



Annual Report 2008

6th November 2008

Yaxham Village Hall, Norwich Road, Dereham

choice

support

equality



Norfolk Disabled Parents Alliance

is a voluntary group run by and for disabled adults with dependent children.



NDPA works for disabled parents to have the same choices for their families as non-disabled parents.



NDPA aims to support disabled parents with accessible information on a parent-to-parent basis



NDPA tells the community and those who work with disabled parents how services can be improved for disabled parents and their families.

Our Committee 2007 –2008

Vicky Commons

Alison Norman

Pat Crawford

Kathy Saunders (Chair)

Marty Elliott

Joan Scott

Claire Mitchell (Treasurer)

Russell Simpson

Co-opted:

Joan Inglis, NCC Project Manager, Supporting Disabled Parents

Peter de Oude, Coordinator, NCODP

This report is also on  audiotape, email Word text, and pdf

Chair's Report



Norfolk Disabled Parents Alliance had good success in 2008. We know we are making a positive difference to some disabled parents in Norfolk.

Big changes are taking place in the way disabled people and parents get support if it is needed. These changes may help some parents but they will be a challenge for others. We will look closely to see if new problems start to effect disabled parents.



Changes bring opportunities too. NDPA will look at how we can use these to get better information to disabled parents and those who work with parents, including schools.



A big thank you to everyone on the committee whose efforts and support helped NDPA to succeed and grow to do more work next year.



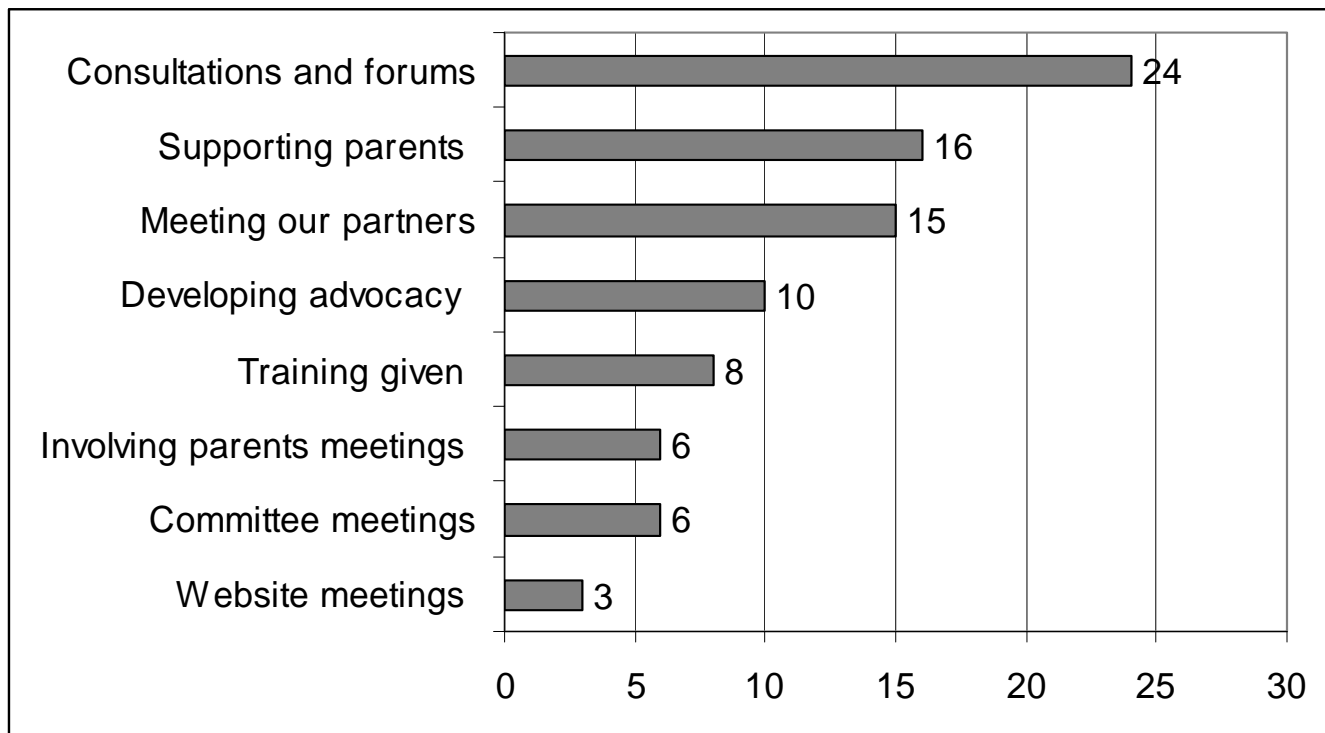
Thank you also to all our supporters and partners in local and national voluntary and statutory groups who have helped and encouraged us.



Most of all, thank you to the many disabled parents we have met who have given us their views, and told us there is still a big job to do.

Kathy Saunders, Chair.

Highlights of our Activities 2007 – 2008



Consultations and local forums

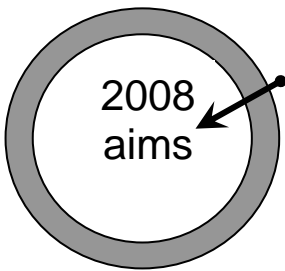
The views of disabled parents were given in 6 consultations including Norfolk NHS, Broadland Housing survey, NCODP Social Action Research, NCC Equality Impact Assessments, Children's Services Parenting Strategy Draft Commissioning Strategy for Physical and Sensory Disabilities, and Maternity Services Liaison Committees in Norwich and Kings Lynn.

Supporting Individual Parents

14 disabled parents asked about social care, housing or issues with schools. Advocacy was arranged for two parents who faced very complex difficulties. NDPA gave written feedback to Adult Social Services on problems caused to two families by disabled parents leaving hospital without adequate social care in place. Many parents were introduced to Disability Rights Norfolk and Independent Living Norfolk.

Meeting our Partners

We share with and learn from many groups working in family and disability welfare, including Disabled Parents Network and Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People.



In 2008 our aims were

- Better promotion of information for disabled parents, with a website.
 - ✓ NDPA has a new leaflet and our new website norfolkparents.org.uk is about to go live.
- More awareness of disabled parents and families in community services.
 - ✓ NDPA took part in 8 training events, 6 consultations and 18 forums.
- Encourage better access to advocacy for disabled parents.
 - ✓ NDPA worked with NCODP and Norfolk Advocacy Advisory Group.
- Find better ways to involve more disabled parents in our activities.
 - ✓ NDPA held six public meetings for parents.



Treasurers report: income

Income August 2007 – July 2008



Grants and donations

Alliance and Leicester BS	£ 100
John Lewis Community Charity	£ 50
Norfolk Community Foundation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£ 365
NCODP Seed Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£ 500
Sandringham Flower Show Charity.....	£ 500
Tesco Community Award <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£1000
Private donations	£ 500
AGM raffle from donated prizes	£ 44
Consultation payments	£ 129
Adds up to	£ 3,188
Left over from last year	£ 281
Total income	£3, 369

restricted funds for meetings, development and website

Treasurers report: Spending

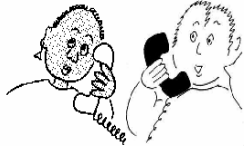
Spending August 2007 – July 2008



Transport.....£ 402



2 meetings£ 225



5 teleconferences..... £ 167



Phone and post..... £ 104



Copying etc..... £ 135

Adds up to..... £1,033

Funds for next year £2,336

Full accounts are available on request

Treasurers report

In the last financial year, we started a fundraising programme. This has helped increase our income this year. These include four grants.

The Tesco Community Award was to establish a website to promote NDPA and make it easier for disabled parents to get information.

The Norfolk Community Foundation grant was for a series of meetings to involve disabled parents and find out what parents wanted from the website.

The grant from the Sandringham Flower Show Charity was for general running expenses and was very welcome to fund day to day work.

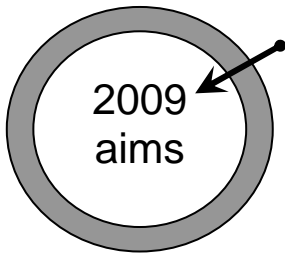
Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People (NCODP) Seed Fund Grant will finance more physical meetings, telephone conferencing and training for our committee and members. It will fund a new leaflet to tie-in with website and promote publicity. A second part of this grant for the current financial year will help us plan a county conference of disabled parents in the near future.

The majority of the rest of the income was from various donations to help with the general running costs of the group.

Travelling, meeting expenses and telephone conferencing are still the largest demands on our finances. Postage has increased due to making sure that all members are kept informed about consultation and training opportunities and the development of the website.

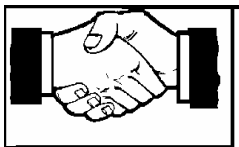
Although we are in a better position than we were last year, we must still focus on the future with a continuing programme for fundraising.

Claire Mitchell, Treasurer.



In 2009 we will build on our achievements and aim to

- Involve more disabled parents in NDPA's work
- Develop information for disabled parents about changes in social care
- Develop better links with schools



Thank you to all our funders and supporters including

Alliance and Leicester plc.

John Lewis Community Committee

Sandringham Flower Show Charity

West Norfolk VCA

Kings Lynn Press

Norfolk Community Foundation

Tesco Charity Trust

and private donors

The 2008 AGM and Annual Report are supported by



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