



STIRLING TENANTS ASSEMBLY
MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 10th JULY 2012
IN MAYFIELD CENTRE
AT 10.30AM

1. Present: Mary Rainey, Moira Robertson, Hugh McClung, Thomas Brown, Richard Waddell,
Apologies: Philomena McClung, Alec Lamb, Michael Griffiths, James Quinn, Cathy Traynor, Emma Meldrum STP, Sarah Fraser, Duncan Faithney

2 Approval of minutes [10.4.12] and matters arising.
Proposed, Mary Rainey Seconded Hugh McClung

Matters arising:

4.2 Hugh booked a place for Maria Balfour at the TPAS Conference after confirming that she wanted to attend; he has not been able to contact her since.

6.1 Brenda Griffiths has agreed to audit the accounts this month.

6.6 The first instalment of the grant from Stirling Council of £6000 was paid on May 16th.

6.7 Hugh has been informed that the contract for the TPAS Development Office, Emma was automatically extended to January 2013; it was an 18 month contract with the option of additional year. The earliest start date for any discussions on a new contract is December; the STA need to be kept in touch if they are to have any involvement.

3 Reports

Chair Hugh's report

3.1 At the Central Regional Network [CRN] meeting held on 28th June the following were elected as Office Bearers:- Chair, Hugh McClung, Secretary Geoff Morgan, Treasurer Susan Robertson, Vice Chairs Helen Forrest and June Anderson.

3.2 Scottish Housing Regulator's proposals consultation; The TIS event in Raploch is fully booked, but the CRN are having a joint event with Glasgow and Eilaan Siar RN led by TPAS on 2nd August in Glasgow. The consultation is about 'How the SHR will scrutinise Landlords', and comments must be submitted by 24th August 2012.

3.3 The Right to Buy [RTB] consultation ends 30th August 2012 and will be discussed by CRN at the meeting mentioned in 4.2. Moira will copy emails she has received on the consultations to Hugh. The STA will need to respond to both these consultations. **Action STA**

3.4 Hugh attended a Chairpersons meeting and brought up the problems caused by the lack of time allocated by the Scottish Government to select people to attend government working groups.

Hugh has been selected for Affordable Rented Housing Working Group [ARHWG] and the RNs were given only 3 weeks for selection. Whilst the RNs agree that these working groups are really important, the government has to give more time. The New Housing Strategy is coming out soon and deals with strategy and planning; the first meeting is at the end of July and the SG is looking for 4 people to sit on the committee. To get a person of the right calibre to give meaningful input, more time is needed.

3.5 Hugh first meeting on the ARHWG looked at the responses received from the Affordable Rented Housing consultation; Hugh gave a short summary of the responses; 237 responses 69% from individual tenants or tenants groups.

3.6 There is going to be a new Housing Bill but not sure what will be in it; it will introduce a stable housing strategy and take account of technical policy. The consultation will start by the end on 2012, culminating in a draft Bill by Spring of 2013.

Secretary Mary's report

Nothing

Treasurer Moira's report

3.7 A copy of the current accounts was given out; there were no comments or questions.

4. AGM 2012

4.1 This will be held on 22nd September in Viewforth Council Chambers.

4.2 Emma has put an advert in the Open Door.

4.3 The programme for the day was agreed as:-

9.30am for registration and refreshments

10am opening remarks

10.05am to 10.40am including 10 minutes for question and answer session; Speaker on Update on Repairs and Capital Programme.

10.40 to 11am Coffee break

11 to 11.45am Speakers on Income Maximisation and from Citizens Advice Bureau

11.45am to 12.30pm General discussion on the above presentations.

Lunch 12.30 to 1.30pm

1.30 – 2.15pm Keith Brown MP, Minister for Housing [if available]

2.15 pm until close AGM

1. Opening Remarks
2. Apologies
3. Approval of minutes of 1.10.11 and matters arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Secretary's report
6. Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts
7. Election of Management Committee
8. Any proposed resolutions/motions*
9. A.O.C.B.
- 10 Closing remarks.

* We would like to change the date of the AGM and propose the election of Assistant Treasurer [if required] and also consider if resignation of members of the Management Committee on a rotational basis is necessary. Proposed amendments must be sent out 21 days in advance of the AGM **Action STA**

4.4 The STA will organise parking and catering:-

[a] Hugh will write to Carol Hamilton to arrange parking. **Action Hugh**

[b] It was agreed to provide packs containing the relevant documents for the day, a bottle of water, a carton of juice, and a packet of plain crisps. Hugh will investigate where to get blank carrier bags. Perhaps sponsored by Tesco's? **Action Hugh**

[c] We will order catering for 30 but confirm 2 days before with actual numbers.

Buffet consisting of various sandwiches, sausage rolls, drumsticks and a vegetarian option.

Sandwiches will be without mayonnaise. We will ask for a quote for the above and also for a hot lunch for comparison. **Action Hugh and Mary**

[d] STA will buy 8 large bottles of water, 4 still and 4 sparkling and plastic cups. **Action Hugh and Mary**

[e] Tea and coffee for 20 for registration, coffee break and buffet at a cost of £8.50 for 6 people works out at £85. **Action Hugh and Mary**

4.5 It was agreed to invite Housing staff and Local Councillors. **Action Hugh**

4.6 If anything else comes to mind will committee members contact Hugh and Office Bearers can take a decision if necessary. **Action all Management Committee.**

5. Reports

5.1 Copies of the notes from the Repair's meeting on the 26th June were handed out. There were no comments.

5.2 There has not been a HAG meeting since Stirling Council election and none are proposed until after the recess.

5.3 A DVD has been produced to replace the Tenant's Handbook. Hugh sent comments on the draft. Following the Repair meeting, Emma is to try to get something included on the tenant and council responsibility and costs of Gas Servicing.

5.4 TLI; Thomas said that he and Alec Lamb could only get into 1 of the houses they had been asked to contact on voids. Alan Walker from Callander did manage to speak to more people; does not know Philomena's response rate. Thomas is unsure of the next step but believes that Emma is drafting up a response and paper for the TLI to consider.

5.5 Day Care Provision by Stirling Council; Richard handed out copies of articles from the Sunday Post and Daily Mail which highlighted that 'loneliness is one of the hidden killers of the elderly'. Richard is meeting with Councillors Lambie, Farmer and Muirhead, to see if SC will reverse its policy on Day Care but because the budget has already been set it may not be possible. Moira drafted the notes from the meeting on 12th June but has not had a response from the relevant officers as to accuracy. Moira will contact the officers and ask for an urgent response so that the STA can prepare a draft report before the next HAG meeting. **Action Moira**
Richard will Contact Age UK to advise them that the STA is preparing a draft report and ask them if they would they like an opportunity to add comments. **Action Richard.**

6. AOCB

6.1 It was agreed to ask Councillor Violet Weir, Portfolio Holder for Housing to speak at our meeting on 14th August. **Action Hugh**

6.2 The STA must find time to look at service level agreements in order make a decision about whether to proceed with this project. To be put on the agenda for Committee meeting on 13th September. **Action Mary and Hugh**

6.3 Meetings will be held at the following venues:-

14th August Speaker meeting Hillpark Bannockburn; Mary will book venue. **Action Mary**

13th September Business meeting Mayfield Mary will book venue. **Action Mary.**

11th October Callander Kirk Hall, Moira will book venue. **Action Moira**

8th November Hillview, Culterhove, Thomas will book venue. **Action Thomas**

13th December Raploch Campus, Mary will book venue. **Action Mary**

Date, time and place of next meeting.

14th August at Bannockburn Hillpark from 10.30am to 1pm.

Abbreviations

AGM	Annual General Meeting
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
CC	Community Council
CRN	Central Regional Network
FV	Forth Valley
HAG	Housing Advisory Group
HRA	Housing Revenue Account
LA	Local authority
LAs	Local authorities
LG	Local Government
RN	Regional Networks
RTO	Registered Tenants Organisation
SC	Stirling Council
SHG	Strathfillan Housing Group
SHQS	Scottish Housing Quality Standard
SG	Scottish Government
STA	Stirling Tenants Assembly
TLI	Tenant Led Inspection
TP	Tenant Participation
TPAS	Tenant Participation Advisory Service