

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND SENIOR CITIZENS NETWORK HELD AT INSHES CHURCH,
INVERNESS AND VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 24 APRIL 2023 AT 10:00**

Present: Ian McNamara, Chair
Isla Cuthbert
David Hannah
Robert Kay
Ann McKay
Brenda Nicolson
Joan Philip
Rob Polson (Zoom)
Irene Robertson

In

Attendance: Jo Cowan, Coordinator (Zoom)
Anne McDonald, Coordinator
Lynne McNeil, Highland Council Community Support Coordinator (Item 3)

Apologies – Brian Devlin, Lesley McDade, Bet McAllister and Donalda Mackenzie

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were as noted above. The Board was saddened to hear of the death of Bill McAllister and offered its condolences to Bet and her family.

2 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were none declared.

3 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Chair was pleased to welcome Lynne McNeil, Highland Council Community Support Coordinator, to the meeting. Explaining her role in supporting Inverness Community Partnership to develop a locality plan for the Inverness Area, Lynne outlined the key objectives of the plan to meet the needs and priorities of the people living in the area. It was acknowledged that each of the nine Community Partnerships would have their own specific needs, as well as shared priorities, and would develop their locality plans accordingly to reflect these. The importance of communities engaging in the process was highlighted. It was also important for people to get feedback on the implementation of the locality plans and reassurance that action was being taken. HSCN's newsletter was a valuable source of information and reflected older people's concerns and priorities. It was suggested a wider distribution of the newsletter, along with HSCN's information leaflet, among the Community Partnerships might be helpful in sharing information, keeping people connected and ensuring older people's voices were heard.

The Chair thanked Lynne for attending the meeting and updating the Board on the development of the Inverness Area locality plan.

4 NEW MEMBERS

The Board approved the two new individual applications received.

5 NEW TRUSTEES

There were no new Trustees.

6 MINUTE OF 27 MARCH 2023

The Minute of 27 March 2023 was approved subject to the inclusion of Robert in the membership of the group set up to develop the risk register.

Proposer: Joan Philip

Seconder: Robert Kay

7 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Policies Review

Robert gave a brief progress report on the work being done on the policies requiring further revision.

(b) HSCN Information Leaflet

A copy of the finalised revised leaflet was tabled and approved by the Board.

(c) Members' Survey of HSCN Priorities 2023 - 2025

It was agreed that the survey would not be sent out this month, as previously planned. A revised date would be set for its issue.

8 REGULAR REVIEWS

(a) Risk Register

Robert spoke to the tabled draft risk register which identified a range of risks faced by HSCN, and the action required to resolve them/mitigate their impact. These included succession planning, securing funding, promoting the organisation and increasing membership numbers. It was agreed to arrange a meeting of the Trustees to discuss the issues raised in more detail and consider the way forward.

(b) Highlights and Success Stories

The Board agreed the importance of maintaining a record of the positive outcomes achieved by the organisation against its work plan.

9 NEWS-SHEET

It was agreed that the next news-sheet would be devoted entirely to upcoming activities and events in Highland during May.

10 THREE YEAR WORK PLAN 2022 – 25

The Chair advised that the Fore Trust grant application he had reported on at the last meeting had not been successful.

11 OLDER PEOPLE'S CHAMPIONS – ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

The Board's attention was drawn to Loneliness Awareness Week which would be taking place from 12 – 18 June 2023.

12 COORDINATORS' REPORTS

The Coordinators' circulated activity reports for April were noted.

13 MEETINGS ATTENDED

Reports were received from Trustees on meetings attended as follows:

- Strategic Planning Group – Adult Social Care 13 April 2023 (Chair)

14 COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

The Board noted the circulated minute of the Communications Group meeting held on 17 April 2023. The Chair thanked Jo for all the work she had done to update the website and make it more user friendly. Consideration would be given to the possibility of having a donations button.

15 SCAMS AWARENESS PEER SPEAKING PILOT

Several groups across Highland had taken up the offer to have the presentation on scams awareness.

16 HSCN ANNUAL CONFERENCE 13 SEPTEMBER 2023

The arrangements for taking bookings for the annual conference and for reception/registration on the day were discussed.

17 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board received and noted the circulated financial statement for March 2023.

18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Highland Pride 22 July 2023

It was confirmed that HSCN would have a stall at this event in partnership with Age Scotland.

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held at Inshes Church, Inverness on Monday 29 May 2023. The Zoom facility will be available for members who cannot attend in person.