

Summarised Minutes of the Board Meeting held on the 18th March 2011

1. Present: CB, JS, GN, YW, MC, MW, JD, AC. SL taking the minutes. No apologies.

2. **Minutes of the 18th February 2011**

CB proposed and JS seconded they were agreed. GN signed the minutes.

3. **Matters Arising**

i) Company Secretary – Appointment

GN asked the Board if they felt we needed a Company Secretary. It was unanimously agreed that no company secretary was required but a Secretary was. CB suggested that we look to the membership and JS proposed putting an ad in the newsletter. MC suggested someone with the knowledge of company law would be a good idea. GN proposed that the Assembly might be a good place to advertise after asking the potential prospective co-opted Board members. CB seconded this proposal and all agreed.

ii) Feedback from Meetings

a) Consortium Meeting with DCC - JS reported back on this. The last meeting was aborted because DCC had not come up with the specification for the contract, the split on the money and the exemption from going out to Open Competitive Tendering. DCC have since said they were waiting for the PCT to come forward with their contribution. JS circulated the organization chart showing the governance structure of the Fusion Consortium. JS is not happy with the control of this and feels that SCfD should be involved in the governance of the contract. MC asked who had drawn up the plans and was told that this had been done by Diana Crump and Mary Nesbit. JS's recommendation was that the Fusion Board should be made up of a rep of each of the Involvement organizations. GN suggested that the Board invite the Diana Crump and Mary Nesbit to the Board to explain the governance. CB suggested inviting them to an informal meeting of the Board, YW seconded this and all agreed. MC questioned again whether this was the only consortium which SCfD could become a part of. CB proposed sending questions to DC and MN in advance, JS seconded this and all in favour: 1. How do they see us fitting in them? Why isn't the DCC Involvement Board the Consortium Board? Why don't we have an elected revolving Chairman? How is the Chairman elected? Who appoints the Service Manager, who do they report to and to whom are they responsible? GN reported back that SCfD are seen as not able to keep up, not able to take decisions and not wanting to go into the consortium. Other Board members felt this was unfair and pointed out that the organization is limited by its Memorandum and Articles, unlike any of the other organizations. JS is meeting with PG about carry-over funding and CB offered to accompany him to this meeting. SL asked whether the Board had a mandate from the membership to join the consortium as there had appeared to be some confusion around the issue – all said they did have that mandate but that they could not alter the governance of SCfD.

b) From Grassroots to Government - This conference looking at ageing population. The message coming across was that we are going to have to do more for ourselves – which is the Big Soc. GN was surprised about the no. of active groups in the South West and wanted to encourage groups to affiliate. SCfD were negatively questioned at the meeting and GN was given the opportunity to respond to this.

c) Health Meetings – Newton Abbot, East Mid and Exeter Peninsula Medical School – feedback. Report-back on both meetings will come to the next Board. Two reps from the Senior Council were at the initial planning meeting.

iii) Annual General Meeting – CB commented that GN conducted the meeting very well and proposed a vote of thanks to her. JS felt the meeting was well conducted and upbeat. The question of having a later start to the meeting was raised. GN suggested a little survey of members about start times for meetings in the newsletter. All in all everyone felt that the AGM had shown a lot of support for the organization from members.

iv) Assembly on Media workshops - Tim and James Millar will direct the morning sessions on the 22nd March and there will be an open session with Q and A's in the afternoon.

- v) Future Assemblies - GN proposed we asked Jennie Stephens and her equivalent in the NHS, a GP and LINK to an Assembly on Health and Social Care, early discharge from hospital, more nursing at home. MC suggested this goes out in the newsletter and members are asked for evidence-based input. GN has included this in her article for the newsletter. October meeting AGM – SL to find a booking. YW suggested The Big Society and how we address the issues in this County? JD mentioned that Crediton had had a transport person talking about these issues. MW has been asked by West Devon Borough Council if the SCfD would write to the planning depts in all the local authorities. GN will do this. October AGM, cancel September and next Assembly to be held at the beginning of February.
- vi) Update on responses from banks re phasing out of cheque-books - SL brought the written responses from all the banks which have been received, mainly saying that the Payments Council will be reviewing the situation on cheque books by 2016 – RBS suggested that 24 hr telephone banking may be the only option for older people which MW suggested was no good for older people who were hard of hearing. CB suggested going to the Payment Council and ask them for the results of their public consultation and it was agreed that SL should send our original letter to them and copies to all MP's.
- vii) ARM - Have Leads been agreed? GN would like to retain hold of overall responsibility of Health Group – and had emailed KC to find out if he would continue his lead on dementia, CB – lead on Care Homes, and Bob Bryant – GP's and Hospitals (he is already involved with Patient Participation Group). James Bradley from Okehampton is very keen to join - 18th April Monday CVS at 10 am. SL to invite all the H & SC group to come to that meeting. GN and JD to come up with agenda. CB talked about the 'Tree of Life'. GN said the average length of stay in a residential home is 1yr – 18 months and in a care home 3 months. MPs can be invited.
- viii) Future Funding Group - Recommendations - The Funding Group presented a paper and asked the Board to endorse its recommendations for fundraising. Priority items – GN proposed and JS seconded Intergenerational Work and Dementia All agreed.
 - 7.71 Groups to notify the Funding Group when they are going to apply for grants.
 - 7.72 Groups should notify the Funding group and ask for assistance (rather than comment) if they need it. GN proposed and JS seconded that Board needs to give Funding Group mandate to say no to groups. All agreed.
 - 7.73 Transport and Housing need to be added to it. All agreed.
 - 7.74 Agreed.
 All groups – Transport, Communications, need to identify specific projects to be fundraised for. Ageism – SCfD could do research on this in hospitals about consultants refusing operations for older people.
- ix) Constitution Sub-group – Charity Status, AGM Rules of Debate - We have asked the Constitution Group to look at incorporating the clause referred to by CC and are also to investigate the separate Limited Company option to undertake other aspects of Senior Council work and evaluate this. GN proposed and CB seconded. RT suggested himself AR and Peter Dunning and JS – All agreed. YW thought it was implicit from the AGM that this should happen.
- x) End of Life Strategy - SL has sent this out to all Chairs, secretaries and Board – there is an easy read version which also should be sent out. A response needs to be sent in by April 15th. Those who had read the strategy had several negative comments on the policy and the lack of training contained within it etc.
- xi) Budgets – have they been updated? (Dementia and Intergenerational) - JS said they had – needs notification from DCC about the funding before he can finalise next year's budget. JS said that SCfD cannot be applying for funding to fund other organizations.

4. Future Meetings with Officers and Councillors

GN asked about which meetings were being attended. Older People's Strategic Partnership Group (OPSPG) -10 members, Healthier and Stronger Communities (GN), JEB (GN), Bereavement Group (GN), Dementia Strategy Group (KC, AC), Respite Strategy for Carers, Health and Social Care Group (GN) Supporting People (MC, GB and AR), Be Involved Devon (JD) NAG (MW, YW and AC, JD). A combined report must come in with all expenses claims. All to inform SL of meeting dates.

5. **Division of Duties**

Transport – AR, Housing – GR (to be approached), CB, Communications/ Publicity - MC

6. **Co-opted Board Members**

GN suggested calling the prospective potential co-opted board members. SL has asked them for a CV and now GN will telephone them.

7. **Campaigning Can SCfD Campaign? Can SCfD be politically active?**

Under Charity rules we can campaign and pursue political activity in order to further its charitable purposes. GN proposed that the Board does not communicate with Tony Simpson on this issue, CB seconded this. All the Board were in favour of this proposal.

8. **Finance update**

JS and CB are meeting with Paul Giblin about his financial queries.

9. **Development Report**

GN thanked TH for his report and CB thanked him for the articles and card he had sent.

10. **Any Other Business**

- i) Elections of Chair and Vice Chair - JS proposed GN for Chairman and MC seconded – All were in favour. CB proposed YW for Vice-Chairman and MW seconded with all in favour.
- ii) Rent and Mortgage Interest - It was suggested that the neighbour be advised to contact his local CAB. SL said that the rules had changed which meant that many pensioners who previously had been able to claim help with mortgage interest, now could not. YW suggested getting a For Your Information article into the press. Ask TH about a press release for this. JD suggested taking this to Senior Voice as a future topic for a questionnaire.
- iii) Prom Prom.com - A letter of support has gone out to Tony Liddington of Prom-Prom.
- iv) Masterclass – London 13 April - MC/YW will go to this.
- v) Expenses for next agenda – April Agenda.
- vi) Tobacco Meeting (1st April) - not sending a rep.
- vii) Crediton – want memory café updated booklet. AC to forward the original to SL to get updated.
- viii) Housing in Rural Devon – April Agenda.
- ix) Diary dates:
 - Exmouth – 2pm on the 21st, Ivybridge Meeting on 22nd, Assembly, Healthy Lives for Healthy people
 - Dementia Meeting 22nd, YW – Long Term Care Conditions – London
 - 25th YW – Exmouth Health and Social Care Team
 - 24th – Taunton – SW Forum on Ageing – SCfD - KC – report on this
 - 26th – AGM - DPAF AGM – MW/JD
 - 29th GN – Respite Carers' meeting
 - 30th OPSPG – MW, Bereavement – GN
 - 30th Pm SCfD Executive
 - 1st April – Funding Group (JS, GN)
 - 5th Healthier and Stronger Communities – GN or YW
 - 7th April – Consortium Meeting 2 pm
 - 13th Ageing Well Masterclass – MC, YW
 - 13th GN – Respite
 - 14th GN – Tiverton – Exec
 - 15th GN – Teignmouth AGM
 - 18th Residential Care/Social Care
 - 10th May Ageing Pop Conference
- x) Epilepsy Society – no time for discussion.

11. **Future Meetings**

15th April, 20th May, 24th June, 29th July, 19th August, 30th Sept, 28th Oct, 25th Nov, 16th Dec 2011