

Central Region Network Committee – 25 August, 2009

Minute Number: 13

Venue: Thistle House Edinburgh

Present:

Helen Forrest (Chair)	Clackmannanshire T&R Federation
Jack Hardman	Clackmannanshire T&R Federation
Alex Lamb	Stirling Tenants assembly
Danny Mullen	LOBS T&R Association
Susan Robertson	Delphwood T&R Association
Moira Robertson	Strathfillan Housing Group
Helen Campbell	Paragon T&R Association
Jean Murray	Paragon T&R Association

In Attendance: Michael Boal Scottish Government Tenant Priorities Team

Apologies:

Hugh McClung	Stirling Tenants Assembly
Donald Budge	Stirling Tenants Assembly
Geoff Morgan	Breton & Corentin Court Residents Association
Therese Mullen	LOBS T&R Association

Item	Subject Matter	Action
1.	Welcome Helen expressed a warm welcome to everyone in attendance.	
2. 2.1	Minute of Previous Meeting Minute of meeting held on 26 June was approved on a motion by Jean Murray seconded by Susan Robertson.	
3. 3.1 3.2	Matters arising 3.1 Moira offered her congratulations to the Secretary for his wide-ranging response to the Draft Housing Bill consultation. 3.2 Michael informed members that Central Regional Network's response had been forwarded to Alex Neil, Minister for Communities and Housing.	
4. 4.1 4.2 4.3	Bank Account 4.1 Danny provided his signature in the designated line of the mandate form. 4.2 Secretary advised to write to Anne Cook requesting funding to be transferred into the bank account. Michael advised that details of the account number and sort code be included. 4.3 Michael stated he was seeking clarification in regards to paying	Danny

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	<p>expenses to those who use their own computers for Network business. He advised it would be legitimate to pay expenses to the Secretary for replacement print cartridges, paper, postage, telephone etc. Receipts would require to be provided for all expense claims.</p>	Susan/Michael
5.	Correspondence and Information Feedback	
5.1	<p>Chairs Meeting with Alex Neil – A meeting has been arranged for Networks Chairs to meet with Alex Neil on Wednesday 16 September at 9am in the Scottish Parliament. The reason for the meeting is for Chairs to advise the Minister on the key responses to the Draft Housing Bill consultation.</p>	
5.2	<p>Web sub-group - Danny presented a brief outline of the points discussed at the Web Sub-group meeting held on 3 August. A number of technical and design layout matters had been discussed and these would be forwarded to Whitespace for answers. Web sub-group had agreed that two members of each Network would be trained in updating their own webpage with one overall administrator taking responsibility for the National pages.</p>	
5.3	<p>Website Training – Geoff has given notice that he will be on holiday on the date chosen for website training. Members agreed Danny should take his place and accompany Hugh.</p>	Hugh/Danny
5.4	<p>Visit to Scottish Parliament – Danny reported he has provisionally arranged an accompanied visit to the Scottish Parliament with Ms Fiona Hyslop MSP hosting. The date best suited to Ms Hyslop is Wednesday 30 September at 3pm. Members agreed the date and time as suitable and requested Danny firm up arrangements for the visit. Michael agreed to write members advising details of the visit once Danny had confirmed details to him. Members also agreed to cancel the meeting scheduled for Tuesday 29 September.</p>	Danny/Michael
6.	Constituency Updates	
6.1	<p>West Lothian – Danny reported that 2 Housing Networks were now established covering both the east and west of the county. Both Networks are currently working towards launching their new website in October. Funding for the website development was secured via the RTO Grant Funding stream established by the Scottish Government.</p>	
6.2	<p>Stirling – Moira reported that Stirling Tenants Assembly were currently updating their website which would have a new look and updated content. She also informed members that Stirling Council</p>	

<p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p>	<p>was presently undergoing an inspection by the Scottish Housing Regulator. Tenants had been kept up to date on the Council’s inspection submission through membership of the Housing Advisory Group. Stirling Council is proceeding with its allocations review in partnership with tenant representatives.</p> <p>Paragon Housing – Jean advised that due to the holiday period not much activity could be reported. Jean is personally involved in drafting a funding application pertinent to regeneration work.</p> <p>Clackmannanshire – Helen reported tenants were looking at setting up a website. Tenants and the Council will be review the Tenant Participation Strategy soon. The Council are currently consulting on their updated Business Plan.</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p>	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <p>Michael advised members that 70% of those who registered an opinion re the design of the LOGO had agreed to change the wording to reflect tenants and residents working in partnership with government. The design change was likely to take a little time.</p> <p>Michael reported that the next Networks Conference was likely to be held in Glasgow around the end of November 2009. All members of the networks will be given an opportunity to influence the agenda.</p> <p>Moira advised that she had been receiving a number of mailings recently from the Regeneration Department of the Scottish Government. In all the letters she has received she has been addressed as ‘Dear Community Activist’. Moira queried whether her personal details were being improperly shared by departments and if anything could be done to stop this occurring. Other members reported they had also been receiving the same correspondence.</p>	<p>Tenants Priorities Team</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Close of Meeting There being no other business Chair closed the meeting.</p> <p>Next Meeting to be held in Thistle House, Edinburgh on Tuesday 3 November 2009 at 11am.</p>	