

GLENURQUHART CARE PROJECT

Scottish Charity SC023575 Company no. 157417



MINUTES OF 20TH OPEN & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at THE GLENURQUHART CENTRE, DRUMNADROCHIT WEDNESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2015 AT 2 PM

1. PRESENT

(Patron) Dr Joanne Sutherland; **Members:** Clare Dixon-Carter, Neil MacInnes, Edward Redmond, Allan Lemon, Vanessa Ferguson, Alan Bell, Jan Bell, Elizabeth Owen, Dick Beech, Erik Trlefrer, Jean Davis, Angela MacLean, Dethy MacLean, Anne MacDonald, Angus MacLean, Peter Wilkes, Isabell Young, Ken Fraser, Sylvia Fraser, Mamie Girvan, Diane Norris

Staff: Paula Cooper, Sheila Lumsden, Petra Young, Eileen Gauld, 3 others!

Friends, Centre Clients, Guests: Pam Lucas, Carol Masheter, Kate Stephen 12-15 Service Users
Edward Redmond (Convener) chaired

2. APOLOGIES

Dianne Fraser, Cllr Margaret Davidson, James McLardy; David Fraser, Peter MacDonald, Heather Redmond, Ann MacInnes, Donellan Mackenzie, Lesley Inglis, Mike Cowman

3. VICE-CONVENER'S ADDRESS (Summary)

Edward welcomed everyone.

~Dianne stepped down as Convener earlier this year, and more recently from the Board as her work required a lot of travelling. She is sorely missed and we thank her for her many years' contribution. We were very sad that Manager Carolanne left us in late spring, for a career change. She did much towards the Centre's 15th anniversary summer event and left an excellent team working seamlessly. After a gap seeking a new Manager, by good luck Paula offered interim help, and was appointed permanently in August. She has had a big effect in three months

~GCP now has two well run arms, Day Care and Home Care, both important to the Community in avoiding unnecessary stays in hospital. At a recent NHS presentation they noted the £350/night cost of a bed vs £40/night for support at home.

~We are working jointly with 'Beaulay Cares' and Dr James McLardy developing services in their area.

~We are very pleased that in January the Care Commission awarded us Grade 6 in all categories. Congratulations to our hardworking team

~'Fertile soil leads to growth'. After a lead from David Fraser we were fortunate to appoint Susan Clark, well known locally, in February as Project Manager to look at ownership of the land adjacent to us for supported Housing.

~He paid tribute to:

-the staff, for pulling out all the stops whilst without a leading Manager

-the Friends for their coffee mornings and much fund-raising support

-Board colleagues, particularly after losing Dianne. It is a good Board but we urgently seek new Trustee/Directors and skills.

~The future is exciting but challenging. The NHS is under pressure and we have to meet high standards. We have to work even harder due to our rural situation. Politicians need to realise the local employment we provide.(Scotland now has 750k people working in Care, 40k of whom are young

~Winter weather makes Care harder. We have worked with SSE to keep continuity of services

~We aim to help in providing our people lively and interesting lives

4. . GCP HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE

Susan Clark thanked Soirbheas for their £10k funding cheque, presented today

She is working with a team to develop 12 supported houses adjacent to the Centre. We have been lucky to have confirmed a Scottish Land Fund grant 2 weeks ago to purchase the land into community ownership. Next is to seek funds to construct the housing and the money for this is partly funded. Susan has had community views on the proposals but seeks more. This housing is for our community. Our current timescale, if funded, is aiming for housing available in 18-24 months

5. CARE ISSUES- DR KATE STEPHEN

Kate has been a UHI researcher in Rural Health and Wellbeing.

She was honoured to be invited and 'gobsmacked' at the number present here, but evidence that success breeds success.

The use of Technology in Care is mainly about supporting good care, people and services. Many think it is not very relevant but, for Technology has helped, for example:

- a retired theatre nurse was 3-6 weeks in rehab (a gall bladder issue) and is now attending for 1 night only

- Intensive Care defibrillators – previously people died in their sleep. Now an implant monitor sends messages to Aberdeen to have a corrective feedback sent

There are many other examples. Next Monday there will be a Technology-enabled roadshow.

~There is a huge Dementia challenge developing. More and more people come home with long-term support needs. Social changes lead to more loneliness and rurality issues.

~We hoped the NHS £300/night bedcost savings would go towards Social Care budgets but this has not happened. We are faced with bigger demands with less resources.

~ GCP has people, and many ways in which they can help:

- Helpcall helpers are often older friends, possibly not able to respond. The Glen Centre could be a 'name' for such people

- Isolation is found to be one of the killers. We can help here with technology offering simple devices; tablet-sized communicators are available, even allowing interactive links.

- The GlenCentre could act as a 'virtual Glen care community.

6. COMMENTS & Q&A

Q. The cost of the tablet devices?

A. about £50 to £500 each

Q.(Pam) Is there more information on our co-working with Beaulieu Cares?

A. They mainly seek to share costs, and ideas. They do not yet have a fixed base.

Q (Pam) Are we separating out the risk of running a Housing Project?

A. GCP are developing a subsidiary Limited Company to manage it

Q (Dick) Is 'Beaulieu Cares' linked to GCP?

A. It is a separate body. It is starting a walking group, a lunch club, owns a minibus, enables good social interaction, has 'Mens Shed' (Beaulieu shinty ground). GCP and BC talk well together

Q (Alan) How would the Centre manage when closed, if it were to be a help-call responder?

A.(Kate) The responder does not have to be in the building.

6. AGM BUSINESS

a. MINUTES OF 19th AGM 11th Dec 2014 and Matters Arising

The Minutes were agreed, for signing

There were no Matters Arising from them

b. DIRECTORS REPORT AND 2015 AUDITED ACCOUNTS

These had been approved by the Directors and copies were made available for those wishing them.

Edward noted the 2015 deficit and the Board were carrying out full review of this.

c. RE-APPOINTMENT/APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR/TRUSTEES

(i) Clare Dixon-Carter retired as a Director,

- (ii) existing GCP Director/Trustees Edward Redmond and Vanessa Ferguson continue their terms
- (iii) Allan Lemon and Neil MacInnes were proposed for re-appointment [Resolution under M&A C112]. GCP Members approved the re-appointments.
- (iv) There remain 3 Director/Trustee vacancies.

d. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Current auditors Johnston Carmichael were willing to continue and it was agreed they be re-appointed.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Clare Dixon-Carter was stepping down from the Board after serving since the Centre's 2000 opening. Neil noted the Board's gratitude and appreciation for all her work for GCP – particularly her skills in relaying our users' ideas and concerns, and in keeping 'commonsense' to the fore of decisions! We wish her well for the future.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at about 3.30pm