



Voluntary Action Highland

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Minute of Highland Voluntary Sector Forum

Date and time	Friday 21 st November 2008	11am – 1pm
Location	Inshes Church	
Purpose	Highland Voluntary Sector Forum (HVSF)	
Present	Alasdair Christie (Inverness CAB), Alastair MacDonald (SACRO), Ali Cairns (SCVO), Anne Angus (CVS Inverness), Bev MacLean (SCVO), Bill Walker (Highland Award Project), Christian MacLean (CHIP+), Hamish Wood (Senior Executive Programme), Kelley Miller (Voluntary Action Highland), Matt Tyrer (SCVO), Mike Johnson (For the Right Reasons), Peter Cattanach (Birchwood Highland), Sarah Barker (Volunteering Highland), Sheena Munro (Highland Community Care Forum), Sheila Fletcher (Community Transport Association), Trina Hastings (Voluntary Action Highland)	
Apologies	Alan Michael (Contact The Elderly), Alice MacLeod (WRVS), Alyson Smith (Lochaber Hope Life Skills Centre), Ann Keatinge (Voluntary Groups East Sutherland), Calum Macaulay (Albyn Housing Society), Carole Bridge (Maggie's Highlands), Darlene MacKay (Rape and Abuse Line), David Thomson (Falcon Project), Graeme Mochrie (Befrienders Highland), Gregor Yule (SCVO), Isobel Grigor (Calman Trust Ltd), Joan Maxwell (Partnerships for Wellbeing), Joanne Scott (Direct Payments Caledonia (PAES) Ltd), Lisa Ross (Haven Products), Lorna Beaton (Highland Workstep Consortium), Lorraine Cran (Inverness Women's Aid), Lynda Thomson (NHS), Margaret Allan (Laurandy Day Care Centre), Shela McCartney (Highland Council), Teresa Johnson (Lead Scotland), Wilma Allan (Abbeyfield Ballachulish)	
Chair	Peter Cattanach (Birchwood Highland) & Alasdair Christie (Inverness CAB)	
Minutes	Trina Hastings (Voluntary Action Highland)	
Minute status	Final	

		Action	Timeline
1.	Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out the apologies and asked everyone to introduce themselves.		
2.	<p>Minutes of the previous Meeting on 19/08/08/matters arising: Christian asked for her name to be amended from Christine.</p> <p>A press release has gone out to advertise the Compact Roadshow events.</p>		
3.	<p>Voluntary Action Highland (VAH) Staff Introduction Kelley Miller (Senior Development Officer) introduced herself and her colleague, Trina Hastings (Development Officer) and thanked everyone for attending the HVSF.</p> <p>Kelley informed the group that VAH had recently changed its focus to the Thrive and Connect Agenda. This is the Council for Voluntary Services Network Scotland business plan which sets out the vision for Community and Voluntary Sector Development. Both Kelley and Trina have been developing their business plan, work plans and building a robust operational foundation from which to grow.</p> <p>One strand of the work of VAH is to facilitate the HVSF. She informed everyone that in future the Highland Voluntary Sector Forum agenda would be shaped by the suggestions and ideas presented by voluntary organisations.</p>		
4.	<p>The Position of Chairperson Peter Cattanach proposed that Alasdair Christie become the Chairperson of the HVSF and that he became the Vice Chairperson. This was agreed by all at the meeting. Peter and Alasdair were thanked for taking on the role. There was some discussion about guidelines of the HVSF and the role of the Chairperson and whether a timeline should be set for this role. It was agreed that this could be discussed in future meetings.</p>		
5.	<p>Compact Roadshows Update The roadshow dates are as follows: Lairg Community Centre on Wednesday 26th November 08 Thurso, New Way Inn on Tuesday 2nd December 08 Inverness, Highland Council Chamber on Tuesday 13th January 09 Lochaber, An Drochaid on Tuesday 27th January 09 Isle of Skye, Kyleakin Community Hall on Wednesday 11th February 09</p> <p>All of the events are from 11am – 3pm, with lunch included.</p> <p>VAH were asked to distribute this information through their own database and through those of the 9 other CVS in the Highlands</p> <p>During each event people will look at priorities and objectives of the Single Outcome Agreement. They will be given stickers with the name of the organisation they work for and be asked to put them against the outcomes that fit with the services they offer. This will provide evidence of the significant role the Voluntary or Third Sector plays in contributing to the Single Outcome Agreement. These events are also particularly important because voluntary organisations are being given the</p>	VAH	21/11/08

	<p>opportunity to feed into and shape the Compact - 'a written agreement which defines and manages the relationship between the voluntary sector and one or more public sector bodies'. The Highland Council are funding these events, which will help organisations see the breadth of outcomes they can contribute to. They will also inform the Council of any problems or barriers organisations have fitting into the current outcomes. Organisations who cannot attend are welcome to respond in writing.</p> <p>Ali Cairns informed the group that SCVO are campaigning for funding agreements to be extended to 3 or 5 years to ensure better stability and capacity of organisations. The Compact is also looking at principles around the practice and process of funding agreements.</p>		
6.	<p>Format of Future Meetings It was suggested that VAH provide lunch for the group in future. This would have to be discussed with the VAH Board members.</p> <p>The group broke out into smaller groups to discuss ideas for future speakers, issues and themes for the HVSF.</p> <p>Future Speakers local MSP's local Councillors Ward Managers Stephen Maxwell (SCVO) a possible talk would be on funding impact on the sector A slot for the public sector to give updates e.g. NHS Highland, Highland Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scottish Natural Heritage, Member showcase MSP/Councillor question time</p> <p>Themes & Issues Service level Agreements Funding – sustainable How do we have an input into helping mould the local indicators Partnership agreements with statutory agencies Partnership working and how do we do this – agencies saying what they actually do Campaigns Manifesto's for Council/Government elections Sharing intelligence Working on common agenda's Policy update New initiatives e.g. funding (could be a standing item) Member issues Who are our key players? E-bulletin Website Networking time e.g. over lunch Working with the private sector</p> <p>One group focused on defining aims, objectives and functions of the HVSF. A discussion took place about whether the group should be formal or informal and whether a mandate should be developed.</p>	VAH	02/02/09

7.	<p>A.O.B. Sheila Fletcher informed the group that the Transport Strategy Consultation is taking place at the moment and highlighted the importance of the involvement and input from the voluntary sector. She asked VAH to find out more about this and send the information out to everyone in the HVSF database.</p> <p>The Big Lottery is holding a consultation called 'Help Shape the Future of the Big Lottery Fund' on Monday 1st December 08. SCVO have details of this on their website.</p> <p>Kelley Miller asked for people to contact VAH if they want any information distributed to the organisations on the HVSF database.</p> <p>Alasdair asked that a discussion on the terms of reference and aims and objectives for the group be added to the agenda of the next meeting.</p>	VAH	
8.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Monday 2nd February 11am – 2pm with lunch included, in the Sanctuary (Main Room), Inshes Church, Inverness</p>		