

## **Babergh Disability Sport and Leisure Forum**

**19<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

Present – Louise Pennell, Stephanie Lloyd, Shirley Moore, Chris Marsh and Gemma Bennett

- Playground to Podium and School's Programme

At Babergh we have appointed our new full time Community Sports Coach, Simon King and he will be going into Hillside to gain some experience and following the school holidays will be regularly attending 2 Babergh and 2 Ipswich schools and offering coaching this will culminate in a festival that will link in with the P2P festivals that are already due to be run and there are targets in terms of the number of potential athletes that need to be identified with a view to developing future talented athletes.

**Action: Steph to keep the forum updated in the future of the schools programme and events as they become known**

- Events

CP Sport are hosting a multi sport event on 14/03/09 and this is a P2P festival aimed at identifying talented athletes. An additional event that will be taking place is Soccer Sight and is aimed at potential footballers with a visual impairment. Posters were passed round for both events.

**Action: Louise to email posters of both events for people to forward on**

- Great Cornard Climbing Wall

BeActive have supported the development of this facility with a donation of £1,000 which once combined with other funds has enabled additional equipment to be purchased as well as training a coach to fully support groups using this facility. School tasters are to be run around the local schools and then twice weekly sessions will be held. 12 places are available per course although this may change with disability groups. Steph will be running sessions for referral groups and Louise will look to run a session during the Easter or May school holidays.

**Action: Steph to keep group updated and Louise to provide details of disability sessions once arranged**

- HIP

Gemma advised that the HIP project is going well despite not reaching the targets that were originally set. Around 30 people are currently on the programme and while there are small numbers there have been some really good success stories with a couple of people attending additional sessions and having their general health improved to a point that they have been accepted into day/resource centres or they have become more physically independent. This project is now being taken over by Ian who has a good sports development background and has come from Forest Heath and will be working on this project exclusively. Future meetings will be attended by Ian. Case studies have been produced on participants from the HIP, James being the main person from Babergh included.

**Action: all to promote the HIP scheme where possible. Gemma to forward copies of the PR/case study material that has been produced.**

- VI Multi Sport

This multi sport session runs on the first Saturday of each month from 4.30 – 6.30pm at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre and cost £3 but is open to friends and family as well.

- New Sessions

There were plans to start Rugby and Football sessions within the Sudbury area in association with Suffolk Befriending as the sessions running in Haverhill are so popular as have been taster sessions in Sudbury. Links exist to Sudbury Rugby Club and Louise is looking to arrange with Tim a tag rugby course and it looks as though we have enough to organise this now. This will be set with a few weeks notice and so more can be encouraged along. As soon as this course has taken place we will have a number of qualified coaches in Babergh to run the sessions and can make contact with the rugby club over a day and time for regular activities to run. With regard the football sessions Will Hunt runs the Cornard Dynamos on a Saturday and would look to complement this where possible but Simon the Babergh Coach can also be utilised to provide these sessions for adults with disabilities.

**Action: Louise to book course and email out dates, confirmations need to be made asap as 2 weeks notice is needed for course materials to arrive.**

**Louise to forward contact details between Simon and Shirley regarding football sessions.**

**Chris to forward contact details of existing coach in Essex that is looking for work and qualified in rugby and volleyball.**

- Showcase Day

A review was made of the evaluation report and figures that came from this day. From this day an Archery course was run but with only 4 attending 1 of which has continued and because of her disability classification will be looking at competing in London 2012 and is working with the GB squad on this.

- Regular Clubs and Sessions

The sitting volleyball club that was set up following the showcase day has disappointing numbers at the moment and with a view to increase this it was turned into a multi sport session. A number of leaflets have been sent to all special schools within travelling distance and a number of mainstream schools as well as the Sudbury and Bury resource centres in an attempt to raise number in this session.

The Spartans is going well and has been approached as a major success story from the Suffolk Disability Sports Academy to feature in a DVD that promotes the East of England and the impact that 2012 will have on this region. This will hopefully be happening on 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> of Feb but this has not been confirmed as yet. Members attended the IPC Championships in Cardiff on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan and all placed first in their respective groups. Shirley has arranged football sessions to take place in Kirkley and Pakefield for adults.

A second multisport session will be starting at East Bergholt after a taster session during the Easter holidays. Dates and times have not been confirmed as yet but details and posters will follow as soon as this has happened.

**Action: All to promote the Cornard Club where possible, posters will be emailed out, Louise will look at a mailing to those that attended the showcase day.**

**Shirley to forward details of Lowestoft sessions to Louise for inclusion in the Optua club guide**

### **Any Other Business**

#### **Optua Club Guide**

An easy read guide is being approved before going to print and will include a list of all disability specific clubs within the Suffolk area and will be available online and at Optua events. Once available this will need to be promoted to increase numbers in as many clubs as possible.

### Optua Bursary Scheme

This has had limited take up so far but is open to anyone that is coaching within Suffolk and that is coaching a disabled sport. Priority is given to people looking for a level 1 or 2 course although anything will be considered. An application form is available from Optua and the launch was held at East Bergholt Sports Centre on 17/09/08 with the help of Suffolk Spartans.

### Showcase Days

The Suffolk Disability Sports Academy will be holding a showcase day on 9<sup>th</sup> May at Woodbridge Community Centre and on 26<sup>th</sup> September at Stowmarket Leisure Centre. Two additional days are being considered one surrounding indoor water the other outdoor water. These were planned for March and July but maybe delayed.

### Special Olympics

Optua have now affiliated as the organising body within Suffolk for the Special Olympics and as from April the Suffolk Disability Sports Academy will be looking to develop this area further with events for people to take part in. Updates will follow.

### Active People Survey

Following the results of this latest survey Babergh have featured as the highest performing local authority in Suffolk and the 11<sup>th</sup> best in the country which is tremendous news considering the rural nature of the area. In addition disability figures were also up in this area and we'll look to increase this for the future.

### Next Meetings

16<sup>th</sup> March 10.30 – Colin Wilson Room at Bridge Project, Sudbury  
Opportunity to promote Easter Activities and Showcase Day

22<sup>nd</sup> June 10.30 – East Bergholt Sports Centre – To be confirmed  
Opportunity to promote Summer Activities and Showcase Day