



# Rutland Learning Disability Partnership Board

## Notes of meeting held on 21 March 2019

	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Present – who came to the meeting</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Tracey Gilbert (Chair)</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>Sue Giddens</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>André Dixon (note taker)</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>Heather Parrott</td><td>The Lodge Trust</td></tr> <tr><td>Richard Berry</td><td>The Lodge Trust</td></tr> <tr><td>Jonathan Van Den Broek</td><td>The Lodge Trust</td></tr> <tr><td>Chayne Adcock</td><td>The Lodge Trust</td></tr> <tr><td>Robin Pemberton</td><td>The Lodge Trust</td></tr> <tr><td>Alex Wilby</td><td>Root and Branch Out</td></tr> <tr><td>Yasmeen Abdul-Rahim .....</td><td>Self-Advocate</td></tr> <tr><td>Marenda Campling</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>Dannii Donavon</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>Beverley Peasgood</td><td>New College Stamford</td></tr> <tr><td>Melanie Hill</td><td>New College Stamford</td></tr> <tr><td>Mary Whitmore</td><td>New College Stamford</td></tr> <tr><td>Linda Wylie</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>Tammy Thurley</td><td>RCC</td></tr> <tr><td>Rob Jackson</td><td>RCC</td></tr> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	Tracey Gilbert (Chair)	RCC	Sue Giddens	RCC	André Dixon (note taker)	RCC	Heather Parrott	The Lodge Trust	Richard Berry	The Lodge Trust	Jonathan Van Den Broek	The Lodge Trust	Chayne Adcock	The Lodge Trust	Robin Pemberton	The Lodge Trust	Alex Wilby	Root and Branch Out	Yasmeen Abdul-Rahim .....	Self-Advocate	Marenda Campling	RCC	Dannii Donavon	RCC	Beverley Peasgood	New College Stamford	Melanie Hill	New College Stamford	Mary Whitmore	New College Stamford	Linda Wylie	RCC	Tammy Thurley	RCC	Rob Jackson	RCC
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[Click here](#) to see any presentations and/or leaflets from this meeting



## Introductions and welcome

Tracey welcomed everyone to the meeting

She introduced Yasmeen Abdul-Rahim, Self-Advocate and Co-chair for the meeting

Everyone said their name in turn and where they came from

## Apologies – who could not come to the meeting



Sam Screatton, Caroline Abdul-Rahim, Jacqui Darlington, Nick Woodrow, David Whitmarsh

## Making sure we understand what is being said



Yasmeen told everyone that it is important to use words that are easy to understand. She reminded us to use the yellow cards if we want to say something and the red cards if we do not understand something



## What was said at the last meeting



We looked at the notes from the last meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

## □ Updates



Hello!  
I'm Linda Wylie  
Employment Support Officer  
Rutland County Council  
l.wylie@rutland.gov.uk  
01572 788468



Workplace

**Employment – Linda Wylie, Employment Support Officer.** Linda is new in post – some of you will know Linda from her work as a Community Support Worker at Brightways.

Linda told us some statistics about employment figures - only 6% of people with Learning Disabilities in the UK are employed. The Government want to increase this number so Linda's job involves helping people with LD to get paid work or work as a volunteer.

She told us that being in work is important to people for their health and mental wellbeing as well as providing an income and improving relationships and independence.

Linda can help with Education and Skills/Travel Skills and works with local employers to encourage them to get work for people with LD.

There is an event called 'Exploring Untapped Talent' on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at Oakham Enterprise Park for local employers and it is hoped that future events for self-advocates/service users will be also be planned.

**Linda's presentation is on the website – just click on the link on page 1 of these notes**



**Autism Partnership Board – Rob Jackson** (Senior Case Manager Long Term Review Team) told us about the work being carried out by Rutland County Council for people with Autism. They are looking at health, care and support, housing, employment and criminal justice. All the information will go to local government so they can look at how to make improvements in Autistic society.

The aim is to speak to people in Rutland with Autism and share ideas, see how services work and what improvements, if any, are needed.

The first group was held last Thursday with Dannii Donavon and Tina Stokes leading the sessions. They got some good ideas such as looking at new local activity groups.

An invitation has been sent out across Rutland – these groups will be held for the next 2 months and then the information will be put into a plan to improve services for autistic people within Rutland.

Rutland completed their National Autism Self-Assessment Framework in December, which goes to Public Health England to help them with a review of the National Autism Strategy, improving the lives of those living with Autism. This will help shape Autism services across Rutland alongside the current Autism consultation group views and ideas.

Rob also told us that there is a national review online from Departments of Health and Social Care which needs feedback from Service Users, families and carers. Spread the word!

This can be accessed online at the following link: <https://consultations.dh.gov.uk/autism/2e4ae18d> and is open for responses until 16 May 2019



**Better Health Group – Sam Screatton –**

Unfortunately Sam was unable to attend this meeting as she has been off work for a few weeks but is back now. The Better Health Group has not met yet this year but they plan to start in April and will send dates soon. One nurse has taken up a post in the City and County West will join them in April.



## Presentations:

Alex Wilby from Root and Branch Out (Social Enterprise) -

Alex told us that she and her good friend Claire set up their small, non-profit making company about 2½ years ago. They wanted to nurture the community through nature in Rutland. Alex explained how they support people with learning disabilities to expand their knowledge and grow.

Alex had brought in some herbs (Rosemary, Fennel and Sage) and passed them around for people to smell.

She told us that Root and Branch Out have a community allotment at Rutland Farm Park. Last year service users from Brightways grew a sunflower (which grew to over 3 metres high) and a giant pumpkin which they made into soup!

Alex and Claire take people into the Community Woods to enjoy wildlife, nature and trees. They also learn things like how to light a fire outside and cook over a camp fire, build shelters, how to climb trees, how to forage for food, to follow the seasons, and to identify birds and their singing.

There are opportunities for volunteer work at Root and Branch Out on a Wednesday afternoon and hopefully on a Friday afternoon soon.

People can also learn how to make things out of natural materials such as logs and willow. Alex showed us a spinner that she had made. Also a cup that had been made from the bark from a lime tree.

The values of Root and Branch Out are:

- People Care
- Nature Care
- Fair Share

Everyone is welcome to come along. To contact Alex or Claire have a look at their website:

<https://www.rootandbranchout.co.uk/>

or ring Alex on 07929 989432/Claire on 07811 424430 or email them on

[rootandbranchout@gmail.com](mailto:rootandbranchout@gmail.com)



Yasmeen Abdul-Rahim – My Supported Internship experience at Jules House. Yasmeen is a service user within Supported Living at Park Lane. She told us that she chose her internship at Jules House because she is interested in youth work and enjoys helping young people.

Her work there includes:

Reception work – answering the phone, replying to emails, creating posters for activities, converting documents to easy read format

She has been on Advocacy training so can tell people about Advocacy but is not involved in their work.

She helps organise service user conferences at Rutland County Council hosted by social workers

She goes to debrief meetings before Youth Club meetings and helps with 2 youth groups

Yasmeen has really enjoyed her internship. She has enjoyed being in a working environment; learning new tasks and being treated as an adult.





There were not many challenges as she already knew most of the people at Jules and knew the venue. The biggest challenge was the weather conditions like snow and ice which often caused her wheelchair to spin!

Sorting out transport for trips for people with special needs was quite difficult work at times.

Yasmeen has learnt a few skills during her time at Jules including being independent and making the journey from home to Jules House on her own and she came to the Partnership Board meeting today on her own.

She explained to us that at the start of the internship a job coach (from Stamford College) was with her all the time but sat discreetly at a desk around the corner and just checked on her every half hour or so. Then, as time went by, Yasmeen only saw the job coach once a month. This built up her confidence.

From the internship (which lasted a year) Yasmeen has been able to get a part time paid job with Rutland County Council as an Early Help Administration Assistant. She occasionally volunteers with the Youth Clubs.

**[Yasmeen's presentation is on the website – just click on the link on page 1 of these notes](#)**

Melanie Hill (Head of SEND), Bev Peasgood (Skills for Work & Living Courses) and Mary Whitmore (Senior Support Co-ordinator) from New College Stamford

Melanie introduced herself and her colleagues Bev

and Mary. She told us that the facilities at New College Stamford include a large greenhouse, kitchen and a retail shop within the college.

She told us that they run Personal Community Development Learning (PCDL) courses which include Photoshop, Tai Chi, Plumbing, IT, Art and Drama, Yoga and British Sign Language. These courses are for adults over the age of 19 and taster sessions are available for a small contribution of about £21.

‘Ambitions’ is an adult day service set up in 2015 which provide post education provision for people with learning disabilities. They help to develop independence and work skills through being out in the community and running a variety of social enterprise businesses.

Mary explained to us about the main stream provision available at the College – BTECH Level Courses 1 to 3. They teach practical skills backed up by learning knowledge. The courses include Animal Care/IT and Business/Art and Design and Catering.

Bev told us about the Skills for Work and Living Courses for people aged 16 to 18 (and 24 if they have an Education, Health and Care Plan).

There is a separate site near the college which includes 2 houses which were bought by the College. There are 2 log cabins, a 60 foot glass greenhouse, chicken coop, art room and a sports green for activities.

They also run Skills for Independence courses as well as animal and horticulture, catering and retail and a carousel course. They also have access to Chater Valley Farm





Progression Pathways is based at the main College campus and students can join direct or from the Skills for Independence courses.

The course contents include Core sessions, work experience, Maths, English, Tutorials, Social Enterprises, competitions, fund raising and independent skills.

The aim is to help reduce the gap in employment for people with learning disabilities.

Supported Internships are a non-paid match service and Apprenticeships are a paid competitive application process. The aim of Supported Internships is to help reduce the gap in employment by providing more opportunities for people with learning disabilities to get into paid work.

New College Stamford works in partnership with:

- Chater Valley Farm
- Recovery College
- Mindspace
- HOPE project
- Boston College and Linkage
- Employers
- Guest speakers at parent/carer forums
- Department of Works and Pensions (DWP)

Contact details:

Melanie Hill – [melanie.hill@stamford.ac.uk](mailto:melanie.hill@stamford.ac.uk)

Beverley Peasgood – [Beverley.peasgood@stamford.ac.uk](mailto:Beverley.peasgood@stamford.ac.uk)

Mary Whitmore –

[mary.whitmore@stamfordac.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:mary.whitmore@stamfordac.onmicrosoft.com)

**Melanie's, Bev's and Mary's presentation is on the website – just click on the link on page 1 of these notes**



## Any Other Business

Terms of Reference for 2019 – As there was quite a low attendance for this meeting, it was decided that we would not discuss the revisions to the Terms of Reference today. They will be discussed at the 4<sup>th</sup> June meeting as well as proposals to change to a Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Board.

**We would like to thank the Community Café for the lovely cakes! The café is in Oakham Museum every Friday 11.30am to 1.30pm**

**The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – please note this is a change of date**  
**We hope as many people as possible can attend, especially self-advocates and service users.**

**Visit our website on:**

**[www.rutlandpartnershipboard4u.net](http://www.rutlandpartnershipboard4u.net)**