# Wirral Older People’s Parliament

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**Friday 21st September 2018**

**10.30-12.30pm**

**Wallasey Town Hall**

**Apologies:** Winnie Cooke, Pauline Sutton, Jim Cadwallader, Joe Fish

**Present:**

John Turner

Beryl Mitchell

Carl Leckey

Rose Leckey

Sandra wall

Kath Ford

Jack cuffe

Terry Sullivan

Celia Kennedy

Ray Johnston (Chair)

Julie Kay (Project Co-ordinator & admin)

Audrey Moore

**Previous minutes agreed**

**Matters Arising**

Chair reported that Bernd is doing well. Chair has also sent CL an email a disability campaign on change .org

CL asked if chair had any response on where car parking charges are going at Arrowe Park hospital?

Chair- not exactly but is waiting for another response from Chief Executive.

The main topic of this meeting is the future direction of WOPP.

Chair- What do members think?

Chair- without sending National Letters via Bernd we are not doing anything.

Chair- we don’t get invited to meetings anymore that used to happen.

CL- nothing ever comes of nay of those meetings anyway.

CL- as disabled rep we must join forces with other groups . I write to hotel chains, buildings, councillors etc and don’t usually get a response. Age UK Wirral do all these things such as activities and we can’t compete with that.

Chair – it is very difficult to join forces with other groups as we have tried this in the past.

CL- councillors and meetings are not interested in changing disabled access. Been waiting 7 weeks for the disabled toilet in New Brighton to have its handle fixed and the door is too heavy to open.

CK- we need more projects such as campaigning for care home staff to have qualifications, residents to have financial rights and information.

Chair- Dr Mantgani gave us info on care home changes and he was very concerned about GP surgeries taking over care.

BM- can we become a charity? We would then be taken more notice of.

Chair- very difficult to become a charity, needing trustees and different regulations to follow. Chair attempted to apply in the past but the process was difficult to understand.

KF- Can we discuss the charity issues in detail at a later date as this doesn’t concern this meeting.

Chair- best way forward is to wait and see if council continue to fund us first.

BM- we also need to change the name although this is not a popular idea.

KF- agreed with BM but added that two groups are needed over 50’s and Older people.

JT-concerned that we talk and talk and our agenda is too wide. There are national issues and local issues and we didn’t get very far with national issues. Can we focus on Wirral instead? Aim small and find valid things that affect local people. There is more credibility with this approach.

BM- We need a questionnaire sent out to find out what people want.

Chair- asking for funding is very difficult as we need a project like the housing one.

SW- social isolation of so many older people needs addressing. Can we work with AgeUK and CCG on this?

TS- We also need to make sure that we get funding within our contract with the council. We need to be the voice of older people on Wirral. Press and media on care home issues. Could we meet with Jamie Anderson from Age UK Wirral about this?

Chair- AgeUK Wirral are not interested in supporting us.

SW-can we ask Jamie Anderson to be patron.

KF- I am only concerned about group. This here at the exec is our members now not a big database. Everything we do should go on hold until we have a plan. I attended an Alpha meeting where there was a short list of what older people want.

KF requested that her contribution was not documented in the minutes.

JC- gave a short history of the context of WOPP. Act as the voice of the people. Promote the older population, identify issues that needed addressing, deal with important national issues such as pensions, be accessible and transparent.

We were given full and unequivocal support form the council and an important step in the right direction for the future of Wirral.

JC projects- looking at how we can support older people to stay in their own homes, we need to revitalise our housing project and be careful what we put on and how we do it.

We have wasted a lot of time sending letters to MP’s

Chair- housing event not forgotten, there has been now follow up form speakers and no councillors turned up to the event.

All projects have to be followed through.

KF- suggested Health and Social Care committee and exec amalgamate and we need to find things we can do something about.

JS- How can we help you? Should be our strapline as an organisation.

At this point JK was asked to leave as a discussion on increase in office hours/ attendance of meetings was needed. No minutes were taken.

Decision was deferred by the executive committee until October meeting.

**Next meeting Friday 19th October 2018. Wallasey Town Hall. 10.30- 12.30pm.**