

**Note of meeting of A&E Third Sector Forum (AE3SF)
held on Thursday 27 April 2009
within the Somerton Hotel, Lockerbie at 10.30 am**

Present

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| Roger Claymore | Lockerbie Initiative |
| Rosemary Flexney | Sports Driving Unlimited |
| Janet Foreman | Middlebie Hall |
| William Johnston | The Richmond Fellowship Scotland |
| Geoff Kitt | Moffat & District Community Initiative |
| Sharon Ledger | Annan Initiative |
| Ian Lindsay | Canonbie Over 60s Club |
| Rita McCrae | Freewheel |
| Fay Salmon | WRVS |
| Janet Saunders | Annandale Transport Initiative |
| John Scoular | Annan & District Day Centre |
| Susan Thompson | Capability Scotland |
| Sue Trafford | Age Concern Scotland (A/E) |
| Kate Nutt | Annandale & Eskdale CVS (Chair) |

Apologies

Registered Members:-

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| Audrey Dorrance | Kirkpatrick Fleming CC |
| Judith Johnson | Langholm Initiative |
| Rhona McCarton | Clip ICT |
| Brian Patterson | Volunteer Action |
| Doris Porteous | Kirkpatrick Fleming CC |
| Beryl Pretty | Annandale & Eskdale Family Support Group |
| Brenda Waugh | D&G CAS |

Non-registered members:-

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Delegate | Parents Inclusion Network |
| Elaine Lamont | SHAP |
| Grace Cardozo | LGBT |
| Kate Turk | Langholm Day Centre |
| Mary McCartney | Gretna TARA |

In attendance:-

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Marie Jackson | Stewartry CVS (from 11.30 am on) |
| Nancy Hannah | Administrator, Annandale & Eskdale CVS (AECVS) |

Kate Nutt welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out the apologies received. For the benefit of new members to the group, introductions were made of those present.

1 Minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2009

The content and layout of the above minutes were approved.

2 Matters arising

Legality of Community Councils on the 3SF

It was noted that there had been no formal feedback received on this matter and it was reiterated that Community Councils' participation was welcome on the Forum.

Procuring of items at reduced costs

It was noted that work to procure items at reduced costs, eg. insurance, had not yet been explored. Discussion followed on legal protection and the need for Public and Employer Liability insurance. Sports groups were having particular difficulty in accessing insurance cover, eg. for one-day events. Premiums for such events were high. The Village Halls had explored insurance, for comparison purposes, but the halls varied too much in build and design to amalgamate in any way for insurance purposes.

A question was raised as to where small organisations could seek Legal Aid/free advice. Kate Nutt suggested that the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) offered *members* 2 hours free advice pro bono. Advice provided thereafter was chargeable. Rosemary Flexney suggested a website (Professionals4Free) where consultants offer free advice.

- It was agreed to investigate this matter further and bring to the next meeting.

Mapping of third sector organisations

Kate Nutt stated that this was currently being discussed by the 4 local CVS and the Federation and it was hoped that funding could be secured towards the cost of the exercise. Ian Lindsay suggested that it would be beneficial to link in to the Community Councils for help as they had the best knowledge of groups in their areas.

3 General Business Discussion

Communication

At the last meeting it was agreed that papers received for circulation to the 3SF would be placed on the AECVS website and an e-mail sent to members letting them know. Kate Nutt mentioned that no information had been placed on AECVS website yet but that as and when papers were received this would be done. (www.aecvs.org.uk)

Logo

It was noted that the regional logo for the 3SF had been used on the agenda and papers. Members were asked if they would be prepared to adopt this logo for the A&E3SF. It was stated that a logo should reflect both voluntary organisations and national organisations that were not-for-profit (eg The Richmond Fellowship Scotland). It was also felt that the logo should reflect Annandale & Eskdale either by way of wording or a background map.

- It was agreed that Kate Nutt would have some options available for discussion at the next meeting.

Meeting time and day of the week

Members were asked if they were satisfied with the time and days of the week for meetings. Mornings were deemed as most suitable and it was agreed to rotate the days of the week.

Facilitation of meetings

Members were asked if they were agreeable to the AECVS continuing to chair/facilitate meetings or if they wished this to be rotated amongst member organisations.

- It was agreed that the AECVS was best placed to chair and facilitate the 3SF meetings and therefore should continue to do so.

Resumé of what member organisations do

For the next meeting it was agreed that it would be helpful to members if AECVS could collate and issue resumé's from each member organisations of what they actually do. Such a compilation would give a clearer knowledge and understanding to each member. Name cards at meeting were also thought to be beneficial. It was also agreed that there would be the opportunity for a question and answer session at the next meeting if people had any questions following receipt of the resúmes.

Rural Partnership

Kate Nutt explained that the Rural Partnership was a partnership made up of voluntary, community and statutory representation and is one of the key Community Planning structures in Annandale & Eskdale. It has 4 full meetings per year and usually 8 meetings of its Steering Group.

Kate stated that she was the current Chair of the Rural Partnership and that they were doing a review at present of its composition and role/remit. She alone represented the voluntary sector on the steering group and a second representative was now being sought from the 3SF.

Discussion followed on-

- Since the 3SF was not constituted, how would a member be elected if more than one nomination?
- Would such a nomination make the 3SF a member of the Rural Partnership?
- Is the 3SF too young a group to be making a representation?
- Would a representative adequately represent the views of the 3SF as a whole?
- If the 3SF became a member of the Rural Partnership, could they nominate a different person each time to attend?
- Could the Rural Partnership not just ask voluntary organisations who are members of the Rural Partnership to see who was willing?

It was agreed that Kate Nutt feed back the views of the 3SF which in summary were that they felt it was too soon for the 3SF to nominate someone to the steering group but they would like the opportunity at a later date when the 3SF is more established.

Councils for Voluntary Service & Volunteer Action

Kate Nutt made members aware that Scottish Government funding for the Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Action was to be different from 2011. From then there would be 32 pots of money (ie. one per Local Authority area) and they were seeking an 'interface' for the distribution of money. The CsVS and Volunteer Action were currently working together to achieve this goal and the 3SF would be kept updated on progress.

Papers circulated

Members' attention was drawn to the following papers issued and which would also be put onto the AECVS website:-

- Update on D&G Regional Economic Strategy
- Update on Community Planning Training Group
- Fairer Scotland Fund(FSF)

Kate Nutt could be contacted should anyone have any queries on these papers.

4 Agenda and date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting be on **Thursday 30 July 2009** at 10.30 am at the Somerton Hotel. Kate Nutt will e-mail members 3-4 weeks before the meeting for agenda items.

5 An overview of The Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme)

Kate Nutt introduced Marie Jackson from Stewartry CVS who had been invited to provide members with a better understanding of progress to date for the implementation in 2010 of changes to the current disclosure system for people who work with vulnerable groups.

Discussion ensued further to the many questions raised on the implications of the new legislation.

Information from Marie's presentation would be circulated to members with the minutes and any subsequent questions arising should be directed to Kate Nutt in the first instance.