

NCTJ SHORTHAND EXAMINATION PASSAGE AT 90 WPM

Parent and Carer Association oppose day centre closure

As Chairman of the Parent and Carer Association, I would like to welcome you all here tonight. As you know, we are (1/4) here to discuss the council's plans to close the Park House Day Centre for adults with learning difficulties. I know many of you (1/2) are most unhappy about what the council is proposing and at this meeting tonight I would like to give you all a (3/4) chance to have your say and put forward your views and any ideas you may have about the way forward. Let me tell (1) you what has happened so far. Councillor Jones met with us two months ago and he said the council thinks that day (1/4) centres should be made smaller. He is suggesting that centres should have groups of no more than fifty adults so that carers can (1/2) spend more time with them. Smaller groups would enable carers to look after them better and they would also be able to (3/4) do more things with them such as taking them on day trips and outings. I am sure that most users would like this. (2)

INTERVAL OF THIRTY SECONDS

At the moment, Park House Day Centre looks after eighty adults and if the council goes ahead with its plans, this will (1/4) mean it will have to close. Users will have to relocate to other centres in the area where the numbers are not so (1/2) big. There are several centres that we could use, but some are quite a long distance from here. That in itself can (3/4) be very worrying for carers and parents and I know it can take users a long time to get used to new surroundings. (1)

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN SECONDS

As if that is not enough, I know it can be very difficult for people who use the centre to make new(1/4) friends and moving to a new place can be unsettling for them. We must put their welfare first and my view is this. (1/2) ***The council wants to provide a better service and believes this can only happen if centres are made smaller. We must obtain (3/4) the best possible outcome and need to work together to achieve this.*** I will now answer any questions you would like to ask. (1)

TRANSCRIPTION TIME ALLOWED FORTY MINUTES