

## Community Base participant group meeting 15th October 2009

The meeting was attended by Colin (Community Base director), Annette (Community Base building manager), Paul (TB Alert) and Helen (Brighton and Hove Volunteers).

### **1 Broadband connection**

Paul and Helen asked about recent problems with broadband internet access at Community Base. Paul said TB Alert had a particular issue with workers accessing the ir computers at Community Base from outside the building.

Annette said Community Base was aware of the problems and was taking action to put things right. Community Base has a 2mgb SDSL connection with a 1:1 contention ratio – we don't share it with anyone – which was state of the art when installed two years ago. However increased use of broadband, especially with video, has meant our bandwidth is being used up a lot more than before.

Annette said Colin and she had met our IT company yesterday to look at a report they had made into our use of broadband. It showed high usage at some times that could lead to our connection slowing and even stopping. As a result of the report Community Base had bought a new router, was monitoring usage to see if some groups were consistently using a big slice of our bandwidth, was going to advice groups on internet security, had limited connections to 1mb, was looking at esablishing fied IP addresses and would be reviewing the results over the next few weeks. Community Base was also looking at upgrading our broadband access but this would be expensive.

Colin said the board would be looking at changing Community Base's broadband fair usage policy in the light of developments with the internet. Community Base was committed to providing high quality broadband access to all groups at Community Base with minimum restrictions but might have to make some restrictions of high usage applications to ensure everyone had an adequate connection.