



Minutes of the Third Sector Forum held on Wednesday 17 March 2010 at 11am in the St Magnus Centre

Present: Archie Knox (Chair), Gaynor Jones (VAO), Karen Williams (Employability Orkney), Amy Thomson (Employability Orkney), Hannah Rendall (VAO), Inga Croy (VAO), Helen Moss (Relationships Scotland Orkney), Frazer Campbell (Advocacy Orkney), Sue Ward (Age Concern & Samaritans), Jeremy Richardson (Orkney Blide Trust), Linda Lennie (Victim Support & Orkney Appropriate Adult Service), Leigh Dowie (Women's Aid Orkney), Erika Copland (Home-Start Orkney), Michael Moar (Stromness Shopping Week), Olivia Tait (Crossroads Orkney), Simon Gordon (OACAS), David Murdoch (RSO), Debbie Ralph (RSO), Hazel Aim (Orkney Disability Forum), Anne Hamilton (Children 1st), Susan Tidball (Salvation Army) and Connie Shearer (Minutes).

In Attendance: Peter Diamond

1. Welcome and Introduction

Archie welcome all to the meeting with a special welcome to the speaker, Peter Diamond, and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Sheelagh Barnes and Gail Anderson.

3. Minutes of last meeting held on 13 January

Minutes were proposed by Karen and seconded by Erika.

4. Matters Arising

Item 4, Tender Writing Course: Those who attended the Course had found it very useful and informative. Another course, "Income Generation", is to be held at the end of the month and Sue would ask Cath Russell to circulate details out to members.

Item 9(2), Funding: Gaynor had been unable to get hold of Albert Tait but as she was due to meet him in April she would ask him then about attending a special Forum meeting regarding funding. **Action: Gaynor**

Item 9(7), Car Park Charges: Gaynor reported a good outcome as the car parks on Ayre Road and Shore Street, used by many VAO staff, would not be subject to parking charges. She thanked Erika for bringing attention to the original proposals.

5. GIRFEC Presentation - Peter Diamond

Archie welcomed Peter Diamond who introduced himself and passed round a hand-out which gave the background to Getting It Right For Every Child. He explained how this initiative was the foundation for work with all children and young people and was based on a number of principles and values. A network of support would be built around each young person with a 'named person' allocated to provide support. Information sharing would be a significant development and the pros and cons of this were discussed. Members thought the programme would also be suitable for everyone, not just children. It was felt that GIRFEC provides an inclusive and engaging framework and structure. Archie thanked Peter for his presentation.

(David Murdoch, Debbie Ralph & Anne Hamilton left the meeting at this point)

6. Single Outcome Agreement

Nothing new to report.

7. Partnership Liaison Group Minutes

The PLG Minutes of 10 December were noted and, in Gail's absence, Gaynor reported on several points discussed:

- OIC were to develop a Youth Strategy and a PLG representative was invited to join this group.
- Capacity issues: risk assessment had been discussed and joint working agreed on but it was acknowledged that Third Sector groups may face difficulties in committing to this due to funding decreases.
- A communications group was to be set up to agree how joint press releases should be managed.
- PLG recommended to the CPP Steering Group that the unallocated £44,000 from Fairer Scotland Fund should be made available to groups for small applications, with the criteria linked to SOA outcomes. Gaynor will note decisions re this at the Steering group.
Action: Gaynor
- Community Councils wished to have a representative on each thematic group but this may be problematic, particularly for the TSF, and it was agreed to discuss the matter at the next PLG meeting. Fraser said that at the PLG meeting one member of OIC spoke very strongly in favour of the Third Sector not being seen as a soft target or a way to save money. TSF members felt that the Forum should be for Third Sector groups only with others invited to give information as required. Linda Lennie pointed out, however, that she had first joined the Forum on behalf of Stromness Community Council as they were a member of VAO.
- Thematic groups were invited to report in person to CPP Steering Group. Gaynor advised that this is done through her in respect of the TSF as she represents the sector on the Steering Group.
- Review of Community Planning: consultation and engagement strategy to be finalised by Hannah Laird who would be delivering training on this.

8. Local Joint Statement

Gaynor reported that an Editorial Group had been set up which drew up an Orkney Community Planning Partnership Joint Statement. This was still in draft form but would be circulated for comments and consultation before sign off. The Scottish Government and OCPPSG have already agreed the Joint Statement but this one would be more relevant locally.

9. VAS Report

Gaynor said the Scottish Government had requested feedback on the first six months of the relationships between the Government and the Third Sector at a local level, ie, impact of the Joint Statement. VAS and SCVO undertook a survey to see what differences had been made and a report had been published for wider circulation. Gaynor said this showed most areas had Third Sector representatives at the top level of community planning although some areas were still struggling to get into the Interface. The report was circulated.

10. Funding

Gaynor had applied for funding from the Supporting Voluntary Action Fund to facilitate a joint Chief Officers/Managers network with Shetland. The bid had been rejected but Gaynor would keep trying to secure funds for this.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12 May in the MacGillivray Room, Kirkwall Library.

As this was Archie's last meeting as Chair, Gaynor thanked him for his commitment to the group. Archie responded saying he had learned a lot during his time as Chair.

12. AOCB

- 1) New Facilities Update: Gaynor informed members that OIC had agreed to lease the former Powerbowl premises to VAO. Steps were being taken by the Project Board, VAO Directors and OIC officials to take this forward, and VAO would be contacting tenants regarding their space requirements.
- 2) Commissioning Group: Gaynor said that the Chair of the Commissioning Group had suggested closing down that group, making 'Commissioning' a standard item at the TSF where he and his colleagues would be involved. After discussion, members agreed not to go ahead with this proposal.
- 3) GIRFEC: Helen wished to point out that in the 'My World' triangle slide, the Church was mentioned at the bottom of the page in the form of spiritual development.

Archie again thanked Peter Diamond for his presentation. He said it was nice to see more people at the meeting as the Third Sector Forum was an important forum on which to express views and opinions which everyone could benefit from. He also thanked Gaynor for supporting him in his role as Chair.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm.