



Minutes of the Third Sector Forum held on Wednesday 13 January 2010 at 11am in the McGillivray Room, Kirkwall Library

Present: Archie Knox (Chair), Gaynor Jones, Frazer Campbell, Karen Williams, Linda Lennie, Michael Moar, Simon Gordon, Erika Copland and Gail Anderson

In Attendance: Hannah Laird, Community Planning, OIC

1. Welcome and Introduction

Archie welcomed all to the meeting with a special welcome to the speaker, Hannah Laird, OIC Planning Officer.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Granville Solloway, Sheelagh Barnes, Helen Moss and Sue Ward.

3. Minutes of last meeting held on 18 November 2009

Item 9, line 3: 'Compaq' should read 'Compact'. With this change the Minutes were proposed by Frazer Campbell and seconded by Karen Williams.

4. Matters Arising

Item 10, Tender Writing Course: Gaynor confirmed that this would take place on Tuesday 2 March and those wishing to attend were asked to contact Edwina Cook at VAO.

Item 7, Third Sector Strategy Group: Gail had completed the first draft of the strategy based on the work of the sub group. Gaynor said Gillian Morrison had been appointed as the new contact within OIC for the Third Sector. Gaynor is to have a meeting with Ms Morrison, the Compact working group and the TSSG together with Roella Wilson and Ken Harris-Jones to discuss the current position, with a view to getting the information from the Joint Statement into a useable form to be circulated for wider consultation, ie one document. The meeting agreed with this approach.

Item 12, GIRFEC: Gaynor confirmed that Peter Diamond had agreed to give a presentation at the next TSF. She would email out details of the meeting to other groups who may be interested in GIRFEC. **Action: Gaynor**

Item 6, PLG Minutes: Gail had circulated these to all members.

5. Single Outcome Agreement (Next Steps/Reporting): Hannah Laird, OIC Community Planning Officer

Ms Laird explained the current position of the SOA and passed round handouts which gave a summary of what the Third Sector fed into. Hannah had picked out the outcomes for which the Third Sector was responsible for. She said the first Partnership Agreement had been signed off in August and would run for three years. Databases had been developed - Data Dictionaries - and these had now been approved and agreed. These will hold data on the specific outcomes.

Concern was expressed about Outcome 9 referring to people 'receiving' services whilst all the others referred to 'providing' services. However, Hannah explained that the Outcomes had all been agreed following extensive consultation. Any improvements, or 'tweaking', could be done at the next signing. If there was anything people really thought was missing this would be considered then too.

Hannah went on to explain about the narrative required to report on the outcomes. It was important to capture as much as possible so that nothing was missed out in the report. There were concerns that some groups did not see the relevance of their work and she wanted to ensure people knew that their groups were important. She would be contacting groups in March and, once views were approved, OIC's report would be out in September.

Hannah said that reporting would start in April and she would be happy to discuss any concerns about the reporting with any group. Gaynor felt that it was good to have links with others and the momentum to keeping the SOA alive as a lot had been invested in this. It gave the Third Sector a real voice and the link with Community Planning is much stronger and important.

Archie thanked Hannah for attending.

6. Partnership Liaison Group (PLG) Minutes

Gail was not at the last meeting of the PLG but would distribute the Minutes when they became available. **Action: Gail**

7. Third Sector Strategy Group (TSSG)

Discussed earlier in Matters Arising.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 17 March in the St Magnus Centre. A list of all TSF dates for 2010 was handed out.

9. AOCB

1) Staff Development: Gaynor read out an email that she had received from Stephanie Thomson, OIC, about an event to be held on 29 January in the St Magnus Centre from

10am-12noon regarding a Framework for Continuous Learning. She encouraged members to attend.

2) Funding: Gaynor said that there had been issues at the Commissioning Group which crossed over with the TSF. She said that Albert Tait, OIC, had indicated he would be prepared to talk at the TSF about funding as groups were now in the third year of a 3-year signing and there would be new arrangements for the next period. However, Gaynor felt that the 17 March TSF meeting would be too late and she would like to get some assurances from Mr Tait sooner. It was agreed Gaynor would speak to Albert Tait.

Action: Gaynor

3) Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO): Gail handed out information on SCIO, giving a brief overview of the Consultation, and explained that VAO was working with SCVO to get Orkney's views. Information sessions would be held in Orkney with 2/3 representatives attending a further session in Inverness to pass on the collective response from Orkney.

4) Community Planning: Gaynor said that at the last Community Planning Partnership Strategy Group there had been discussion about the recession. A sub-group of the CPP would be holding a special meeting to look at the impact of the recession, how secure funding was and about organisations going forward. Gail handed out a questionnaire (and would also email it to other groups) asking for people's views on this.

Gaynor said that VAS had done a similar piece of work recently and went over some of the questions asked. She said that John Swinney required a snapshot of the position of the Third Sector across the country. Gaynor said that, although in Orkney it was working well and the Third Sector was represented on all levels in Community Planning and had a voice, she was concerned, as was Community Planning, that these partnerships would be tested in the recession.

5) Protection of Vulnerable Groups: Gail said a consultation was out at moment and Edwina Cook and Fraser Devine of VAO were gathering information and would be emailing this information out to members for their views.

6) Dementia in Orkney: Frazer Campbell said that he was part of a research group looking at dementia in Orkney and the problems associated with being in a rural location and accessing services. He would be contacting people about this but would welcome any feedback.

7) Car Park Charges: Information on the proposal to introduce charges for OIC car parks which are currently free is to be circulated by VAO.

Archie thanked all for coming along and also thanked Hannah Laird for attending. He said that things were going to be tighter in the future and commented that it was disappointing that more people did not attend the TSF in order to get more feedback to present to the Government. Gaynor said that they should try and replenish and expand the TSF by getting others involved. She also said that if groups wished to give her feedback out with the meeting then they could. She was keen to help organisations thrive and get through any problems that they may face.

Meeting closed at 12.15pm.