**Wirral Older People Parliament**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**Friday 19th October 2018**

**Wallasey Town Hall**

**10.30-12.30**

**Apologies:** Terry Sullivan, Pauline Sutton

**Present:**

Ray Johnstone (Chair)

Rose Leckey

Carl Leckey

Celia Kennedy

Beryl Mitchell

Kath Ford

Bernd Heerwagen

John Turner

Winnie Cooke

Sandra Wall

Jim Cadwallader

Jack Cuffe

Julie Kay (admin)

Audrey Moore

Tony Killen (Mersey travel)

Bernd thanked all members for well wishes and flowers.

**Previous minutes agreed**

**Matters arising**

Tony Killen

Discussed the refurbishment of train stations to include lifts for more accessibility.

Government money has been made available for parts of the UK to add in lifts to some stations. Each area has to bid for the money. There is 300 million available for the whole country. What stations would members suggest? Jim Cad suggested Green Lane as it is close to the tunnels and good for tourists. Also trying to improve tourist footfall to Port Sunlight.

Members concerned about signage at Hamilton square and James Street too. 40 stations across Merseyside have no lift access.

Chair concerned about steep ramp inclines at Bebington in particular. And this station would also benefit from additional signage.

KF praised rail assistance working for her on trips down to Bristol. Perhaps a small charge would prevent abuse of the system though.

CL- will the results be published on website? Tony replied that government will make the decision and Mersey travel will publish it.

Tony- we will be trying to get best value for for each station with good access.

JT- commented that disabled people need to be in on every change made and consulted properly.

CL concerned about the new trains and what will happen if there is a pram in a disabled space? Tony- we have provided enough spaces for wheelchairs and prams and wide alleyways to move onto another space.

CL- where will all the old trains go? They will be returned to the yards and used elsewhere.

Chair thanked Tony and JK will resend the survey out to members.

Chair- very concerned about the direction WOPP is going in and that it is drifting. Where can we go in the future? Ray met Micha Woodworth from Involve and she mentioned Know your neighbour which JK suggested a while ago and seems to be a good idea. JK and Chair will meet with Micha next week.

JT- AgeUK Wirral door knock happened in West Kirby but concerned that a lot people wouldn’t respond to this method of contact.

WC- GP’s are now involved in signposting to AgeUK. An older person’s meeting place is needed.

KF agrees with WC about this older person’s hub.

WC- Woodside is having something created there.

Chair- crime and respect event needs to be planned going forward. It’s also important to re-engage with the housing committee and address these issues.

WC- concerned about social housing only giving 5 year leases. People will not be able to put down roots.

JC- housing seems to be an important issue for us that we maybe take a whole day to discuss and plan.

Chair- Wendy Cocks has approach him to apply for housing ambassador post but it seems to be quite onerous.

KF- suggested concentrating on getting members, without them we have no group.

Chair- what I want is a list of priority issues.

JC- what we need is a list. We have to ask ourselves how many members we have recruited ourselves?

KF- goes to other groups that are thriving so we have to ask ourselves who we have and where we are going wrong? I know people who get nothing from us.

JK- if the person/s you are talking about have not given consent for us to hold their information then they will no longer be on our database. GDPR laws prevent us from holding information.

Jim Cad- when did we last have advertising in the globe?

Chair- in my experience the globe is too expensive for small reach and the last time we tried it they didn’t publish it.

KF- can we have a list of meetings that are on and then choose to go?

Chair- this doesn’t work as there needs to be consistency at meetings and also a lot are short dated and the date comes out the week before.

JT- what is the purpose of us going to these meetings? Is it to gain knowledge or promote us?

SW- we do both at meetings

Chair membership is our number 1 priority

KF- can we put on a Christmas meal and invite all our members by post?

Jim Cad- people won’t go to Hoylake

Chair- it doesn’t have to be in Hoylake. We can hire St Webergh’s for example.

JC- easier for me to attend things in Birkenhead.

WC- concerned about what we are doing for the community around us.

Chair- will send out an email to all past members personally to see if they still want to be members.

CL- what about GDPR?

Chair- I will send them out myself not on behalf of WOPP.

Chair- first priority getting members.

KF- we must only have over 60’s as over 50’s are not interested.

CL- can we send an older people’s joining form with the bench form? JK yes I can do that.

KF- could we get a mini bus to the research event in Warrington?

JT- what have we done with any members we do have? If we want to expand our members then we have to accept how difficult this is going to be. We need a purpose.

Chjair- apart from informing people right from the beginning what have we ever done?

KF-we need to invite people not just inform them of things.

SW- central Birkenhead would be much better for our meetings.

CL mentioned as far as Ellesmere Port but JC said we are only the four constituencies.

**AOB**

Chair mentioned an article in the Echo about private companies wanting to take over parts of the CCG. Mantgani will be invited to a special meeting on the changes possibly at St Werburghs

KF- are we going to leave here with a plan?

SW- has contacted the Globe about the care issues but has received no response.

Chair- the echo is worth a try but it’s the same people always getting published.

SW- the aim is to get people into events.

CL- brought up the issues of the parliament’s name? we were not elected? JC said that in the beginning members were elected.

KF- suggested that people want to know what’s in it for them. We only need over 65’s.

SW- why do we need an age at all? Just recruit older people.

Chair- we will make a start on membership with KF idea of inviting people to a meal or refreshments.

KF- what are we offering them though?

JC- what does KF suggest?

Chair- trying to consider all ideas.

Jim Cad- can we invite members to a meal and ask for input and ideas from them?

Chair- we used to have a list of speakers but now many have to be paid.

KF- but what are we offering them?

WC- what are we getting for members and to get them interested?

JC- we have offered food over the years and still not increased members.

WCV- can we approach other charities and invite them to an event?

Chair- refreshments are a good idea but not many meetings provide this now.

BM- raffle is a good idea and brings in funds

Jim Cad then gave an update on Tranmere Tunnels. See Jim for details.

RL – we have been approached by a boys football team in New Brighton to sponsor their new club strip. £375 cost to have our logo on their shirts and a bit of publicity. Members agreed to support this and some members offered donations.

CL- as disability rep we can only go so far on our own we need to collaborate with others. Chair has sent CL a link for a chang.org petition. Chair to send it again to RL email.

Chair highlighted the monthly bank statement had been given to all members.

**Next meeting Friday 16th November at Wallasey Town Hall with CCG consultation. 10.30-12.30**