

Minutes of Little Hiccup AGM Meeting Tuesday 16th May 2017



Date	Tuesday 16 th May 2017	
Start Time	7.10pm	
Location	Stanningley Firestation	
Subject	Little Hiccups 2017 AGM Meeting - Minutes	
Attendees	Noel Davis-Atack (NDA) Abi Griffith (AG) Linsay Medica (LM) Tracy Reece (TR) Sarah Stewart (SS)	Susan Timblin (SS) Jamie Tyson (J Tyson) James Thompson (JT) Miriam Watson-Pratt (MWP)
Apologies	Jennifer McAnuff Angela Kozlowski-Frith	Belinda Williamson

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Jennifer McAnuff, Angela Kozlowski-Frith and Belinda Williamson

2. Minutes of previous AGM

Minutes of 2016 AGM were approved and signed by Sarah Stewart

3. Chair's Report

See Appendix 1

4. Secretary's Report

See Appendix 2

5. Treasurer Report

See Appendix 3

JT arrives 19.43

6. Election of Trustees

The current Trustees stood down.

MWP recommended that SS remain Chairperson. This was seconded by LM and JT

MWP and LM are happy to remain the Secretary and Treasurer if required.

LM nominates MWP for Secretary. This was seconded by SS and NDA.

AG nominates LM for Treasurer. This was seconded by NDA and MWP.



Minutes of Little Hiccup AGM Meeting Tuesday 16th May 2017



AG, JT and NDA were voted back onto the Committee and Board of Trustees.

TR was also voted onto the Committee and Board of Trustees. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome TR.

7. Any other Business

J Tyson asked if LM was paid. LM explained that hers was a volunteer role. J Tyson also informed the Trustees that she was moving away and wanted to express her gratitude to Little Hiccups.

ST also expressed that Little Hiccups is 'amazing'.

The Trustees are grateful for this feedback and wish J Tyson all the best for the future – and that they were always welcome at future events if they were ever visiting.

Meeting ends 19.53



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Intro

I joined the committee in 2015 under the chair of Noel who claimed after James, who was second the best, that he was the one with the hairy chest. In line with the poem this was handed to Emmanuel who was the golden Eagle. Emmanuel took flight and I took the mantle of chair, fifth the princess in the silver dress. I did get my moment in the princess dress (more about that later). I knew my main job was to limit the talk of zombies and stop the boys from playing up. A thankless task but I believe I succeeded and I didn't even have to use my silence cards. Thankfully though with such a successful year we have had some packed agendas and a lot to keep us busy at our quarterly meetings.

The committee has grown in strength in the last year, including committee babies. Welcome Leo and Nessa.

For me everything Little Hiccups stands for is my own personal values and ethos as a Learning Disability Nurse. Linsay and Miriam have done Jack and the children of Hiccups proud in growing the charity in to what it is today. Which I think we have encapsulated in our new strap line; support, share, experience. The meeting where the six of us attempted to formulate the strap line proved what a creative or not so creative bunch we are.

Purpose/Objectives

Little Hiccups continues as it started to be a parent led support group for children and families with additional needs and disabilities. Recognising the importance of creating opportunity for families and children with additional needs to meet people in similar situations and support each other. In 2016 we have seen this more and more as families are bonding and friendships are being created.

Moving on from core creation of Hiccups I think we upped our game in 2016. We are getting a reputation for providing some special experiences, especially in the way of some extreme sports; skating, ski-ing, indoor skydiving, etc. This has created our #nolimits attitude. It's been great to hear stories outside of Hiccups of kids trying some amazing activities of the back of what we have done. To quote one parents on the way out of Airkix "Hiccups what are you going to do to us next?" Just you wait and see.



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Achievements of 2016

What a year.....

- The backing of strata which raised us a whopping £90k
Personally the reality of their involvement hit at the Strata Ball, my moment in my silver dress, when the raffle alone raised more than we could ever imagine from our own ball.
- In 2016 Glastonbury sold out in 30 minutes. The same epic sell out happened for Little Hiccups events. We doubled our capacity from 60 to 120 on several family days. Stand alone evidence of our growth.
- Counselling was trialled and funding secured to roll out in 2017
- We had a successful rotation of Hydrotherapy thanks to Sport Works.
- We secured a new venue at the Mencap base for our stay and play. Which offers us fantastic facilities.
- The summer fair was a sizzling success, literally.
- We developed new logos and branding.

Finally the pinnacle of the year being granted charity status. (fanfair)

In addition to this we ran a full calendar of events;

Jan: climbing

Feb: Photo shoot

March: Purple Party at Blacksmiths arms

April: Football tournaments at Harrogate town FC & Sensory Leeds Trip

June: Lazer Zone

July: Birthday Party with Mimika Theatre

Aug: Summer fair with sensory fun bus at Swithens Farm

September: Airkix

October: The Works Skate Park

Nov: Show case cinema

Dec: Sundown Adventure Land and Christmas Party at the Armouries.



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Volunteers

Hiccups is run on volunteers, from the committee to the hands on help at all our events. Can we please pay special tribute to Tracy Reece & Heather Watson for their continued support.

2017: Objectives, Goals and beyond

- Using charity status as a platform to apply for more funding.
- Three years post Hiccups Conquerors they have resurrected to continue with more fundraising
- Distribution of hospital packs to Hiccups families during hospital admissions. A bag of essentials from experience of the same that are needed after a dash down to hospital.
- Roll out of counselling service and Kangoo hire.
- Marketing of our brand and the use of e-commerce via the website
- Continue to raise our profile and reach more families; through social media and the support of a patron for Little Hiccups.

Beyond 2017 we continue to strive towards a Little Hiccups Holiday and the long term goal of owning our own building base.

Conclusion

The DWP released research Stating common things that hinder disabled children is money, lack of equipment and other people's attitudes. That disabled people are less likely to participate in cultural, leisure and sporting activities than none disabled people.

I think we can say that Little Hiccups is slowly dispelling these facts which makes me super proud; FIST BUMP, #NOLIMITS.. ☺

Sarah Stewart
Chair Person
Little Hiccups
May 2017



Little Hiccups, c/o 63 High Ridge Park, Rothwell, Leeds LS26 0NL
Tel: **07831 230741** Email: info@littlehiccups.co.uk Web: www.littlehiccups.co.uk
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Minutes of Little Hiccup AGM Meeting Tuesday 16th May 2017



A p p e n d i x S e c r e t a r y

Membership and Communication

Little Hiccups is still growing at a steady rate – mostly still through social media and word of mouth. Our Stay n Play is at its most popular. We believe that this is due to the successful move to our new premises in the Mencap building where we can offer Sensory and Soft Play. We aim to go weekly from September 2017 and are in the process of interviewing volunteers for this eventuality to ensure full coverage. We have also settled into our other support services and are now concentrating on making these the best we can. Little Hiccups now offers Outreach, Hydrotherapy, Counselling (on a trial basis), all-terrain wheelchair hire (on a trial basis) and have continued to see our Family Fun Days grow. Our ethos of #Nolimits continues to form Little Hiccups mentality.

Contact details through registration forms are still being in the process of updated and recorded and we ask families to update their details annually to ensure that we have up-to-date details. One task this year is to upgrade to Filemaker to keep a better record of families. Another is to ensure that Little Hiccups is ethnically diverse and that we truly are open to every person.

New Direction / Expansion

This year has seen a 'catch-up' on the activities of the last few years. Rate of growth is still increasing however and even though it has been a 'catch-up' year it hardly feels like we have slowed down – quite possibly due to the new arrivals to the Hiccups committee! Little Hiccups however, has started to develop from a small support group mentality to a medium sized Charity. We are now a registered Company and a registered Charity and are in the process of ensuring that we follow all the Charity Commissions guidelines.

We've continued to do successful events that push boundaries and allow our families to realise that there are no limits to what they can achieve. We provided Hydrotherapy lessons in Armley and all the feedback to this was incredibly positive and we now have a substantial waiting list for the next sessions. Little Hiccups have also started Counselling session on an as need basis. As always our goal is to bring families together and a lot of the above has been taken from ideas that the families have given us.

The website has continued to be updated regularly with events and news and a new design to reflect the new Hiccups will hopefully also be completed this year – with an e-commerce page and an online booking system – all through the website.



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Tuesday 16th May 2017



Membership numbers (counted 10/05/2017)

Attending Members	2014	2015	% inc	2016	%inc	2017	%inc
Completed Registration Forms	35	98	+64%	122	+20%	187	+35%
Families on Contact Form	69	127	+46%	155	+22%	190	+18%

Social Media	2014	2015	% inc	2016	%inc	2017	%inc
Facebook	382	553	+31%	734	+25%	864	+15%
Private Facebook Group	-	-	-	46	-	102	+55%
Twitter	168	262	+36%	374	+30%	462	+19%
Google+	27	42	+36%	47	+89%	49	+4%
Pinterest	10	19	+47%	23	+17%	Account Closed	-
Instagram	26	Account closed	-	-	-	-	-
Project Dirt	5	5	0%	Account closed	-	-	-
Blogger	6 posts 1120 views	11 posts 1420 views	+45%posts +21% views	28 posts 4248 views	+61% posts +67%views	46 posts 9,646 views	+39% posts +56% views
YouTube	1 (Katy!)	1 (still Katy!)	0%	1 (still Katy!)	0%	2! Katy and Homesby Strata	+50%
Mailing List	150	204	+26%	247	+17%	338 (Little Hiccups mailing list) 337 Donations Manager Mailing List	+27%



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Breakdown of Family Fun Day events.

These figures represent the amount booked not attended.

	2013	2014	2015	2016
May	West Yorkshire Playhouse Adults: 17 Children: 19 <i>Total: 36</i>	Showcase Cinema Adults: 33 Children: 37 <i>Total: 70</i>	Disability Rocks Standard ticket: 26 Under 5's: 5 <i>Total: 31</i>	Purple Party at Blacksmith Arms Pub Adults 21 Children: 17 <i>Total: 38</i>
June	Ponderosa Adults: 18 Children: 20 <i>Total: 38</i>	Disability Rocks Adults: 27 Children: 27 <i>Total: 54</i>	Chill Factor – skiing Stand up skier: 38 Sit down: 8 <i>Total: 46</i>	Lazer Zone Adult: 21 Children: 12 <i>Total: 33</i>
July	Birthday Party Adults: 21 Children: 21 <i>Total: 42</i> Showcase Cinema Adults: 24 Children: 40 <i>Total: 64</i>	Dino Jaws Adults: 51 Children: 54 <i>Total: 105</i> Farsley Library Adults: 13~ Children: 14 <i>Total: 27</i>	Shabang Adult: 31 Children: 24 <i>Total: 55</i>	Mimika Theatre Adult: 32 Children: 28 <i>Total: 60</i>
August	Sensory Leeds & Tiny Tempo Adults: 9 Children: 11 <i>Total: 20</i> Sensory Leeds & Communicate Together Adults: 15 Children: 14 <i>Total: 29</i> Polka Dots Adults: 16 Children: 20 <i>Total: 36</i> Bowling Adults: 16	Wildlife Park Adults: 24 Children: 22 <i>Total: 46</i>	Skelton Grange Adults: 11 Children: 20 <i>Total: 31</i>	Sensory Fun Bus Adults: 15 Children: 10 <i>Total: 25</i>



Minutes of Little Hiccup AGM Meeting Tuesday 16th May 2017



	Children: 22 Total: 38 Blunderbus Adults: 38, Children: 45 Total: 83			
September		Sports Day Adults: 10 Children: 8 Total: 18	Cannon Hall Farm Adults: 30 Children: 28 Total: 58	Indoor Sky Diving Adults: 23 Children: 35 Total: 58
October		Nell Bank Adults: 20 Children: 29 Total: 49	Rainbow Factory Adults: 17 Children: 20 Total: 37	The Works Adults: 23 Children: 8 Total: 31
November	Abbey House Corrupted File	Cinema Adults: 29 Children: 33 Total: 62	Showcase cinema Adults: 19 Children: 17 Total: 36	Trolls at The Showcase Cinema Adults: 58 Children: 58 Total: 119
December	Sundown Adventureland Adults: 36 Children: 32 Total: 68 Showcase Cinema Adults: 29 Children: 27 Total: 59	Sundown Adventureland Adults: 72 Children: 65 Total: 137 Christmas Party Adults: 43 Children: 46 Total: 89	Sundown Adventureland Adults: 37 Children: 33 Total: 70 Christmas Party Adults: 68 Children: 66 Total: 134	Sundown Adventureland Adults: 59 Children: 59 Total: 118 Christmas Party Adults: 88 Children: 85 Total: 173
	2014	2015	2016	2017
January	Pantomime Corrupted File	Xscape Soft Play and Glow in the Dark Golf Children: 41	Wall Climbing at Leeds Wall Normal Hoist: 29 Special Chair Hoist: 8 Total: 37	Storytelling at the Rainbow Factory Adults: 28 Children: 33 Total: 61
February	Family Photoshoot Families: 12	Family Photoshoot Families: 12	Photoshoot at Leeds City Museum Families: 15	Oxygen Freejumping Adults: 58 Children: 64 Total: 122



Minutes of Little Hiccup AGM Meeting Tuesday 16th May 2017



March	Monkey Maze Adults: 58 Children: 37 <i>Total: 96</i>	Music Sessions and Sensory Leeds <i>Families: 10</i>	Harrogate Town Football Club Adults: 18 Children: 13 <i>Total: 31</i>	Family Photoshoot March 12 th : 12 families March 19 th : 11 families <i>Total: 23</i>
April	Donkey Sanctuary Adults: 17 Children: 22 <i>Total: 39</i>	Stockheld Park Easter Adventure Adults: 27 Children: 26 <i>Total: 53</i>	Harrogate Town Football Club Adults: 18 Children: 13 <i>Total: 31</i> Music Sessions at Sensory Leeds Adults: 15 Children: 14 <i>Total: 29</i>	Yorkshire Wildlife Park Adults: 68 Children: 72 <i>Total: 140</i>

Miscellaneous 2016-2017

- *September 2016*: Hydrotherapy
12 tickets sold
- *November 2016*: Hydrotherapy
10 tickets sold
- *November 2016*: Firefly Show
Adults: 10, Children: 7 – Total: 17
- *November 2016*: Molton Brown Pamper Evening
Total: 26
- *January 2017*: Hydrotherapy
12 tickets sold
- *February 2017*: Tour of Leeds and Bradford Airport
Total: 9
- *March 2017*: Cerebra Sleep Presentation
Adult: 24, Children: 1 – Total 25

Miriam Watson-Pratt

Secretary



Little Hiccups, c/o 63 High Ridge Park, Rothwell, Leeds LS26 0NL
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A p p e n d i x T r e a s u r e r

Main Objective

- Provide opportunities for families to meet others in similar situations
- Offer emotional and professional support
- Enable children to make friends and learn through play
- Families to benefit from quality time together and experience family outings.
- Ensure outings are kept to minimum cost allowing families to attend, regardless of personal background, faith or circumstances.

Financial Trustees Report

The Charity was set up on 06/07/09 and became a company limited by guarantee on 17 July 2015. It was entered onto the Register of Charities on 14 November 2016 with the Registered charity number 1170147.

The Directors of the company are the Trustees.

The nature of the charity is to offer support to any child with a disability/additional need and their family, irrespective of nationality or religion. We provide this in a variety of ways: Stay and Play – held on Thursday afternoons at Leeds Mencap. Accessing softplay and a sensory room in a relaxed environment where families can meet others in similar situations, access information, creative play and support from therapists and other professionals.

Family Fun Days are organised every month and offer a wide range of activities including the hire of cinemas, private theatre companies, indoor skydiving, wall climbing, skiing, parties and local visitor attractions. Every event caters for the range of abilities/disabilities and is heavily subsidised by Little Hiccups ensuring they are all accessible to every family. We encourage the whole family to attend including siblings and our aim is to enable families to experience a wide range of activities and to make memories together.

Hydrotherapy is a great benefit to many of our children but can be expensive and difficult to access. We offer hydrotherapy sessions on a seven week basis at a local Sports Centre, in partnership with SportWorks. Physiotherapists assist in the pool so the children can safely participate in the activities and the parents have all the support they require. We have been able to secure grants to cover the costs of this so we can offer the sessions at a token cost to the families, which secures their booking.

Little Hiccups has three all terrain wheelchairs, for which we are finalising the processes to enable families to hire for either day trips to the coast or take on holiday with them, enabling



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children to be able to access the parks, and the beaches (as every child should be able to experience the seaside).

We offer professional Counselling to Hiccups families should they require it, due to work pressures, bereavement, relationship issues etc, due to having a child with additional needs. Many families struggle to take the first step to meet others, therefore we offer an Outreach service and will meet families on a one to one basis until they are confident enough to attend stay and play or a family fun day. This service is greatly supported by Health Visitors and other professionals and our relationship with them is growing, helping us to reach more families who need our support.

We currently support over 200 families across the region.

We take pride in listening to our families and wherever possible remain flexible enough to meet their growing needs.

We are currently working on providing a series of workshops for parents, to hear from professionals on a variety of topics such as NHS services, Wills, financial assistance and other local organisations they may be able to benefit from.

Our board of Directors/Trustees consists of parents of children with disabilities/additional needs or people who work closely with them. Therefore we all have a great amount of experience and passion for the work we do.

We believe that every child, no matter what disability/additional need should have the opportunity to explore and experience as many adventures as possible and to make happy memories with their families and it is our aim to help them achieve this.

Linsay Medica



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