

# Bracknell Forest Minorities Alliance Meeting

held at Fitzwilliam House, Skimped Hill Lane, Bracknell  
on Wednesday 6 May 2009 at 7 pm

## Minutes

Martin Gilman (BFVA)	MG	+	Zack Anucha (African & Caribbean Org)	ZA	+
Hassen Boodoo (BICS)	HB	+	Tayo Owodunni (UNI)	TO	-
Daisy Bret-Holt (Berks Filipino Assoc)	DBH	-	Assila Bibi Tegally (BICS)	ABT	+
Dilip Ladwa (ASP)	DL	+	Judy English (BFVA)	JE	+
Chris Cowap (BFVA)	CC	+	Mohamed Riaz (BICS – Chair)	MR	-
Raman Patel (ICAB)	RP	+	Durga Ramjali (Sandhurst Nepalese Community)	DR	-
Val Hoskins (People in Harmony)	VH	-			

Present (+) Absent (-)

			Action
1	Welcome and Apologies	DL opened the meeting. Apologies were received from DBH and VH.	
2	Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising	<p>These were accepted as correct. Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Item 5 – RP queried the article for the Bracknell Standard and MG confirmed that if a general article on BFMA is written, it could be submitted to the paper with a photo from the AGM.</li> <li>Item 12 – MG requested responses to BFVA's evaluation survey and also to the children's mapping survey and reminded everyone about the VCS Conference on 21 May.</li> <li>DL queried the attendance list and CC explained that Val Hoskins wanted to be kept informed and that Nazahr Ahmedi from Ahmechya Muslim Association in Crowthorne was interested in attending together with Naheed Egaz from the Pakistani Community. Some discussion took place regarding representation from the Fillipino Association and DL requested that the contact list for minority groups be reviewed as an agenda item at the next meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>CC/JE</p>
3	Finance	CC had produced a brief statement of income and expenditure which was not circulated but there has been no movement since the last report.	
4	BHM 2009	ZA reported that a new format was being considered – either to hold a sit down meal to be used as a forum, or to have presentations from groups invited to bring something specific to their culture. He is also considering a central location. MG commented that a date is needed urgently in order to book a venue and ZA will circulate suggestions by the end of the month. A possible date will be 25 October and MG suggested that ZA could apply for grassroots funding and offered assistance with the application. CC will check whether groups can apply together for funding. ZA will let CC/JE know further details.	ZA

5	BFMA leaflet	DL reported that he has had discussions with the print room and is now proposing that the leaflet should be A5 size instead of trifold and asked everyone to send in any photos that they have for use in the leaflet by 20 May.	All
6	Midas Mini Driving Course update	One further training group still to be arranged. MG has two possible candidates whom CC will contact and ZA will get in touch with his candidate. Names to be confirmed by 20 May.	CC/ZA
7	Funding strategy/bids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MG reported that we have funding from Faith in Action to set up a multi-faith forum. There is £10,800 available over 2 years to fund a comprehensive mapping of all faith groups in Bracknell Forest through 7 hours per week. CC will forward the Raise report. The result of the joint bid with Wokingham should be known next week which will fund a full time worker to support BFMA groups. CC will circulate the project bid for information. MG reminded that Berkshire Community Foundation are still waiting for bids.</li> </ul>	CC
8	Change of name and bank account signatories	The bank form has been completed and will be taken to Lloyds TSB.	JE
9	Revising the Constitution	DL received only one response and emphasised that everyone needs to be involved and comment and requested that the constitution be read and commented on by 20 May. It was decided to hold a separate meeting to discuss the constitution on Tuesday 9 June at 7 pm at DL's house. The issue of the liability of trustees and current status should be an agenda item at the next full committee meeting.	All JE
10	BFMA Open Event	CC commented that as the AGM was well received and successful it would make sense to have regular events to ensure the flow of information. DL requested that evaluation should take place at the next event in order to measure success. CC will look for a date and send out suggestions for a topic by 20 May.	CC
11	Resilience Support Grants – Capacity Builders	This is £5,000 which had to be spent before 31 March and with only two weeks notice, it was decided to contribute towards the Community TV project. The alternative was to return the money. DL expressed concern that the decision was made through email communication, but MG confirmed that the time pressure made it impossible to hold meetings for discussion and that the Consortium was in agreement with how the £5,000 was spent and was pleased with the impact it was believed it would have on the community. MG also commented that the input of this money to the Bracknell Partnership strengthened the position of the voluntary sector on the board.	
12	Update from Uni	DL reported that the free software enabling the updating of websites had been received and that he is meeting with TO next week. Uni has just produced their first year report which CC will forward to DL..	DL CC
13	Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ABT commented on a news item that muslims are getting a lot of publicity while other groups are not being targeted.</li> <li>HB said that the proposed meeting with Andrew McKay which Simon Bowden was arranging had not yet occurred and MG advised following this up with Mark Harling.</li> <li>ABT said that the subject of communal holidays had been raised with her as this is something which happens in</li> </ul>	HB

		<p>Reading but RP said this is not an area they wish to be involved in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DL had been involved in a Cardio Wellness event which the organisers are keen to run in Bracknell and he would obtain further details.</li> <li>• DL asked for JE to scan a recent BNP leaflet to be circulated.</li> <li>• DL reported that the Prevent Agenda is operating in Slough in a different way to Bracknell.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>DL</p> <p>DL</p>
14	Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constitution meeting at DL's house on Tuesday 9 June at 7 pm</li> <li>• Full committee meeting on Wednesday 17 June 7 pm at Fitzwilliam House</li> </ul>	