



**MINUTES OF CARRICKFERGUS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
LOCALITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019 AT 10.00AM  
Carrickfergus Town Hall**

**ATTENDING:**

Roy Beggs – MLA (Chair)  
Samantha Morrison – Health and Wellbeing Officer  
Andrew Millar – Start 360 Northern Connections  
Ruth Ozel – Access Employment presentation  
Michelle McGlade-Buick - Parenting NI  
Grace McCann – CHIP  
Grace Cahoon – Horizon Sure Start  
Karen Graham – Carrick YMCA  
Janet Shearer – MEA Council

**APOLOGIES:**

Phyllis Lewis - Education authority.  
Pamela McClelland- NICHI Project Officer  
Lynn McKenzie – Relationship Resource centre  
Gabriele Rawashee  
Janice Cherry – BT connect  
Denise McVeigh – Play Development Officer

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and members briefly introduced themselves.

**MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by consensus.

**MATTERS ARISING**

None which were not already on the agenda.

**Presentations:**

**1 Ruth Ozel, Access Employment** presented to the meeting giving an insight into the range of support and training that was available to assist clients with disabilities.

She highlighted the range of support available at AEL from their base in Larne:

- Transitions programme to help 18-24 year olds with Learning Disability/Difficulty, Disadvantage, Autism or Asperger's to transition from school into adulthood, progress to the world of work and be active citizens in their communities.

- HOT (Hands on Training) for Unemployed aged 16 – 60
- Day Opportunities (Aged 18+ referred through NHSCT)
- Life: Promoting a LIFE of Independence, Fulfilment & Experiences  
<https://accessemployment.co.uk/services/>

Ruth indicated that courses were generally level 1 and required approx. 14hrs in the classroom which would be spread over several weeks to suit the students.

2 **Michelle McGlade –Buick of Parenting NI** presented the results of the Regional Parenting Survey and indicated that there was a need for greater awareness of Family support services that were available to help families <https://www.parentingni.org/resources/>

**Update on the Facebook page.** The need for more information to be posted onto the Carrick Community Educations Forum’s facebook to encourage greater traffic was highlighted. Several members indicated that they needed guidance on how to access it and post information. Roy Beggs, chair indicated that Una Casey, who had developed the page had forwarded instruction and he would try to locate them and have them forwarded to members. He offered to assist anyone who had difficulty posting information. <https://www.facebook.com/Carrickfergus-Community-Education-Forum-123585441485483>

**Youth Fair:** The chair, Roy Beggs advised that the event ran very smoothly with 4 sessions to accommodate the 3 post primary schools. He indicated that the Oakfield Community hall had a health buzz from the pupils who attended and engaged with the good range of stalls relevant to young people. YMCA had a particularly popular stall and youth workers who interacted well with the students. The teachers also seemed to appreciate the event but feedback is needed.

He praised our own group member Lynn McKenzie who stepped in to co-ordinated the event.

#### **MEMBERS UPDATE:**

**Horizon SureStart:** advised that the Carrickfergus and Larne service were being integrated. <http://www.horizonsurestart.co.uk/>

**Carrickfergus YMCA:** indicated that they continued to provide the Parent and Kids Together (PAKT); the Peace IV mentoring programme for vulnerable young people They were considering establishing an after schools club. <https://www.facebook.com/carrickymca/>

**Carrick Connect:** indicated that they were taking part in the Norther Regional College’s Drugs and Alcohol awareness week <https://www.facebook.com/Carrick-Connect-1549756425269958/>

**Start 360** highlighted their self-referral **DAISY** programme for 11-25 year olds which works with young people who need confidential advice and help for alcohol or drugs use; the **VOICES** programme to support children 8 -18, it gives Therapeutic services for children, young people and their families affected by parental substance misuse. <http://www.start360.org/>

**Parenting NI** highlighted their online resources: Top Tips, Parenting NI App, and Podcasts to assist parents <https://www.parentingni.org/>

**NIACRO** advised of their **CHIP** project, which provides support to children aged 0-18, who have a parent or sibling currently in prison across Northern Ireland. <https://www.niacro.co.uk/chip-children-imprisoned-parents>

**Any other business** discussions took place on CYPSP limited administrative support in the Mid and East Antrim area. Members indicated that the local nature of the group was a strength and that difficulties would arise as a result of travel time if it were to meet as far away as Ballymena but were open to try working across the Larne/Carrickfergus area

**Date of next meeting:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019, venue to be confirmed.