

Minutes of Spring Forum & AGM 2015

Kemnay Village Hall
Monday 26th May 2015
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 organisations 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

<u>Income</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
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		<u>24079</u>

Balance Sheet @ 31 March 2014

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Bank & Cash		
Bank Account Balance		39941
Creditors		
PAYE	92	
Cash held for Others	<u>3914</u>	
		4006
		<u>35935</u>
Reserves		
BAL @ 31/03/13		11856
Surplus for Year		24079
		<u>35935</u>

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.

Chairman's Report 2015

Where does it all end or should I say when.... Last year I had the pleasure of introducing Dawn our latest addition to the team and seeing what she has done along with Anne astounds me. Our two Development workers have been busy at it all year and am sure most you have been in contact with their infectious activity.

With Port and Kintore Community Action Plans are nearing completion and another two identified in the pipeline, for the coming months we are sure to be kept busy going forwards. Our membership of the Partnership now stands at 71 and we still have organisation chapping at the door.

Tonight we have some more cheques to present to members taking us up to 16 groups in the last year being recipients of the Community Initiative Grants, totalling over £10,450 being distributed to deserving groups in our community of Garioch.

Over the last twelve months TGP directly have pulled in over £50K worth of external funding into Garioch, helping our organisations develop themselves.

We have facilitated National groups in presenting their workshops in the Area under the umbrella of Funding and Health Care, for all you who attended these events we hope you found them useful and informative, events like these and tonight, all help groups and organisation network, to find out more of what is there and who have done it before, lesson learned and best practises, making subsequent journeys for other "less painful".

This year saw the inaugural Scottish Rural Parliament event in Oban and the TGP with Anne in attendance and support this fledgling group, who knows how it will develop and where it will take us. We also managed to entice Alistair McKinley, Head of Community Planning in Scotland and we took him a whistle stop tour of Garioch and Aberdeenshire and went back with a very good impression of our commitment towards Community groups and volunteers that support these and also our pitfalls.

This year John Sinclair is to step down from the Partnership as Treasurer and thanks go to John for all his work in the past 2 and a bit years. Other thanks go to our assistants at all these events "Grampian Opportunities" which take the burden away from the Board and Development workers in welcoming you here and seeing to you refreshment and admin needs, many thanks.

I do look at the board members and in the hope that they themselves do not get "bored" I am on the lookout for fresh blood within our board, especially as John has now stepped down. I realise that many of you here are already committed to your own groups, but would urge you to throw out to you group if anyone would like to be part of this team to get back to me and we can discuss further and if anyone wants to be chairman I will propose them myself. Thanks for all for your support to the Partnership.

Kind regards

John Chapman

Chairman
The Garioch Partnership

Treasurers Report

Year end 31 March 2015

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

<u>Income</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Aberdeenshire Council Funding		37333
Other Income		2655
Bank Interest		11
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		39999
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Staff Costs	21315	
Insurances	143	
Ward Forum & Room Hire	1113	
Office & Admin Costs	9066	
Awards	4890	
IT Costs & Software	419	
Telephone	560	
Misc Costs	75	
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		37581
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Surplus for Period		2418

Year end 31 March 2015

BALANCE SHEET

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Current Assets		
Debtors		3838
Cash in Hand		28
Bank Account Balance		34100
		<hr/>
		37966
Creditors		
Creditors		
Cash held for Others	3613	
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		3613
		<hr/>
		34353
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Funds		
Unrestricted Funds		
BAL @ 31/03/14		31935
Surplus for Year		2418
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BAL @ 31/03/15		34353
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Election of Board Members

Board member standing for re-election:-

John Chapman

Marion Chapman

Kay Diack

Audrey Findlay

Graham Geddes

New Board Members standing:-

Nom Wright

Board member standing down:-

John Sinclair (2+ Years' Service)