

Notes on the Meeting to discuss Housing Provision in Greater Manchester for People with Physical Disabilities held on Wednesday 21 April 1982 at 10.30 am at North British Housing Association Ltd, Sunlight House, Quay Street, Manchester

Present: Peter Norman, Irwell Valley Housing Association (in the Chair)
Zena Homewood, CSV
Patrick Mbatha, AHA
Bernard Gosschalk, Housing Centre Trust
Roy Southern, AHA
Ken Lumb, Union of Physically Impaired
Judith Gray, AHA
Roger Arkell, North British Housing Association Ltd
Dorothy Whitaker, GM CVS
Jennifer Graham, GM CVS

Apologies: Don Simpson, Rochdale Housing Department
Anne Miller, ARMS
R Lewis, Stockport Social Services
Chris Withnall, Collingwood Housing Association Ltd
Nigel Smith, The Spastics Society
Sheila Hadfield, Oldham Housing Department

- | | <u>Proposed Housing Conference</u> | <u>Action</u> |
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| 1. | | |
| 1.1 | Dorothy circulated the current Conference Programme and said that Alan Powell, Chairman of GM CVS, had been invited to chair the conference. He chaired a similar conference in Rochdale two years ago and is familiar with the issues involved. | |
| 1.2 | A pack for the Conference will be produced and the Spastics Society have promised £200 towards the cost of production. | |
| 1.3 | The 10.45 slot was proving difficult to fill. Dorothy was looking into the possibility of a representative from SouthamptonHampshire because there were a number of different care/support schemes in that area. | |
| 1.4 | Delegates will be allocated to the workshops hopefully assuring a wide spectrum of interests in each group. The title of all six groups will be "Action through Co-operation". | |
| 1.5 | To ensure a good geographical cross section of delegates at the Conference and in order to fill the 100 places the mailing will cover the "North West". To ensure that senior personnel from relevant departments in Greater Manchester are given every opportunity to attend a preliminary letter of invitation will be sent out asking for a reply by the end of July. A second letter will be sent to "others" on the mailing list. | |
| 1.6 | It was felt that Trades Unions be invited to send representatives. Initially NUPE and COHSE should be approached to find out if they have a representative whose brief covers this area. | |
| 1.7 | Other trades unions might have an interest if they have members working in this area - this should be looked into. | |
| 1.8 | Ideas for action through cooperation are expected from the report backs. | |
| 1.9 | Group leaders will be given a detailed briefing note in addition to the Information Pack. | |
| 1.10 | Mechanids have been contacted with a view to sponsoring the conference but have said they are unable to do so. Dorothy has written to another aids firm - Normed. | |

2. Video Action
- 2.1 Dorothy reported that filming for the video had started, the first piece of film shot was of Ken and Maggie Davis at Grove Road. Other dates have been arranged and filming will continue at weekends, evenings and holidays throughout April and May.
- 2.2 Denis Pass, the producer, was proving an invaluable help. He was hard working and enthusiastic to the point where he was prepared to work weekends and holidays to get the filming completed on schedule.
- 2.3 Funds were however needed for the video film. Denis had already bought film and as yet had not been reimbursed for this or travel expenses.
- 2.4 An application for £1 500 has been submitted to the Jubilee Trust but we will not be told until June whether or not it has been approved.
- 2.5 Peter Norman asked if anyone present could either get a small grant or loan from any sympathetic body they had contact with. The following people volunteered:-
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| Peter Norman | NW Region Nat Assoc of Housing Associations (grant) |
| | Shelter (grant) |
| Roger Arkell | Preston Branch, North British Housing Assoc (loan) |
| | Abbey National Building Society (grant) |
| Dorothy Whitaker | GMC (grant) |
| Roy Southern/Judith Gray | Regional Health Authority (grant) |
| Bernard Gosschalk | Housing Centre Trust (grant) |
- Any information on the applications for funding should be sent directly to Peter Norman.
- 2.6 Dorothy was also asked to check the film already shot to find out if manufacturers of any equipment filmed could be approached for money. DW
- 2.7 An account will be opened, care of GM CVS, in the name of "Greater Manchester CVS Housing & Care Support Fund" and the signatories will be Peter Norman and Dorothy Whitaker. DW
- 2.8 The question of which direction the group would take after the completion of the video and the conference in September was raised. Ken was asked to draft half a page or so on "After September". KL
- 2.9 If interest is generated by the Conference and video who will support the people who wish to take action?
- 2.10 It was suggested we might invite John Evans, Project '81 to come and show the film "Rights of Passage" which had recently come from the USA and showed the achievements of disabled people there. DW
- 2.11 From the amount of film already shot it looked as if the selection of film for the video might be difficult and the group had no expertise in editing. Denis Pass would be asked if he would like assistance with editing and if so if he knew anyone he could ask. DW
3. Topics for Discussion at Next Meeting
- 3.1 The two draft letters on the subject of identifying clients for specially adapted housing which Judith Gray composed for circulation to Departments of Social Service and Health Districts were circulated. This would be the first item on the agenda at the next meeting.

- 3.2 A letter written on behalf of the British Council of Organisations of Disabled People (BCODP) was circulated at the end of the meeting which, time permitting, will be discussed at the next meeting.
- 4. Date of Next Meeting
 - 4.1 Tuesday 25 May 1982 at 10.00 am.
 - 4.2 The video about the "Grove Road" Housing scheme in Derbyshire will be shown; unfortunately "Rights of Passage" was not available.