

**Minutes of the
Central Beds Access Group Meeting
16th July 2009
Priory House
Chicksands**

Present:	Roy Storey	CBAG
	Ian Kelly	CBAG
	Martin Usher	CBC Access Officer
	Clare Harding	CBC
	Steve Nash	Aragon Housing / CBAG
	Lorna Walker	Greensand Trust

1	Welcome, Introductions and Housekeeping	
	The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced Clare Harding, Corporate Policy Advisor (Equality & Diversity) Business Transformation, Central Bedfordshire Council, and Lorna Walker, Community Development Officer, Greensand Trust	
2	Apologies Received	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Bird CBAG • Jean Bird B.G.D.A / CBAG • Charlotte Bonser Bedfordshire LINK • Simon Daize Beds Police / CBAG • Alan White Leighton & Linslade Access • Peter Keats CBC Building Control • Mick Dillon DRC • Vivienne Payne Bedfordshire NHS 	
	The Chairman explained that due to family commitments Alan would be standing down as Chairman of the Leighton and Linslade Access Group at their AGM to be held in October. Alan was thanked in his absence for his input and the group's best wishes were extended to him and his family.	
3	Agree Minutes of Meeting of 27th May 2009	
	Proposed and Seconded as a true and accurate record and agreed by all present.	
4	To receive a report from Clare Harding, Corporate Policy Advisor (Equality & Diversity) Business Transformation, Central Bedfordshire Council,	
	Clare informed the Group that an Equality Forum had been formed and its first meeting held at the DRC Dunstable, which was attended by various groups representing the Racial, Religious, Gay Lesbian and Transgender, Humanists and the Disabled sectors of the community, a Draft copy of the Single	

	<p>Equality Scheme and the Central Bedfordshire Council's D E S was discussed.</p> <p>The Forum was chaired by Richard Ellis, Director of CBC and Cllr Richard Stay also attended.</p> <p>The Draft will be passed to the Council's Executive Committee for their recommendation that it be accepted as a Policy of Central Bedfordshire Council.</p> <p>The Policy will encompass all Officers, Members and Contractors of the Council</p> <p>A copy of the Draft was made available to the Access Group Members and an indepth discussion followed.</p> <p>Clare was congratulated for her commitment to the Policy, it is a workable document which will benefit all residents of Central Bedfordshire.</p> <p>The Access Group was thanked for proposing that an Access Statement be included with all licence applications made to CBC. Clare informed the group that this issue will be discussed with with her Line Manager and the Disability Access Officer.</p> <p><u>Footnote:-</u></p> <p>If any Access Group Members who were unable to attend wish a copy of the Draft please contact the Chairman.</p>	
5	<p>To receive an update to date report from Lorna Walker Community Development Officer , Greensand trust</p>	
	<p>Lorna gave an update on various locations in Ampthill, Maulden and Flitwick. They included the Working Woodland Centre the new Visitors Centre at Ampthill Park and the Mount and Manor Park at Flitwick</p> <p>Lorna explained that there are many issues to be resolved at these sites but it is hoped that in the not too distant future things will improve. Once again the Access Group was invited to give advice on access issues and a positive pledge to do so was given.</p> <p>Lorna was thanked for her attendance and her open report.</p>	
6	<p>To receive an update on outstanding issues</p>	
	<p>The Chairman advised that along with Ian Kelly and Martin Usher he would be attending a meeting with Alex Sidney at Wrest Park. The purpose was for an update on the progress of access issues</p>	
7	<p>Date and time of next Meeting Tuesday 6th October 2009 Room 13 Priory House, Chicksands 6.30 pm start The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 20.25 pm</p>	

