

PEMBROKESHIRE VOLUNTEERS' ORGANISERS' NETWORK

Meeting notes, 16th October 2007

Present:

Caroline Graham (PAVS), Jean Morris (PAVS), Lindsay Morgan (PAVS), Morys Gruffydd (Estyn Llaw), Maxine Ford (Pembrokeshire Mind), Allison John (Pembrokeshire Youth Offending Team)

Apologies:

Vicky Parsons (St Johns Community Hall), Elin Griffiths (Estyn Llaw), Angela Walmsley (Stroke Association), Lynda Hill (RSVP), Anna Ward (Probation), Helen Bussell (SNAP)

1. Welcome:

Allison welcomed everybody to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves. The minutes were read and approved a true record.

2. Forward Planning:

Whilst PVON has current 40 members, it was felt a lot were not actively involved and did not attend meetings and events. Some volunteer managers may not have the time especially those working part time. Some members would like to receive mailings and be kept informed. It was felt that planning meetings don't need to be well attended as long as there are some representatives to feedback ideas as to what volunteer managers want. A few ideas were discussed:

- Mentoring scheme – volunteer managers experiencing any problems could be mentored (or 'buddied' up) with more experienced volunteer managers.
- Training for volunteers

A mailing will be sent out to PAVS database of volunteer managers to promote PVON. A questionnaire will be included to find out what they want (to include the idea of a mentoring scheme) and also information on the Online Community.

3. Future Events:

Caroline and Jean attended a conference recently called 'Volunteers and the Law'. They felt this was a very good conference and dealt with issues constantly being raised by volunteer managers. It would be good to run parts of the conference locally. Costs can be kept to a minimum by running the workshops ourselves. Refreshments and a venue would just need financing that will come out of PAVS Volunteering Pembrokeshire budget. A few ideas were discussed:

- A panel to answer questions at end
- Various people can be approached with expertise – Fiona Liddell (WCVA), Vanessa John (PAVS), Shirley David – Caroline will ask, Enricho (WCVA)
- Mark Restall from Volunteering England has produced a useful publication
- The event can be opened up to CAVS and CAVO. Costs could be shared.
- Venues – St Johns Community Hall or other community hall. PAVS boardroom may be too small
- Date: 14th February 2008, Time: 10-3
- Volunteer managers could bring their volunteers along as it would be relevant for them too
- Topics to include: risk assessment, lone working
- AGM can be held at the start

PAVS can organise the event and report back via email. Caroline is meeting with CAVS and CAVO next week and will put it on the agenda

4. Online Community:

The Online Community hub is now operational although not many members have joined yet. Caroline will keep on inviting people to join as it is an interactive hub and will only be useful if it is being used regularly.

5. Any other business:

Volunteering conference held last June – Comments were received that it had been a worthwhile event. The Awards ceremony at the end had been very successful. It will be repeated next year but not sure what format.

Mentoring – Caroline highlighted the mentoring training programme that PAVS are currently running.

Pembrokeshire Mind's AGM is on November 7th, Picton Centre, 7-9 pm