

Community Base participant group meeting 31st July 2008

The meeting was attended by Colin (Community Base), Duncan (Community and Voluntary Sector Forum) and Emily (Carr-Gomm)

1 Working lunch

Colin said yesterday's working lunch on unions in the voluntary sector had gone well.

2 Coffee room

Colin said Annette was looking at refurbishing the coffee room. Emily said it was important that the space was kept as somewhere to relax rather than for meetings. Duncan asked if something could be done with the windows to let more light in; Colin said he would be looking at this in the options appraisal for new windows he was writing at the moment.

3 Advance Advocacy

Colin said a small advocacy service Advance Advocacy would be moving into Community Base soon to occupy the small office created by the office swap between Novas Scarman and the Immigration Legal Service

4 Office space for local community and voluntary groups

Colin said that his conversations with groups wanting to move into Community Base had shown an enormous unmet need for office space in Brighton and Hove for community and voluntary groups and other kinds of organisations. Colin said he hoped to get some groups together to try to identify space groups could use, possibly with council help. Duncan suggested a couple of community buildings that might be worth talking to about this.