 November 2008

1. **Roll Call and Apologies.** Jackie Tebbutt, Penny Marginson, Kathy Stagg, Debbie Clarke, Sharon Hartley, Karen Leach, Peter Keeling, Rebecca Sherrington has asked to be removed from contact list, Tory Russell, Sharon Hartley, Kathy Stagg, Catherine Hall.

2. **Chairman's Welcome**

3. **Minutes of previous meeting.** Amendment to read 'to ensure that dispensers of hearing aid equipment are qualified and adept at the services which they are providing'

4. **Matters Arising from Minutes.**

Access. AR Sheerin has been invited to look at the proposals for the re development of the Priaulx Library and the area around the Town Church. Moving the fountain to the East and then building a level platform from the steps along the line of the church wall would be a simple solution to the problems of level access.

ARS has also been involved with a consultation request to improve access around Castle Cornet.

ARS has obtained a verbal agreement from Environment that carers accompanying a disabled person, will not be charged. N Humphries asked if this could be extended to all museums on the island – Action Aindre

The Building Manager at Royal Court noted that a dropped curb was needed outside the new Greffe whilst assisting GDA members into the building to lobby Deputies.

Shopmobility. The report of this meeting has been circulated. Deputy J Gollop would pursue under the auspices of Living Streets.

Problems have been experienced by ambulant shoppers when entering the new post office in Smith Street, as the main door is very hard to push. R.P. to pass on to Greg Yeoman

5. First Full Forum meeting

- Rob Platts explained plans for the first Full Forum meeting 3rd Dec. Delegates attending on behalf of the GDA are Rob Platts Chair, Nick Humphries Treasurer, Shelaine Green.

Revision of definition of disability. The group debated which version of the definition of disability we would request the Forum to adopt. The meaning of United Nations definition of disability is very close to the version the GDA had agreed on earlier this year. Liz Froome suggested that the GDA version used plainer English, was easier to understand and that it had kudos in being a Guernsey generated definition. The group finally agreed that whilst the two were very close in meaning, it was felt it made sense to adopt the UN definition which is now being promoted worldwide. R Platts would ask for this item to be included on the Agenda for the Forum meeting on 3rd Dec.

Rob Platts confirmed that he would ask for the following items also to be included on the first agenda;

- a. Selection of Political Champion
 - b. Recommendation to urge the States to speed up the investigation of possible DDA law.
 - c. Recommendation that the States employ a disability officer (non HSSD) position
- Disability equality training dates – 22 places Feb 14th and 21st members must commit to both days. Certification will be issued on completion. It was agreed that two places would be reserved for non GDA members in case the Forum Chair and possibly the appointed States champion might wish to attend. Members were advised to book places by contacting Wendy, either by email or by phone (707470) – first come, first served.

6 Reports on priority areas.

Access – a) Shopmobility Meeting. Covered above

Legal & Chair - a) Appointment of auditors

- Auditors KPMG have agreed. There will not be a charge for this service. R Platts proposed that KPMG be appointed auditors Seconded D Purdy..

b) Appointment of Bankers

- Bankers to be Barclays in the High Street as they are wheelchair accessible. Proposed R Platts Seconded S Green. Two signatories are required for each cheque

c) Lloyds TSB Grant application Funding.

- Application to Lloyds TSB for full funding of the research project (£40,000) was not successful but part funding is still possible. Both the Chair and CEO of the Lloyds TSB foundation expressed their personal disappointment at not being able to provide the full amount, but explained that a massive oversubscription, together with a lowering of Banks' profits, have reduced their funds considerably. Credit Suisse, Association of Guernsey Charities, Barclays Bank and other sources to be investigated. -

d) Association of Guernsey Charities Application

- R Platts had discussed an application for funding with David Farrimond of AGC. David encouraged the GDA to submit an application. It was felt that such an application would need to be endorsed by all member charities of the GDA. R Platts will personally ring chairmen to comply.

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P.R

S Green reported on GDA members' successful lobbying of States members as they left the Budget debate. She was congratulated for organising the event. The camaraderie between the GDA members involved was noted. Shelaine expressed special thanks to Beryl Vaudin for volunteering to cover the Ron Short Centre so that some of their members could take part. Shelaine will officially thank the Bailiff and the Court Building Manager, Alistair Lord.

Support and Services.

W.Beaven explained that the Health Information Exchange was committed to all the ideals of the Disability Forum and the GDA and HIEG had long expressed the desire for charities and support groups to combine in order to pool knowledge and resources. This would be cost effective and productive. However, it was becoming increasingly difficult to juggle the efforts required to further some of the tasks highlighted by GDA and her work as Manager of HIEG. Housing was a case in point. WB also felt that boundaries between HIEG and GDA were obscured by her representing both charities. It would therefore

be expedient for someone to replace her on the support sub committee researching gaps in services for physically disabled people. The HIEG would continue to facilitate and provide secretarial support to GDA.

R Platts requested all membership identify possible volunteers to assist with support and services work, in particular, we need people who would be able to help fill in the missing information on our Support & Services grid. This work would entail requesting information, from various agencies, probably mostly by telephone and email.

7.AOB Suggested future speakers. From October meeting

- Peter Falla be asked to speak at January meeting.
 - i. Head of Social Sec. Malcolm Nutley,
 - ii. Karl Guille from Roads Service,
 - iii. Heads of TV companies,
 - iv. Editor of the Press

8.Dates of future meetings 2009. To be circulated.

9.Meeting closed 8.55pm.