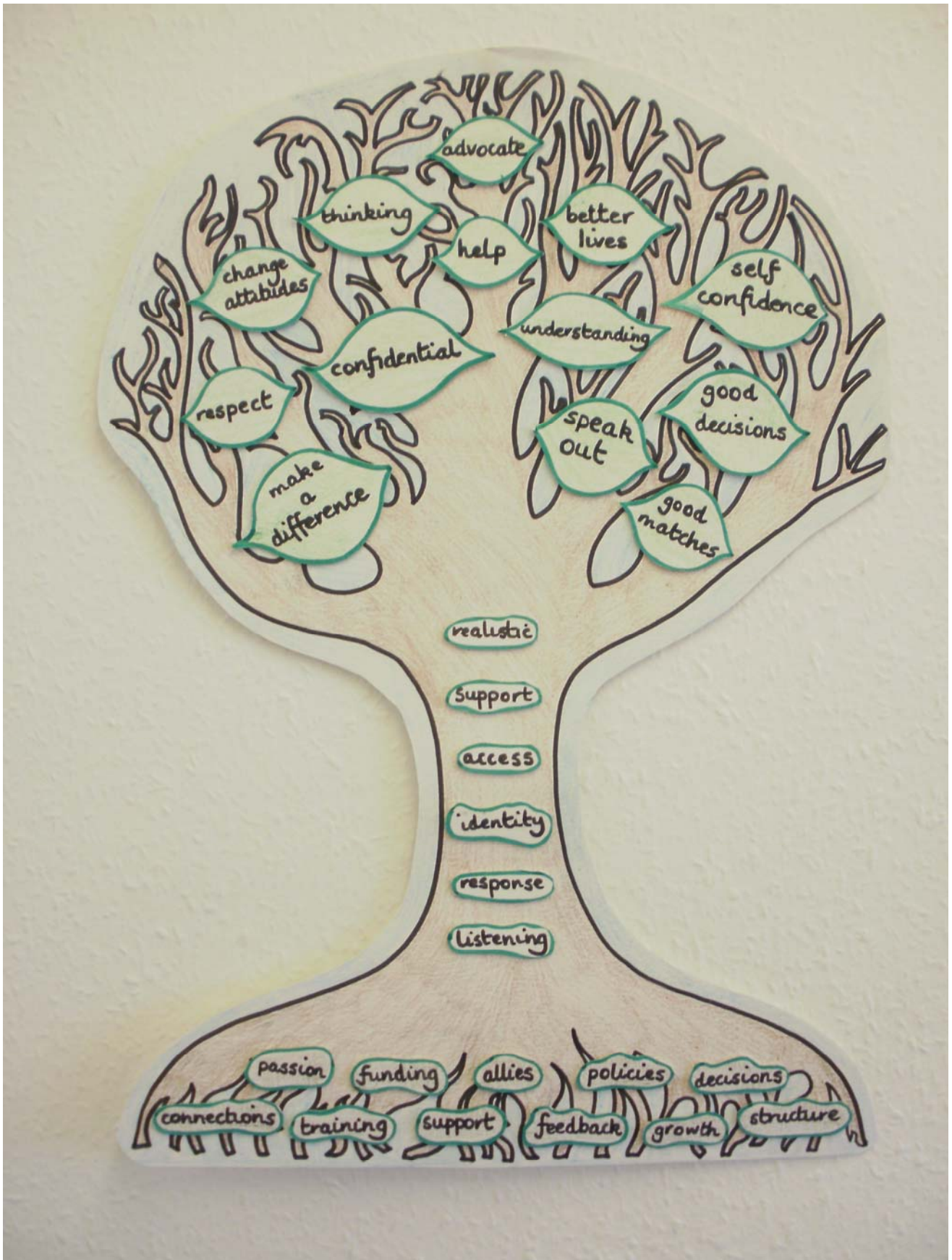


The Strong Together Advocacy Tree



The Leaves:

- We will have advocate who are on our sides
- We will make a difference to expert's lives
- We will learn to speak up for ourselves
- We will keep confidentiality
- We will grow in self confidence
- We will have better lives
- We will have well matched partners (experts and advocates)
- We will make more of our own decision
- We will have advocate to help us think things through
- We will have advocate who help us to do things for ourselves
- We will have advocate who are respectful of experts
- People will understand more about what living with a learning disability means
- It could change organisations and attitudes of some workers

The Trunk:

- A strong identity for our citizen advocacy
- Easy to fund and easy to use
- Listens well to individuals
- Responds well
- Is about real life
- A good advocacy co-ordinator
- Reviews its work with internal and external views
- Grows slowly
- Experts on the advocacy steering group are doing their work "for all of our friends and all of the people who need citizen advocates"

The Roots:

- Will be fed with passion
- Will have room to grow
- Will have good allies
- Will have a strong structure for clear decision making
- Will have good policies and procedures
- Will feed back information to experts
- Will have money from different funders
- Will keep its advocate and will attract new advocate because it will look after them well
- Will have good training for advocate including acting and role play
- Will have strong local connections
- Will have good connections with other citizen advocacy projects
- Will have good information from outside as well as about local concerns