

COMMUNITIES 1ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom

Attendees: Please refer to recorded list at end

1. **Welcome**

Stuart Nagler welcomed everyone to the first AGM of Communities 1st. Communities 1st was formed in Oct 2018 when Community Hertsmere and CVS St Albans (Community Central) came together.

• **Review of the year**

Stuart reminded attendees of the role of the organisation:

Inspiring people & organisations to action: through volunteering, through donating money or resources to make a positive contribution to the life of the community.

Connecting people & organisations across all sections of society: helping to create the social networks across our communities, including the social economy, commercial economy and public sector economy to instigate positive change.

Influencing decision makers: to listen to local residents, charities, community groups and social enterprises, who have a voice to shape key decisions about the local community.

Developing charities, social enterprises & projects: building the capabilities of existing local organisations to meet identified priorities and needs within our local community and helping to set up new charities, social enterprises and projects that meet identified priorities and needs within our local community.

Targeting our support to the most vulnerable within society and the more deprived neighbourhoods within our community. We aim to provide help where it is most needed and where our impact can make the most difference.

During March 2020 planning was underway to see how we could best respond to Covid19. The Compassionate Community Connector programme was developed. Thousands of volunteers were recruited to deliver practical support to many individuals with tasks such as shopping, prescription collections dog walking and keeping in touch via friendly phone calls. This has been the main activity for the past 6 months, now we are beginning to return to our usual activities.

Stuart thanked the trustees, staff and also all the volunteers who delivered in excess of 15,000 hours of support helping to deliver all C1st services (pre-pandemic).

The impact report can be found at www.communities1st.org.uk/annualreport

2. **Trustee elections**

Stuart announced that he was standing down as a trustee.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, as this the first AGM, all directors/Trustees must retire from office and then be elected.

The proposal was that all Trustees step down 'on-block'.

All Trustees other than Stuart Nagle have agreed to stand for re-election.

It was proposed that all remaining directors/Trustees to be re-elected all-together.

Stuart Nagler proposed and Chris Bowles seconded the proposals. All present agreed.

A new Chair will be formally 'elected' by the Trustees at the Trustee Board meeting next week

3. **Accounts**

Ross Gemmell presented the accounts for the period to 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

There was an income of £546,029, expenditure of £440,729 and a surplus carried forward of £105,300. As a result of the merger in 2019, the reserves of CVS St Albans and Community Action Hertsmere were transferred to Communities 1st. £89,703 was transferred from CVS St Albans to Communities 1st. £34,920 was transferred as restricted reserves and spent whilst the balance of £54,783 was attributed to general reserves for St. Albans work. Additionally, arising from this merger a sum of £5,359 was transferred from Community Action Hertsmere to Communities 1st and allocated to general reserves

It had been a positive year, core funding was from St Albans District Council and Hertsmere Borough Council and income streams from the hire of community centres and community transport. The major elements of expenditure were staffing and property costs.

Restricted funds of £34,920 were spent on a Supported Volunteering Project. Reasonable reserves have been set aside for contingencies.

The accounts were agreed.

4. **Appointment of auditors**

Caplan associates were re-appointed for the next financial year.

5. **AOB**

On behalf of all the Trustees, Sue Pearlman thanked Stuart Nagler for all his hard work and commitment to Community Hertsmere and Communities 1st.

Jason John was the Chair elect and his appointment would be confirmed at the next Board Meeting.

List of Attendees

Aimee Martindale	Peggy Sharp
Alice Loukaides	Penny Williams
Amanda Moss	Prashanth Soans
Ann Harrison	Raihaanah Ahmed
Ann Rogers	Rex Dunwoody
Audrey Mitchell	Robert Varney
Bianca Badham	Ross Gemmell
Carmen Dillon	Ross Hopcroft
Chris Bowles	Sarah Yexley
Christopher Cloke	Sarah Holloway
Debi Roberts	Stephen Craker
Divina Sangster	Stuart Nagler
Emma Naef	Sue Pearlman
Helen Ives-Rose	Tom Watkins
Hemant Mistry	Vicky Hudson
Hilary Shade	Zaitun Sadikali
Igor Novokreshchenov	
Isobel Hatfield	
Jacqui Taylor	
Jason John	
Jess Duggal	
Joy Dobbs	
Joyce Fraser	
June Chapman	
Karl Wilding	
Kate Mackay	
Katie Turner	
Lisa Smith	
Mala Mulholland	
Maria Cutler	
Melanie Peeke	
Mohammad Iqbal Zia	
Monita Marwaha	
Nicholas Leverton	
Nicola Marven	
Pam Cousins	
Patricia Egau	