



Kent Deaf Children's Society

Registered Charity No 1015013



Minutes of 2007 AGM Saturday 7th July 2007

At
Royal School for Deaf Children, Margate.

Present: Ivor & Jane Riddell, Brian & Jo More, Lynne Stow & John, Claire & Nathan Hudson,
Bernagh Alleyne, Baker, Nadine Booth, Brill, Bunyan, Butler, Champion, Eugenie Dalton Lambeth, Evans, Golding, Hope, Joslin, Macnally, Mead, Jo Meadon (RSDCM), Mullen, Needham Philips (Medway Deaf Club), Purton Smith, Ralph, Ramshaw, Sullivan Monks, Tuppin/Moore, Vasja, Waller, Wells, Wilson,

High Sheriff of Kent: Mr Nigel Wheeler.
Lisa Godden (interpreter)

Apologies: Ayling, Brown, Bunclark, Jo Frazer (KCC) Hipps, Jack, Keith, MBlissy, Rose, Venner, Watmough, Kim Ward (KCC) White, Gillian Wills (RSDCM)

2. Minutes 2006 AGM: Accepted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising:
No matters arising

4. Financial Report

- Membership now stands at 53 members for 2007, but 80 families on our books
- This year main expenditures have as always been our family events – totalling around £5,500
- The other significant spending has been the sibling signing project which cost just over £1,100. We have received grant funding retrospectively for this from KCC deaf services bureau. We have also received confirmation of funding for this years sibling/family signing project.
- We have funded the set up of HICCUPS Medway – a local coffee afternoon group, Publicity material, toy library
- Our admin costs continue to rise as we grow. The majority of our members are happy to receive email correspondence which saves postage costs. If you have not given us your email address please do so today!
- Our main income as already said was grant funding, with our membership fees only accounting for 15% of our income.
- As planned we have spent more than income by around nearly £7,000 leaving a balance of £9,000 in the bank.
- Full accounts are available should you require them.



5. Chairman's Report

- Welcome to our distinguished guest the High Sheriff of Kent Mr Nigel Wheeler thank you sir for attending.
- thanks also to the Royal School for Deaf Children Margate
- September 21st last year Jackie Frost passed away a minutes silence in her memory.
- growth of almost 150% in membership
- thank Lyn for her support and advice
- Special Events this year
 - Pantomime in 2006
 - Howletts.
- new system for the governance-
 - set up an organising group who have limited autonomous powers do the bulk of the committee type work and drive the society, make day to day decisions and organise events,
 - Report back to the family group which meets on a two monthly basis on a Saturday morning at different venues around the county to enable families with young children to attend and air there views and ratify or otherwise proposals put by the Organising Group.
 - Massive success - attendances at meeting up significantly and a lot of lively debate and some fresh new ideas.
- Started our first Coffee Group in Medway, forum for parents to meet in a social surrounding with others who live locally to discuss issues that affect them and feed through to the family and organising group.
 - key strength - they are parent driven and locally focused
 - thanks to Anne-Marie Hewer
- new leaflet is out and about promoting the society
- looking at setting up an online presence with either a website or Blogsite,
- Thanks to Nathan and Clare Hudson for work on our email and database. It is support from members such as these which helps the KDCS to work as well as it does and offer such a strong base of support for deaf children and their families across Kent.
- Most successful project is the Sibling Signing Project. Project manager - Jo Moore, financial support -KCC aims of the project, - help communications within the family dynamic between hearing children and their deaf siblings through teaching the hearing children to use British Sign Language up to level 1 with a recognised accredited qualification.
 - Feedback from families involved has been way beyond our expectations and the High Sheriff is here today to honour the efforts of these children and present them with their accreditation Certificates.
- tribute to Two people who have been patient and supportive in the extreme - our significant others Jane and Brian, thank you for all your support over the last year and for all the patience and support in the year to come.



- There are a many, many projects that have taken place this year as several cases of individual support to families by the Society. We continue to live up to the core ethos and purposes of the KDCS by supporting Families with deaf children to become a contributing part of their community, who see their children develop their fullest potential and raise their aspirations, becoming full members of society with a sense of self worth and confidence.
- Finally I would ask you the members if there is anything that you feel you can do for the society by volunteering, fundraising or anything at all then please speak to us. It is a member driven organisation. Without that support the KDCS would not exist or be as successful as it has been in the past.
- To misquote a famous American Icon and statesman please “ask yourselves not what can the KDCS can do for me but what can you do for the KDCS”.

High Sheriff of Kent Mr Nigel Wheeler said a few words and presented the sibling signing group with their level 1 BSL certificates.

Eugenie Dalton Lambeth was formally thanked for teaching the children and assisting them to achieve this award.

6. Changes to constitution

It was unanimously agreed that the society be managed by a core group “organising group”, which will meet regularly and report back to the main group at the bimonthly meetings.

7. Stand down of the committee

All were thanked and formally stood down

8. Election of organising group/trustees

The following posts were proposed by Darryl Ramshaw and seconded by Brian Moore

Chairman:	Ivor Riddell
Membership Secretary:	Jo Moore
Treasurer	Jo Moore
IT Support	Clare Hudson
Secretary	Vacancy

KCC Representative	Lynn Stow
Teacher of the Deaf	Denise Naven

9. AOB: None

10. Meeting closed