

# Minutes of Spring Forum & AGM 2014

Kemnay Village Hall  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
7-30pm

Item	Issue	Action
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## 1. Welcome and Apologies

John welcomed all attending especially as the weather was pleasant and other activities may have been more attractive to members.

A list of attendees and apologies are listed in Appendix A

### Presentation of Cheques

Cheques to ICAN and SensationALL were issued by Anne, Marion & Graham of The Garioch Partnership.

## 2 Format of Evening

Anne Simpson gave an overview of the two workshops that had been set up for the evening. These would run at the same time but notes of each will be made available to all members. The two workshops were:-

- a) Funding your Organisation hosted by Kay Diack ( Diack Associates)
- b) Keystone Hall Accreditation by Barbara Love (SCVO)

## 3 Workshops

Groups broke up into the two workshops and would reconvene in 40 Minutes.

## 4 AGM

### a Apologies

Apologies had been received

### b Matters Arising

7. Changes to the Constitution had been made

8. Marion Chapman had been elected to the board during the year as Secretary.

### c Chairman's Report

John thanked everyone again for attending as it was a pleasant evening and hoped that everyone would enjoy the strawberries and "bubbly".

What a busy first full year we have had. Anne has been extremely busy in building networks between a wide range of groups and organisation within Garioch. TGP has supported 80 groups during 2013-14, there are now 54 members, from a wide range of

community and interest groups, with an extensive range of skills and experience to offer to each other and the wider Garioch area. Links have been established with many other groups, and a contacts database set up with nearly 200 names. For some this interaction has been a single piece of advice or information, often on funding. For others the support has been more extensive and more complex, and is ongoing. It is still too early to see an increased capacity in the area to deliver significant projects, but there is little doubt that the establishment of the partnership will assist in the longer term.

Two communities in the Garioch were identified in 2013-14 where partners felt that prioritised community action plans would be beneficial, namely Inch and Kingseat. A Community Action Plan for Inch was produced in November 2013 after a successful Planning for Real® process led by TGP and Community Learning & Development. The *Inside Inch* project engaged many members of the community, with some new volunteers coming forward to join ICAN, the local community association and the Bennachie Community Council. TGP continues to support ICAN in implementing the plan. Good progress is being made on a number of action points. It is intended that the Kingseat Community Action Plan will be published soon.

TGP promoted, organised and delivered three rounds of Ward Forums in the Garioch Area in 2013/14. Twelve events took place across the area, in a variety of venues. A review was carried out using Survey Monkey after the first two rounds/eight events, in order to get feedback from participants, and to ensure the effectiveness of future events. Ward Forums are new to Garioch, having been successfully introduced in some other areas of Aberdeenshire as one way of putting the community into community planning. The partnership was pleased to have been given the opportunity to set up these up in Garioch and to offer something new to the area. Forums can provide an excellent opportunity for informal learning, networking with other community organisations/representatives and sharing information and experiences and I would urge you to try them out and come along to a couple. There are many initiatives and projects being run by communities in Garioch, and the opportunity to hear about these and learn from other people's experience is great and shows what can be done locally. Updates from community planning partners have also been welcomed, but there is still work to do to ensure that community members understand the community planning process. As a result of the survey the frequency of these has been reduced to two rounds per annum.

The small grants scheme introduced in 2012/13, utilising the underspend in the partnership's budget that had been caused by the delayed appointment of the development worker, was topped up in 2013/14 year by £5k from the Garioch Area Committee's Area Budget. The partnership has continued to use its "grants panel" of volunteer TGP members to assess applications and make recommendations to the Board, thus involving elected members directly in decision-making. Ten grants have been awarded to date, from eleven applications. A total of £6350 has been invested in these projects, with the Partnership adding additional funds to complete these requests.

Not all the work has been done directly by the Partnership, we have engaged Grampian Opportunities to assist in our Admin tasks, as most who have been to Ward Forums will testify, and their enthusiasm has been great with a great improvement in the quality of the Quarterly newsletter delivered.

The board would like to acknowledge the work done by Anne in this year and we look forward to a busy 2014/15 and say hello to Dawn Brown who will now work along with Anne to assist us to deliver even more in Garioch Area.

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.

d **Treasurers Report**

**Garioch Partnership**

**Year end 31 March 2014**

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>£</u></b>	<b><u>£</u></b>
Aberdeenshire Council Funding		39282
Community Initiative Fund		5000
Community Action Plan		5000
Bank Interest		<u>10</u>
		49292

**Expenditure**

Staff Costs	15535	
Insurances	81	
Marketing & Advertising	937	
AGM Costs	184	
Ward Forum & Room Hire	1297	
Office & Admin Costs	2350	
Awards	2750	
IT Costs & Software	1563	
Telephone	256	
Misc Costs	<u>260</u>	
		<u>25213</u>

**Surplus for Period** **24079**

**Balance Sheet @ 31 March  
2014**

	<b><u>£</u></b>	<b><u>£</u></b>
<b>Bank &amp; Cash</b>		
Bank Account Balance		39941
<b>Creditors</b>		
PAYE	92	
Cash held for Others	<u>3914</u>	
		4006
		<u>35935</u>

**Reserves**

BAL @ 31/03/13	11856
Surplus for Year	24079
	35935

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

There was one question from the floor which asked the increase in Interest on the Account, JS commented that this was due to the first full operating year of the Partnership and increase in holding and a good rate of interest from the bank.

**e Election of Trustees for TGP**

As in the AGM booklet the below mentioned people were willing to stand for re-election and there was a new trustee nominated, Audrey Findlay who would bring a wealth of knowledge to the Board and John proposed all be elected on mass.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

- Kay Diack
- Marion Chapman
- Graham Geddes
- John Sinclair
- John Chapman
- Audrey Findlay

John stated that positions on the executives would be agreed at the first board meeting. There were still 2 available positions for the board and would look at filling these at the earliest opportunity.

**TGP BOARD**

**f 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

**Apologies received from:-**

- Douglas Milne
- Audrey Findlay

**Member Groups Represented:-**

Pitcable Environmental Project, Wartle Community Assoc, Inverurie Hockey Club, Westhill & Elrick Community Council, Inverurie Events, Kiddiwinks, ICAN, Inverurie Community Council,

SensationALL, St Andrews Church, Bogbeth Pavilion, Inverurie CDG, Newmachar Hall, Grampian Opportunities, Garioch Heritage, Fetternear Hall. (30% of the total membership).

**Associated Groups:-**

CED Aberdeenshire Council. CVS Aberdeenshire, Inverurie Men's Shed.