



2003 – 2024  
21 years of supporting tenants

**MINUTE OF MEETING HELD IN MAYFIELD CENTRE, ST NINIANS,  
ON 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024 AT 10.00am**

**Present:**

William Derrick  
Anna Johnston  
Hugh McClung  
Sarah-Jane Dunbar  
Margaretanne Browne

**Apologies:**

Moira Robertson

**Not present:**

Duncan Faichney  
Mags Hughes  
Robert Cairney

**In attendance:**

Philomena McClung (Tenant)  
Luke Scrivens (Independent Tenant Participation Officer)  
Tony Kelly (TPAS)

William welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Tony Kelly for coming along. Tony has been a big help to STA in the past and, although he is retiring from TPAS, he will continue to help as and when needed. Tony was presented with two gifts – one from STA members and one from Philomena McClung. Tony expressed his thanks and his hope that STA will continue doing good work.

**Minute of last meeting:**

Minute of meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated and were approved by Hugh and seconded by Sarah-Jane, with the amendment that on Page 2 (TP Officer's Report) item 3 should read "New Engage System", not "New Procurement System".

**Business arising:**

1. Page 3 – AOCB – A Zoom meeting had been held to discuss the Work Plan 2024-2025 and Stirling Young Tenants. Luke has been meeting with local TP Officers to discuss young tenants and he is also meeting with St Modan's school.

Hugh pointed out that STA in the past (possibly 1980s) had met with local high schools to talk to senior pupils about getting and managing a Council tenancy. Perhaps Luke and Robert could continue this.

Sarah-Jane wondered whether, if young tenants wished to set up their own group, STA could possibly act as an “umbrella” for them. Young tenants group could report back to STA via Luke or Robert.

Tony said that Aberdeen City Council has a youth group but probably would not be happy if others used their ideas.

2. Luke is organizing an Income Maximisation session on 29<sup>th</sup> November. We can signpost people to that. He is also organizing training for us on Housing Online. He is also hoping to get STA website updated.

Minute was approved by Sarah-Jane and seconded by Margaretanne,

#### **Chair's Report:**

1. At the recent Housing Advisory Group meeting the possibility of a tenant member attending CWH meetings had been raised and legalities were discussed.

Hugh pointed out that the 1972 Housing Act had stated that non-Council persons can be included.

Also – Indigo Report had stated that tenant involvement would be an asset.

Luke pointed out that this has gone to the legal team and they do not agree. It is going back to the legal team.

Tony added that this was clarified at the House of Lords some years ago. Labour did attempt to get tenants who have voting rights involved but this turned out to be illegal.

2. Open Day in Albert Halls had been successful – 88 attendees. Council had more services represented than in previous years. STA questionnaires had been handed out and completed questionnaires passed to Luke.

#### **Tenant Participation Officer's Report:**

1. Luke is organizing the Income Maximisation session, also hoping to start Finance Training.
2. Engage platform should be up-and-running very soon.
3. Luke is meeting with St Modan's school in November.
4. He thanked STA members who had attended Council's Open Day.

#### **Tenants Together:**

1. There have been three Tenants Together meetings since the last STA meeting.
2. Colin is hoping to arrange visits to all involved organisations.
3. It is hoped that tenants will try to attend online sessions organized by Tenants Together. Tenants Together e-mail Anna with details of any session and Anna passes details on to all STA members.
4. There had been a lot of issues relating to a hedge.
5. Barriers and challenges relating to costs and a lack of different heating systems.

#### **Any other reports (Housing Advisory Group):**

1. Minute of last HAG meeting had been inaccurate. No mention had been made of Luke having to take minutes. Apparently the next meeting will be the last one in which Democratic Services will be involved.
2. Housing Emergency – Stirling has not declared a Housing Emergency but homelessness has increased.
3. No new building projects apart from those ongoing.
4. HRA Outturn = Hugh felt that the presenting format is the same at every HAG meeting. If it is the same at the next HAG meeting Hugh intends to question it.
5. Outcome of HAG Working Group – has been agreed in principle.
6. Updated Allocations Policy review – has been accepted.

7. Report by Gregor Wightman that short-term lets are affecting homelessness situation.
8. The issue of anti-social behaviour strategy was raised and we have asked that this be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

There being no further business William closed the meeting and thanked everyone who had attended.

**Date of next meeting:**

**20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 10.00am – Anna will submit a booking to Mayfield Centre.**