

# Advocacy Action

Developing Advocacy in Wakefield District

## Management Committee Meeting - Wednesday 5 October 05

Advocacy Action Office, 21 King Street, Wakefield, 10am-12noon

### Meeting Notes

#### Present:

Henry Fisher (notes)  
Paul Wright

Advocacy Action Project Coordinator  
Cloverleaf Advocacy

#### Apologies:

Ben Brown  
Maggie Clarke  
Carol McGrath  
Roberta Roccella  
Fatemeh Shabram  
Maureen Slack  
Glynis Stirling

Urban Space Community  
Children's Advocacy Service  
Carers Wakefield District  
Your Voice Wakefield  
Rasa Advocacy Project  
Lift Up Self Advocacy  
SWYMHT Public Involvement

In the end there was no meeting, but sadly we didn't get most apologies until during or after the meeting so we were not able to reschedule in advance.

This was a shame because it could well be the last MC meeting before the end of Henry's employment with Advocacy Action.

Paul and Henry had a useful discussion and went over the work that needs to be done over the last 4 weeks.

#### Children's advocacy development work

It is unclear at this stage whether anything will come of this, but there could be a development contract for work lasting until either March or possibly until June or July.

#### Neighbourhood Renewal Learning Action Plan

A bid will be submitted in the next week for a £10k grant to develop training materials, focused initially on giving children advocacy skills so that they can support their fellow school pupils (or others) to communicate effectively and resolve problems. The materials produced will hopefully begin to form a resource for developing as a social enterprise in the future.

#### Wakefield District Partnership

The meeting that we have been trying to arrange since the beginning of August is set for tomorrow. The information we have so far is that the meeting will discuss the possibilities of Advocacy Action working with the new structures around Local Area Agreements. We agreed that we should stick to our principles and not take on work that wasn't within the original planned scope of working with projects that support the very vulnerable to communicate.

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Note: This seems like an appropriate space to report back on the meeting which happened this morning. It was a very positive and friendly meeting and there are many ways in which Advocacy Action could fit into the currently developing plans. There will be no firm decisions made for a few months yet however, and it is uncertain at this stage whether anything will happen in the immediate future. Support was offered to further develop and improve the business plan however.

## Finance

Henry to update the accounts and establish how much money is left at this stage.

## Esmee Fairbairn

Henry has now spoken to them. It was an inconclusive conversation, and they have asked for a 2-3 page summary of the proposals for Advocacy Action, together with an accounts summary.

## WMDC Report

We need to write a report to WMDC, even though we have been unable to find out who our contract manager is and they have not contacted us for either of the monitoring meetings stipulated in the contract.

## Social Enterprise

Henry thought the way things were going it was more and more necessary to plan towards building up Advocacy Action as a social enterprise offering training and support services. The original plan had been to develop this after all the more immediate infrastructure work had been completed. Paul thought there was still a lot of important work identified in the current business plan, and we shouldn't rush to change things too fast.

## Adult Protection

There is some unfinished work here which it would be very good to complete before Henry's funding runs out.

Finally it was decided another meeting would be arranged at least a week before the end of Henry's current contract. Henry to ring around and arrange this.