

**The Garioch Partnership  
Spring Forum & AGM**



**Ardennan Hotel, Inverurie  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013  
7.30pm**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b>  John welcomed all attending especially as the weather had not been spring like and gave an overview of the evening.  A list of attendees and apologies are listed in Appendix A	
<b>2.</b>	<b><u>Presentation of Cheques</u></b>  Cheques to SensationALL and Echt PTA were issued by Anne & John of The Garioch Partnership.	
<b>3.</b>	<b><u>Talk on Twitter by Philippa Nicholson</u></b>  Philippa gave a talk and presentation with slides on Twitter, giving an overview of what Twitter would deliver and how to get started, using examples from her own companies' experiences and screen shots of actual Twitter pages.  Philippa also raised the hazards to the groups of the issues associated with social media and some good practices that groups should employ when using social media.  Philippa answered questions from the floor on Twitter and in particular the time spent on responding to "tweets". John thanked Philippa for her presentation; all the groups showed appreciation for her talk.	
<b>4.</b>	<b><u>Experiences using Facebook</u></b>  Anne followed Philippa's talk with her experiences using Facebook and in particular with two projects Inside Insch & Kingseat, using a live demo, Anne shared the Partnership's Facebook pages to show the tools available to see trends on hits to the page. The partnership's own page did not meet the required "likes" but the Inside Insch page did.  John thanked Anne for her talk and emphasised that technology was there to help organisations "get themselves noticed".	

## 5. Chairman's Report

John thanked everyone again for attending and re-emphasised that this meeting would be the first Annual General Meeting of The Garioch Partnership. The road had started almost 15 months ago when we held a public meeting to start up the Partnership, since then we have gained SCIO status with OSCR and we paper sifted through 20 applicants and interviewed five, and from that we appointed Anne. Although Anne has not been in post for a year yet, I'm sure anyone who has interacted with her will see what a valued member of the Partnership she is.

At the end of the meeting it was hoped that the Partnership's constitution would be adopted to enable the partnership to go forward. John publically thanked the tremendous steering group who he had the privilege to work with, in taking this group forward. Most of these people are involved in their own groups and organisations, but have still given their time to the Partnership. Some are staying on and some having completed the role of the steering group are going back to concentrate in their own groups. So thanks go to Kay Diack, Fiona Allan, Christian Allard, Bill Conn, Bill Emslie, Graham Geddes, Jack Hendry & John Sinclair for the support in the past months. Boards and trustees, whatever the format of a group's governance are important to ensure smooth running of a group and we do need these people to hold these posts to ensure we are legally protected particularly if you have employees.

Thanks also for the support given by in particular Doug Milne, Reid Hutchison, Elaine Cleary and others from CED who supported the steering group during their time here and look forward to working with Aberdeenshire to keep this Garioch area prospering and fit for the communities that live and work here and visitors also.

Thanks also go to other Rural partnerships in Aberdeenshire, who, when we asked for assistance were always there to give their feedback on their experiences and advice on our own route and development.

To date, Anne has been busy interacting with Garioch groups and organisations and building up our client base, groups who will need our immediate help, groups who will gain from the networking and even groups who have nothing to gain by membership but still give their experience and knowledge to others, this is the main strength of the partnership and we look forward to building this base.

Anne has also been busy working in partnership with other community groups with projects at Kingseat and Inch and these look to be exciting times in these areas for the future we hope.

Our community initiative fund continues to assist small groups get on the ladder of success and development as was seen earlier, and with assistance from Aberdeenshire Council we can now sustain and grow this grant system for future years.

Anne's new base in the Wyness hall gives the opportunity to grow the Partnership again, as we look at employing a part-time admin assistant to take some of the work load off Anne to focus on development work. It is now getting fitted out with desks, computers, storage with most of the kit / services being donated by companies for nothing.

Ward forums have started in Garioch and our last meeting of tranche one is being held in Westhill on Wednesday, these have been informal meetings with great interaction between groups, Councillors and

officers and the new Police force of Scotland. I would urge you if you have not been to one or know of anyone who has not been to one, to persuade them to go and take part, they are there for you to assist drive the needs of the wards at a local level, and hopefully develop the needs for Garioch.

There were no questions from the floor on the report, John Chapman then asked John Sinclair to present an update on the accounts to the meeting.

## **6. Treasurers Report**

John Sinclair distributed a copy of the accounts as of 28<sup>th</sup> of February. The Partnership has started with a balance brought forward from 11/12 of £4,658.

All grant money had been banked and with the expenditure listed below the bank account stood at £17,993 as of 28<sup>th</sup> February.

There were still staff wages to pay and certain items to be purchased for the setting up of the new office; however a surplus would be carried forward from 12/13 year into 13/14.

It had been discussed at a steering group meeting that this money would be ring fenced for the purpose of additional staff cost of another development worker and contingency in case of winding up of the Partnership in the future, where redundancy would be payable to any employee.

Looking forward funding had been agreed in principle for 13/14 with additional grants to be added to cover the expense of running the newly created ward forums in Garioch and to cover the new Community Initiative Fund, which had currently been supported by TGP.

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

<u>Income</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Aberdeenshire Council Funding		27000
Pre Steering Group Income		4658
Bank Interest		<u>1</u>
		31659
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Staff Costs	8464	
HR Costs	114	
Travel Expenses	589	
Conference Costs	170	
Ward Forum & Room Hire	577	
Post Stationery & Advertising	699	
Awards	1350	
IT Costs & Software	1369	
Telephone	75	
Property Costs	54	
Membership Costs	38	
Misc Costs	<u>167</u>	
		<u>13666</u>
<b>Surplus for Period</b>		<b><u>17993</u></b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Bank Account Balance		<b><u>17993</u></b>

John Sinclair thanked Anne and the Committee for all the work they had carried out during the year.

There were no questions from the floor.

Copies of the final year end accounts would be made available to members by email at the same time they were lodged with OSCR. **JS / BOARD**

### **7. Adoption of SCIO Constitution**

Copies of the Constitution had been circulated at the start of the meeting; they were also on the Partnerships website.

John pointed out a typo on page 13 where the last line in clause 60 read "(subject to clause 60.1)" this should actually refer to clause "61" not "60.1".

With this amendment to be made, the meeting unanimously agreed to the adoption of the SCIO Constitution.

With the adoption of the Constitution John therefore dissolved the

**JC /  
BOARD**

Steering group and asked Reid Hutchison from CED of Aberdeenshire Council to take the chair for the election of the charity trustees for the Garioch Partnership SCIO.

**8. Election of Trustees for TGP**

Reid thanked all the Committee for their success in getting the Partnership to where they were at this moment.

Some of the steering group were not standing for election on the new SCIO, however the following people had been nominated and were willing to stand:-

Kay Diack  
Graham Geddes  
John Sinclair  
John Chapman

Reid explained the need for trustees to oversee the governance of Charity bodies and asked if any nominations were forthcoming from the floor. There were none.

Reid duly accepted all nominations as there were no objections and stated that the elected members would decide the Office bearers at their first board meeting.

**TGP  
BOARD**

John Chapman took the chair from Reid to complete the evening's agenda and thanked Reid again for his support during the year.

**9. AOCB**

John opened the floor up for any AOCB, there was none and he wished everyone a safe journey home, there was still coffee / tea available for anyone wishing to network afterwards.

The meeting closed at 20.47

Chairperson: - J Chapman .....

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Names of Attendees:-**

Anne Simpson  
Kay Diack  
Christian Allard  
Kelly Bowie  
Katherine Gerrard  
John Sinclair  
Archie Peebles

John Chapman  
Susan Kay  
Philippa Nicholson  
Sarah McGee  
Rita Moir  
Rosemary Murray  
Elaine Cleary

Ruth MacDonald  
Susan Strachan  
Jack Hendry  
Linda Singer  
Reid Hutchison  
Bill Emslie

### **Apologies received from:-**

Graham Geddes  
Chris Hunneyball  
Ron McKail  
Garry McDonald  
Doug Milne

Bill Conn  
Iris Walker  
Audrey Findlay  
Garioch Under 5s

Martin Kitts-Hayes  
David Aitchison  
Graeme Burnett  
Fiona Allan

### **Member Groups Represented:-**

Pitcaple Environmental Project, Hatton of Fintray Community Association, Inverurie Hockey Club, Westhill & Elrick Community Council, Kiddiwinks, Fintray & Kinellar Community Council, Inverurie Community Council, SensationALL, St Andrews Church, Fly Cup, Grampian Opportunities, (approx. 33% of the total membership).

### **Associated Groups:-**

CED Aberdeenshire Council.