



STIRLING TENANTS ASSEMBLY
MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 4th June 2012
IN MAYFIELD CENTRE
AT 10.30AM

Present: Michael Griffiths, Mary Rainey, Moira Robertson, Hugh McClung, Thomas Brown, Philomena McClung, Alec Lamb, Dolly Gemmell, Peter Palgrave, Anna Johnston, Margaret Campbell, Meg Amasi, Emma Meldrum STP

Apologies: Richard Waddell, Delia Waddell, Cathy Traynor, Cathy Brown

1] Hugh received an invitation from Paul Anderson, Community Outreach Manager, Scottish Parliament, to attend the Scottish Parliament's Community Conference on 22nd June. Philomena, Alan, Margaret, Dolly and Hugh will attend.

2] Also received was an invitation on the 12th June to an update on the Station Road Development, Stirling which Hugh, Phil and Anna will attend

3] Before the election of Office Bearers took place, Moira proposed that other members need to consider themselves for officer positions either presently or for the future as it is not always good practice for the same people to do the same positions year on year.

4] Emma took the chair for the elections.

Chair nominated Hugh McClung proposed by Michael Griffiths, seconded by Thomas Brown and accepted.

Vice Chair nominated Peter Palgrave proposed by Michael Griffiths, seconded by Mary Rainey.

Nominated Dolly Gemmell proposed by Thomas Brown but declined

Nominated Meg Amasi proposed by Moira Robertson but declined for this year, maybe next year

Peter accepted the position on the proviso that due to his age, it would be for a year.

Secretary Nominated Philomena McClung proposed by Margaret Campbell, seconded by Peter Palgrave and accepted.

Minute Secretary Nominated Moira Robertson proposed by Thomas Brown seconded by Michael Griffiths and accepted.

Treasurer Nominated Dolly Gemmell, proposed by Philomena McClung, seconded by Michael Griffiths and accepted on the proviso that she will need help from Moira and training in the Excel programme from Emma.

Assistant Treasurer Nominated Moira Robertson, proposed by Philomena McClung, seconded by Thomas Brown and accepted.

Hugh took over as Chair

5] Emma will arrange training for members in the office bearer roles, [available to all members] and also on computer use. Peter, Dolly, Margaret, Meg, Phil and Hugh wish to take up training.

6] Emma will supply the STA with a database of council tenants who have agreed to their details being passed over.

7] Meetings

25th June in Crianlarich village hall; speaker Laura Calder, 'Measuring our progress towards meeting the outcomes of the Tenants' Charter'

16th July Throsk New Centre; a committee meeting. Apologies from Emma and Dolly

20th August Croftamie [if hall not available in Croftamie or nearby are then Aberfoyle]; Speaker Alexa Scrivener on Repairs Update. **Emma will organise the speaker and Peter will book hall.**

17th Sept Hillview; Committee meeting. **Thomas will book hall.**

15th Oct. Braehead; Speaker from Scottish Parliament on the new Housing Act. **Hugh will book speaker.**

19th Nov Callander Kirk Hall; committee meeting. **Phil will book hall.**

17th Dec Raploch Campus; book a room for 1 hour. **Phil will book room.**

8] Work Plan

Hugh passed round a draft workplan for 2013/14

8.1 Communications

A new leaflet is required; it needs updating – Viewforth is closing and Emma moving to Springkerse depot and also the wording need revising.

Hugh will write down any contact details he has for Regional Networks, Scottish Government, Stirling Council, interested people from forums etc. and work with the vice chair and others, so that all members can increase their contacts and knowledge.

A Communications Group was formed which will be headed by Peter with Hugh, Phil and Emma. Emma will provide a database of active tenants to enable us to email communications.

It was proposed by Michael, seconded by Thomas and agreed by all that the first meeting of the group will be on 13th June at Emma's house.

8.2 Service Level Agreement

Stirling Council is adding their comments to the document. It was agreed that Moira and Hugh would continue with this and bring it back to the committee.

An Annual Report will be produced from March 2014 for the AGM in May and this document, along with reports from group leaders, should provide assistance

8.3 TPAS Contract,

This year Stirling Council will be putting out to tender for a new contract for an independent tenant advisor firm. Hugh cannot be involved in this because he is a TPAS board member, but the

STA should ensure that a knowledgeable person from the STA is involved. Hugh will let us know the timescale as soon as he is informed by SC.,

8.4 ASB

Carol Hamilton now has responsibility for the whole ASB team and strategy; not just Council Housing,

STA is to be involved with this and Meg, Dolly and Alan expressed an interest.

8.5 HAG

Mary and Hugh are the STA representatives on the HAG committee. Moira represents Strathfillan and Thomas represents Culterhove. It is believed that at a previous HAG meeting it was stated that up to 15 tenants could be on the committee. Meg, Anna, Phil, Alec and Dolly expressed an interest and Hugh will email Tony with names who will represent their area and not the STA.

Action Hugh

HAG has agreed that a Scrutiny Panel to develop Strategy for Service is set up. Hugh suggested a panel of officers and tenants which it is proposed will come from HAG group, but if membership is extended the STA would ask that the Scrutiny Group include some of our new members.

8.6 Autumn Conference

Carol Hamilton has agreed that the STA should hold an autumn conference and report on ASB Strategy, update on Welfare Reform, and Scrutiny on the Charter Outcomes

A date will be arranged when more work has been done on the ASB Strategy.

The STA will organise and run the Conference paid for by SC.

8.7 Newsletter

Hugh, Meg and Anna will form the Newsletter group; the next issue is due out in August or September and depends on when the Open Door goes out.

The group will start on the newsletter next month

9] Moira told the group that she has been awarded a 20 year Long Service Voluntary Award from Stirling Voluntary Enterprise and will receive it this evening at a ceremony in the Raploch Campus.

10] A member was advised to contact Margaret Campbell, Head of Council Tax collections about a letter he received saying he could be taken to court. You must receive a warning letter saying you could lose right of instalments if you don't pay within a week; then a second letter giving 48hrs to pay; then a third letter to say you have lost the right to pay in instalments and must pay the full amount within a set time. This letter will say that if you don't respond, then SC will apply for a Court Order to recover the debt. The member says that he did not receive any intermediate letters and yet the 1991 Housing Act states that you must receive warning letters, Hugh' advise was to write to Margaret Campbell to ask for explanation as to why he didn't receive any warning letters, and then come back to Hugh. If he sends the letter by recorded delivery it must be signed for.

11] Phil thanked all that helped with the AGM.

Thanks for help at AGM Phil

12] For the meeting in Crianlarich, Emma will take Thomas, Cathy B, Richard and Delia; Dolly will take Anna, Meg and Alec; Hugh will take Michael, Phil, Mary and Cathy T.

Margaret and Peter will travel together.

Date, time and place of next meeting.

Crianlarich village hall on Tuesday 25th June at 10.30am

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
LA's	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