

# Central Region Network Committee – 16 March 2010

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**Minute Number:** 16

**Venue:** Europa Building,  
Glasgow

**Present:**

Hugh McClung (Chair)	Stirling Tenants Assembly
Alex Lamb	Stirling Tenants Assembly
Therese Mullen	LOBS T&R Association
Danny Mullen	LOBS T&R Association
Susan Robertson	Delphwood T&R Association
Helen Forrest	Clackmannanshire T&R Federation
Moira Robertson	Strathfillan Housing Group
Helen Campbell	Paragon T&R Association
Jean Murray	Paragon T&R Association
Geoff Morgan	Breton & Corentin Court Residents Association

**In Attendance:**

Michael Boal	Scottish Government Tenant Priorities Team
Ann Bailey	Scottish Government Tenant Priorities Team

**Apologies:** None

Item	Subject Matter	Action
1.	<b>Welcome</b> Chair welcomed members to a new venue and thanked them for their attendance. Moira welcomed the opportunity to meet in Glasgow, particularly as it was easier for her to get here. Members agreed the move to Glasgow presented little difficulties to them.	
2.	<b>Minute of Previous Meeting</b> Minute of 3 February 2010 approved on a motion by Jean Murray seconded by Susan Robertson.	
3.	<b>Matters arising</b>	
3.1	<b>Scottish Housing Regulator Working Group</b> – Danny advised that this item would be on the agenda for the next Chairs and Secretaries Meeting on 14 April.	
3.2	<b>Tenants Priorities Working Group</b> – Therese queried whether the working group was still operational as she had been advised a meeting was to have been arranged in January. Michael advised he was unaware that a meeting of the working group was to have been arranged. Laura Gilbert is the lead officer dealing with the development of the Social Housing Charter (SHC). Michael further advised that tenant involvement in development of the SHC would be	

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3.3	<p>significant later in the year.</p> <p><b>Regional Networks Website</b> – Geoff asked why the website was not being updated on a regular basis. Michael replied that the main administrator had not been updating the home page as agreed. Ann Bailey from the Priorities Team was carrying out this function on a minimal basis. Individual Regions were also experiencing difficulties and the need for further training will be looked at. Danny reassured members that CRN webpage was being regularly updated with announcements and agreed minutes.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b></p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.3</p>	<p><b>Correspondence and Reports</b></p> <p><b>Jack Hardman</b> – Letter received from Jack advising that due to his wife’s declining health he regretfully had to tender his resignation from the committee. Danny was requested to write Jack acknowledging his contribution to the Regional Network and to wish him and his wife our sincere appreciation.</p> <p><b>Local Government &amp; Communities Committee</b> – Letter of acknowledgement re our letter inviting the committee to hold an evidence gathering meeting in West Lothian. The clerk to the committee had advised the committee would not be able to accept our invitation on this occasion.</p> <p><b>Ministerial Sounding Board</b> – Hugh advised members that the Chairs and Secretaries had agreed at their meeting on 19 January to appoint Danny to represent the Regional Networks on the Ministerial Sounding Board dealing with the Housing (Scotland) Bill. The remit of the Sounding Board is to oversee the Bill’s progress and to consider relevant amendments prior to stage 2.</p>	<p>Danny</p> <p>Danny</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p>	<p><b>Annual General Meeting</b></p> <p>Michael informed members that he had issued confirmation letters to those intimating their attendance. Included with the confirmation letter was a copy of last year’s AGM Minute for approval and/or amending.</p> <p>Members approved the agenda items and order of business. Danny to contact Sharon Donohoe (TIS) re presentation and discussion on Social Housing Charter. Danny will also issue invites to Anne Cook and Ann Bailey.</p> <p>Susan and Helen agreed to welcome attendees and to distribute expenses.</p>	<p>Michael</p> <p>Danny</p> <p>Susan/Helen</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p> <p>6.1</p>	<p><b>Regional Networks Event</b></p> <p>Hugh reported the event preparations were well in hand. Alex Neil and William Fleming had agreed to attend and speak at the event. The Social Housing Charter would feature as a main theme of the conference. Discussions on the future role of the Scottish Housing Regulator and the Progress of the Networks would form the basis of 2 workshops led by Hugh and Kevin Patterson (Region 9). Members</p>	<p>Hugh</p>

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6.2	attending the event will have the opportunity to attend both workshops. The event sub-committee had agreed that Jim Maryniak (Region 5) would undertake the role of conference manager with Kevin Patterson (Region 9) undertaking role of vice chair.	
6.3	As part of the ongoing development of Regional Networks autonomy the Tenants Priorities Team is encouraging the Regions to take responsibility for the management and payment of expenses to all those attending the event. Hugh asked Central Regional Network to consider undertaking this responsibility. Michael advised that appropriate levels of cash would be deposited in CRN's account to cover expenses. Payment to attendees could be made in cash if less than £15 and by cheque if over £15. Taking into consideration the Treasurer's views, it was decided that Susan and Helen carry out this function on behalf of all Networks. Michael to advise the Tenants Priorities Team of the decision.	Susan/Helen  Michael
<b>7.</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
7.1	Susan reported the bank balance now stood at £710.19. Members noted the current financial position.	Susan
<b>8.</b>	<b>Constituency Updates</b>	
8.1	<b>Rural Stirling</b> – Moira reported that Rural Stirling Housing Association had secured an additional 7 new build houses to its current portfolio.	
8.2	<b>Clackmannanshire</b> – Helen advised that preparations were well in hand for the joint Tenants Conference on the 5 June.	
8.3	<b>Stirling Council</b> – Hugh informed members that the revised eviction process for rent arrears was causing some concern in that actual rent arrears had shown a marked increase since the introduction of the new policy.	
8.4	<b>Grangemouth</b> – Jean informed members of her group's involvement in a 'litter push' and that school children were assisting with the design of a poster highlighting the event.	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Other Competent Business</b>	
9.1	<b>Tenant Priorities Newsletter</b> – members were supplied with a copy of the newsletter.	
9.2	<b>Networks Training</b> – Members were advised that the final sessions of the pilot training programme are complete and that an evaluation would put in place.	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Close of Meeting</b>	
10.1	Members agreed the next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 May in Highlander House, Glasgow at 11am.	
10.2	That being all the business Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting.	