



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Minutes of a business meeting held on Wednesday, 2 December 2002 Held via Zoom because of coronavirus

**Present** James Adams, Andrew Burns (Convener), Becky Duff, Sean Duffy, Fiona Gillespie, Manish Joshi, Adam Lang, Brook Marshall, Kenneth Pinkerton, Theresa Shearer

**Apologies** Pauline Lunn

**In Attendance** Anna Fowlie, Tim Hencher, David McNeill, Gyll Curtis-Machin (observer)

#### 1 Welcome and apologies

Andrew Burns welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Gyll Curtis-Machin who was observing as part of an Inclusion Scotland shadowing programme.

#### 2 Conflicts of interest

There were no conflicts to report.

Manish Joshi suggested that notifiable events should also be included on the agenda for future meetings. Trustees agreed to this, and Anna Fowlie confirmed that there had been no notifiable events at SCVO

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#### 3 Minutes of previous meeting, held on 7 October 2020

- (a) The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting
- (b) The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting for publication
- (c) There were no matters arising that weren't covered elsewhere on the agenda
- (d) Trustees noted the updated Action Log.

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 October 2020 and approved the version for publication.

SM

#### 4 Membership update

Trustees noted the new, returning, and resigning members.

#### 5 Update from the Strategic Resources Committee (SRC) held on 18 November 2020

*Papers for this meeting had been posted to sharepoint*

As Chair of the committee, Fiona Gillespie reported that the 2020/21 budget position had improved, with the deficit continuing to reduce. Trustees welcomed the news that Scottish Government had confirmed their funding for SCVO's work on the response to the coronavirus pandemic and that the Minister for Business, Fair Work and Skills had confirmed the extension of Community Jobs Scotland until 31 March 2022. No information had yet been provided on the funding available for CJS or what government would expect to be delivered in terms of jobs.

Tim Hencher reported that preparation for next year's budget had already begun and he hoped to have a draft budget available for trustees earlier than in previous years.

#### *Property*

Fiona Gillespie reported that the SRC had considered SCVO's approach to property in light of the coronavirus pandemic in some detail. She set out the rationale for the way forward proposed in the paper and asked trustees to agree the framework. The proposal was that SCVO's role in relation to property both for its own use and for the voluntary sector is reviewed in light of the findings of research which has just begun on new ways of working, and organisations' emerging needs become clearer.

The SRC expected to have the findings of the research for their first meeting in the new year, and Trustees agreed that there should be a substantive item on the agenda of the next meeting to consider this in more depth in light of the SRC's work.

**The Board agreed the framework set out in the paper and to consider SCVO's approach to property in detail at the next meeting. TH**

## **6 Update from Strategic Development Committee (SDC) held on 19 November 2020**

*Papers for this meeting had been posted to sharepoint*

As Chair of the Committee, Sean Duffy reported that the committee had discussed the recommendations of the membership review and SCVO's new approach to Partners Suppliers. He highlighted the importance of a values-led approach, rather than a purely transactional relationship.

#### *Membership Review*

David McNeill talked to the paper which set out a proposed new, simplified membership structure and associated changes to fees. He also summarised the new membership package which has a much clearer value proposition for members.

The proposed benefits package recognises members' interest in more exclusive benefits and collects everything SCVO offers together rather than the current situation of several separate elements.

Trustees agreed that the proposal was excellent and discussed:

- Flexibility to recognise the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on voluntary organisations' finances
- The importance of retention of existing members as well as recruiting new members
- Different fee options The importance of communications with Members.

They agreed that focusing on increasing volume of members rather than increasing income would be the best approach, and that further modelling was required before coming to a final agreement. The SDC was meeting again in January to consider the proposals.

Any changes to fees required members' approval. For the implementation date of 1 April to be possible, an EGM or at least an online vote would be required.

**The Board approved the proposed changes in principle, subject to further modelling and noted the need for approval from SCVO members. The Board agreed that the final proposal could be approved by email if required to meet the implementation timescale.**

DM

#### *The Gathering 2021*

David McNeill reported that work had begun on planning next year's Gathering. The coronavirus restrictions and the fact that the SECC was still being used as the Louisa Jordan Hospital meant that there would not be a physical event in February, regardless of whether vaccines had been rolled out.

Trustees discussed:

- Timing, taking account of the Scottish Parliament elections in May
- Possible links to COP26

Trustees noted that work had begun with political parties on influencing manifestos and the Policy Team were exploring hustings. In relation to COP26, trustees agreed that was an opportunity to showcase Scottish civil society to an international audience. James Adams suggested contacting Glasgow City Council senior elected members to discuss a reception or similar event.

DM

## 7 Strategic Plan 2019/22 – Progress Report

Anna Fowlie introduced the report which highlighted progress on the activities contained in the Strategic Plan since the last meeting on 7 October and invited comments and questions. She reported that the Senior Leadership Team had met with Andrew Strachan from Nesta who had shared his experience of using Salesforce to capture and report on impact.

Trustees were happy with the report and the work that SCVO had been doing. They agreed that evidence of impact is a work in progress, and that few organisations had perfected that. Future reports should show the interconnectedness of work and the reason it's making a difference to the organisation, members and the wider sector. They also agreed that a closer look at particular elements in Board meetings would be helpful.

**The Board agreed that the report was useful at every meeting, and that further work was necessary on impact. The Board also agreed that it would be useful to focus on particular elements in more detail.**

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## 8 Risk

No new risks had been identified during the meeting.

## 9 AOCB

None

## 10 Next meetings.

**The schedule of meetings for 2021 was agreed, with the addition of a meeting of the Strategic Resources Committee in January.**

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