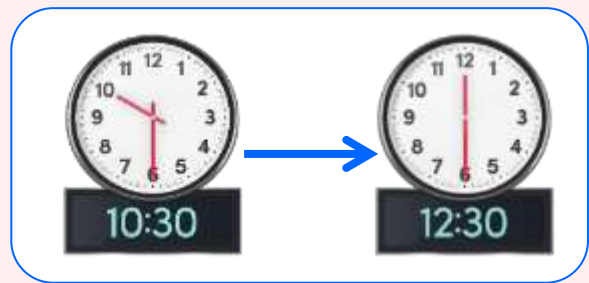
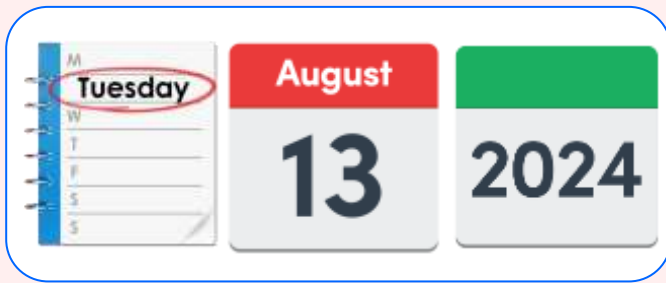




North West Surrey Local Valuing People Group Minutes



Helen Hunt and Carinder Malhi chaired the meeting.



Helen Hunt



Carinder Malhi

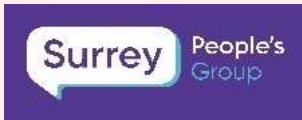


The meeting was at the Maybury Centre in Woking and Teams





At the meeting we talked about:



- Disabled Toilets
- Feedback from Surrey People's Group
- Linkable Paralympic Event
- Feedback from The Learning Disability Partnership Board
- Prepayment cards

Welcome and Introductions

Helen and Carinder welcomed everyone to the meeting.



9 people attended the meeting. 2 people joined on Teams.



We had members from Surrey Choices, Avenues, Surrey Adult Learning and Linkable.

Disabled Toilets



We had a group discussion about how accessibility to disabled toilets could be improved.



Carinder spoke about his personal experiences of using accessible changing room. He said the wheelchair access toilets are not very good. He said he does not like how the handles are so high.



Everything is high to reach which is not useable for any wheelchair user. He said Kingston is the worst for their accessible toilets and changing room.





He said hospital and GP toilets are ok, but most public places like restaurants and train stations are not great.

He hopes to raise this problem to the next Learning Disability England meeting in September.



Carla said there is a card you can get for people with medical conditions which they can use when they are out in public and need to use the toilet urgently.



This is called the [Just Can't Wait Toilet Card](#). It was created by the Bladder and Bowel Community and can be used by anyone with a bladder and bowel condition.

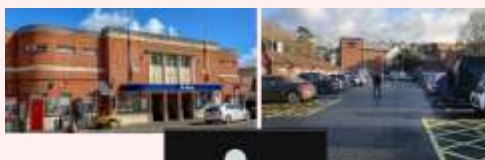


The card is widely accepted at many cafes, restaurants, shops, entertainment venues and other businesses.

Once you have [completed the form](#) you will receive a guide to your email telling you how to download the digital card on your phone. You can also purchase a plastic card by post.



Amanda spoke about how the disabled employee network at Surrey County Council is also raising awareness on accessibility to Changing Places in Surrey.



Woking Station and Mole Valley Car Park have recently opened changing places toilets.

Sue said there is a website / app to help people [find changing places toilets](#).



Amanda said the group could investigate and research changing places in the North West.



Amanda said it would be good to find out whether Community Hubs had good accessible toilets.



Helen said we could talk about research at our next meeting.



Helen said to Carinder that it might be worth finding out more about other people's experiences and stories to feedback to Learning Disability England.

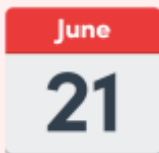


Manging My Money Event



Amanda briefly spoke about the Managing Money event. Surrey People's Group worked with the Pro Active Community to put this together.

Key Points



The event took place on the 21st June



The Pro Active Community managed to get a grant from Aviva.



People who attended the event picked the sessions they wanted to attend for the day.

We had sessions from:



- Citizen's Advice - Advice about budgeting



- Community Money Advice - Advice and discussions about managing money



- Include.org - Discussed the Mental Capacity Act with singing.



- Surrey Outdoor Learning- Numeracy activities outdoors including archery.



- Active Prospects- Advice on advocacy and money management.



You can find out more about this event on the [record of event](#) page on our website.

Discussion



Dexter said it was a good event and good opportunity to network with people.



Nicky asked when the next one was taking place.



Amanda said that the Pro Active Community are looking at grants for the next year's event possibly about Managing My Health.





Amanada spoke about the upcoming Surrey People Group West at the Emmanual Church on Employment.



It is taking place on the Friday 20 September 2024.



They are hoping to do the Employment event again at Woodhatch Place in December.

Linkable Paralympics Event



Sue spoke about the upcoming Linkable Event taking place at Woking Sportsbox.



It is taking place on Tuesday 27 August 2024.



They were successful in getting a sports grant for this event.



There are 3 accessible sports available for people to try.

These are:



- Walking Football



- Boccia



- Accessible Cycling



The Mayor, Councillor and Boccia Champion Matt Berry are attending the event.



People can try lots of different things.



They hope to have a competition before the end of the event.

Discussion



Helen asked whether they are capped on numbers.



Sue said it was a free for all event and there was no cap. They hope to start at 10:30. People were free to come and go as they like. Food and drink will be available for purchase.



Linkable are hoping this event will help to connect with people in the community. If this is successful, they hope to do more fun sports events in the future.



Feedback from the Partnership Board



Carinder and Amanda gave an update from the Learning Disability Partnership Board which took place in June.

Key Points



Carers Update- Jo Neville Rye spoke about the Carer Strategy and updated new carers break offer.



Amanda gave update about how the Valuing People Groups are doing.



Kim Raif Safeguarding Advisor for East Surrey gave an introduction and update from the Safeguarding Team.

3



They have now hired 3 new Safeguarding advisors for the East and West Surrey Learning Disability and Autism Team and Transition Team. They are a very busy team and dealing with a lot of safeguarding reports.



We also had introduction and update from Quality Assurance



2

Mary also spoke about short breaks. They are building 2 new short break accommodations in Woking and Banstead.

Prepayment Card



Carinder and Amanda spoke about pre-payment cards.

Key Points



People at the last meeting spoke about finding it hard to use cash in many places.



It is becoming difficult with everything moving to contactless.



Pre-paid cards can be topped up and used whilst outside.



Amanda showed us some Debit Card options she found through [My Power of Attorney](#).



There are cards that are for people who need help managing their money.



Amanda said it was important to do your own research before getting a pre-paid card.



This information may be useful to parents and carers who are managing these finances.



If you get a Direct Payment, you can have a prepaid account, but you can only use this to pay for your care and support.

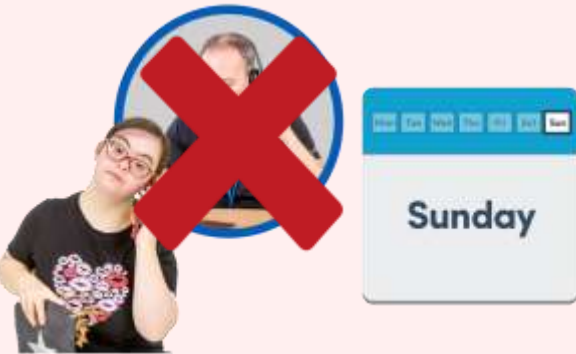


Some of these cards charge you for using them or have a monthly fee.

Discussion



Carla also added that it was important to do research about phone lines from the bank provider.



She talked about a situation where a person they supported lost their pre-paid card. When they tried to call to cancel the card, they found out the phone line was closed on a Sunday.



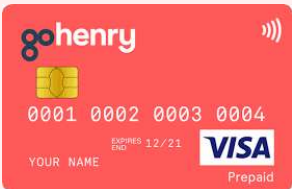
Carla said it was also important to have a phone app which works together with the pre-paid card.



This is so you can see when the money was going in and how the money was spent.



Carinder spoke about his personal experience card machines. He said they are hard to use and not easy to reach in a wheelchair sometimes. It is not allowing him to be independent.



Charlotte also added that the GoHenry card works in a very similar way and can be useful to people.

Local Updates



Amanda and Carinder showed the new updates and features on the Photosymbols website.

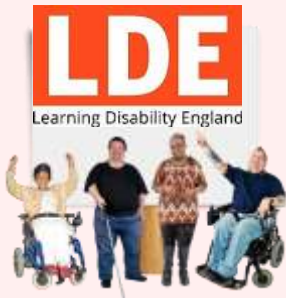
PHOTO  **SYMBOLS**[®]



Carinder said Pete at Photosymbols is keen to get more people with learning disabilities involved.



Actions: Amanda will contact Pete at photosymbols to see whether they want to recruit more people.



Carinder spoke about the Campaigning he is doing for Learning Disability England about Disability Rights.



He said he hopes to raise issues about poor transport for people in wheelchair and about the accessible toilets.

Actions



Members to provide feedback about their experiences using the accessible changing rooms and toilets.



Amanda will contact Pete at Photosymbols to see whether they want to recruit more people.

PHOTO  SYMBOLS®

Next Meeting:



Next meeting is taking place on Tuesday 5 November 2024 at Maybury Centre and Microsoft Teams.

