

**Autism Steering Group**  
**Meeting #3 – 8th October 2024**  
**Online only**  
**Easy Read Minutes**

**Welcome and introductions.**

- GDM admitted participants from the lobby one by one and greeted them.
- Everyone said hello and did a brief introduction for the group.
- There were many new faces attending the meeting, all professionals.
- Members shared that the online format was not very comfortable.
- The whole group agreed that meeting online is not a good option for the Steering Group and would prefer to meet in person.

***Actions: GDM to explore how to source suitable venues to host the meetings in future.***

**Community activities at the libraries – Calendar of possible activities and suitable alternatives**

- GDM explained that the representatives of the steering groups have expressed their views in a survey online about what activities they would like to see happening in Slough.
- Most activities appeared suitable for a library setting, and discussion has taken place with the libraries network to create a suitable calendar of activities.
- The draft calendar was presented to the group for discussion and shared on screen.
- There was some positive feedback about the proposed activities.
- Group members noted that no physical activity was present, and these should be considered too.
- GDM explained that the Steering group is looking at sourcing physical and wellbeing activities, but these may not be suitable for a library setting and a separate discussion is taking place with Public Health.
- The group agreed that a decision could not be made on the day about what activities should start in January due to the little representation of autistic adults.

***Actions: GDM to find alternative ways to gather feedback directly from the autistic community***

## **Tea Break**

### **Task and Finish groups – Booking dates for meetings**

- Due to the small representation of autistic people during the online meeting, it was not possible to agree on dates for the task and finish groups.
- Members noted that the online format is not suitable for discussing these topics and some autistic adults has difficulties in accessing online resources or attending online meeting
- Suggestions were made in organising an event similar to the one that took place in Arbour park to gather feedback directly from autistic adults.
- The group strongly felt that the event should be informal and not involve professionals.

***Actions: GDM to create a small organisation committee with involvement from Coproduction Network, the Autism Steering Group chair and members, and autistic people to scope an informal event to take place before December.***

### **The Autism Steering Group – Agenda Items for next meeting**

As there were not many people present, and there were not many autistic people and their carers attending, the group decided to agree on agenda items for next meeting via email.

***Actions: GDM to start email circulation to agree agenda items for next meeting***