

Minutes of BAF AGM

17th June 2015
CVS Offices, Bedford

Present:

Annette Pacey (Treasurer)	BPHA
Michael Ghulam-Qadir	BPHA
Brian Cunningham (Vice-Chair)	BRASS
Dean Crofts	Bedford & District Citizens Advice Bureau
Elliott Stephenson	Aragon Housing Association
Fiona McLeod (Chair)	Money Advice at St Andrew's
Len Simkins	Beds CPAG
Anu Rajput	Bromford Support
Jason Tsiricos	PBIC
Jon Clingan	Carers in Bedfordshire
David Verney	Advice Bedfordshire
Martin Trinder	CVS
Zara Hamer	CAN
Sarah Broughton	Bedford Foodbank
Simon Daize	Disability Resource Centre

Apologies

Jenny Hedges	Mid Beds CAB
David Wood	Leighton Linlade CAB
Zoe Cox	Aragon Housing Association
Mike Palmer	SSAFA
Lorraine Gunther	Bedford & District Citizens Advice Bureau
Noor D'Agostino	Aldwyck Housing
Georgia Bowers	Bedford Borough Council – Libraries
Peter Rayner	BPHA
Trevor Moisey	Rutland Road Church
Sarah Dove	Bromford
Ann Whitmore	Bedford Salvation Army - Debt Advice Service
Wendy Waters	St Mark's Church
Peter Doyle	Bedford Credit Union Ltd
Daniela Vuolo	Central Bedfordshire Libraries
Paulette Rennie	Bedford Community Self-Help Group

<i>Item</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Action</i>
3	Presentation by Sarah Broughton - Bedford Foodbank.	<p>Sarah gave an overview of how the Foodbank works, the process of collecting donations and the systems required to keep the service going.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation can be found on the BAF website - www.bedsadvicefourm.org.uk</p> <p>Issues that were discussed after the presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The issue of 'regular users' of the foodbank, where more than one referral agency is involved, which is picked up by the Foodbank's database so discussions with agencies can be had. • The challenges of using surplus fresh food from the supermarkets, including the need for static and mobile fridges. • The challenge of getting people to give other items, such as washing powder. 	

4	Minutes of the Last AGM (19th June 1014) and Matters Arising	<p>The minutes of the last Forum meeting were agreed.</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>																		
5	Chair Report and BAF Annual Report 2014/15	<p>A short Annual Report with a Chair's Report has been produced and was circulated to members for discussion.</p> <p>Fiona thanked CVS and David Wood for their support with the Secretariat and the website, and Len for undertaking a great deal of work on behalf of the Forum through Advice Bedfordshire.</p> <p>The Annual Report was approved.</p>																		
6	Treasurers Report 2014/15	<p>Annette provided members with a statement of the financial activity for 2014/15, and provided a verbal overview of the year. BAF finished the year with only a small shortfall, which was better than forecasted twelve months ago.</p> <p>Annette also provide an outline budget for 2015-16, which subject to membership fees remaining the same, should see BAF end the year with a small surplus.</p> <p>The financial report was approved.</p>																		
7	BAF Membership Fees 2015/16	<p>Last year the membership fees were increased, and it does not appear to have had any impact on membership levels.</p> <p>It was agreed that the membership fees shall remain the same this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £35 standard rate • £60 higher rate for organisations with over 100 staff • £10 lower rate for organisations with only volunteers. 																		
8	BAF Elections	<p>Fiona had notified members some time ago that she would not be standing for Chair. Following discussions and volunteers coming forward, the following were elected unanimously:</p>																		
	<i>BAF Officers</i>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Chair</td> <td>David Verney</td> <td>Advice Bedfordshire</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deputy Chair</td> <td>Brian Cunningham</td> <td>BRASS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Annette Pacey</td> <td>BPHA - Money Advice</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Member</td> <td>Jason Tsiricos</td> <td>PBIC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Member</td> <td>Elliott Stephenson</td> <td>Aragon Housing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Member</td> <td>Paulette Rennie</td> <td>Bedford Community Self Help Group</td> </tr> </table>	Chair	David Verney	Advice Bedfordshire	Deputy Chair	Brian Cunningham	BRASS	Treasurer	Annette Pacey	BPHA - Money Advice	Member	Jason Tsiricos	PBIC	Member	Elliott Stephenson	Aragon Housing	Member	Paulette Rennie	Bedford Community Self Help Group
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		<p>Anybody else interested in joining the steering group were encouraged to contact the chair.</p>																		
		<p>No Secretary was appointed as the Secretariat (CVS) undertake this function</p>																		
	<i>BAF Representatives on Advice Planning Board (Central Bedfordshire)</i>	<p>BAF have three places on this board. Karen Perry (AGE UK Bedfordshire) and David Wood (Leighton Linlade CAB) were appointed in 2014 for a two-year period, but one place remains vacant.</p>																		
		<p>Following discussions and a call for volunteers, the following were elected unanimously:</p>																		

Elliot Stephenson - Aragon Housing

9 **Any other business** On behalf of all BAF members, Annette thanked Fiona for all her hard work as Chair.

Documents discussed at this meeting can be found at www.bedsadviceforum.org.uk