



Grants and Community Services Forum

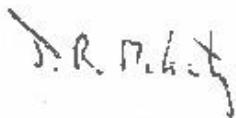
**Meeting: Thursday, 21st January 2016 at 6.00 pm in Meeting Room 1,
North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP**

Membership:	<p>Robin Agascar – Chair (Gay-Glos) Catherine Kevis (Gloucestershire Association for Voluntary and Community Action (GAVCA) Pauline Reynolds (Gloucestershire African and Caribbean Association) Anne Whitworth (Gloucester Law Centre) Mike Harrison (Hucclecote Community Association) Michael Teesdale (Abbeydale Community Association)</p> <p>Councillor Usman Bhaimia Councillor Kathy Williams Councillor David Brown Councillor Gerald Dee Councillor Terry Pullen Councillor Hannah Norman Councillor Jennie Dallimore, Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods (ex-officio role)</p> <p>Gareth Hooper, Senior Engagement and Partnerships Officer Ed Pomfret, Health Partnerships and Engagement Manager</p>
Contact:	<p>Parvati Diyar Democratic Services Officer 01452 396192 parvati.diyar@gloucester.gov.uk</p>

AGENDA

1.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence.</p>
2.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>To receive from Members, declarations of the existence of any disclosable pecuniary, or non-pecuniary, interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item. Please see Agenda Notes.</p>
3.	<p>MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)</p> <p>To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2015.</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)</p> <p>The opportunity is given to members of the public to put questions to Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs provided that a question does not relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters which are the subject of current or pending legal proceedings, or • Matters relating to employees or former employees of the Council or comments in respect of individual Council Officers
<p>5.</p>	<p>PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)</p> <p>To receive any petitions and deputations provided that no such petition or deputation is in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters relating to individual Council Officers, or • Matters relating to current or pending legal proceedings
<p>6.</p>	<p>WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS) IN GLOUCESTER</p> <p>To receive an update on the work undertaken since the last Forum meeting exploring options to support future working together between Gloucester City Council and the VCS in Gloucester.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>VOLUNTARY SECTOR UPDATE</p> <p>To receive updates from the voluntary sector.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Thursday 14 July 2016 at 18.00 hours.</p>



Jon McGinty
Managing Director

Date of Publication: Wednesday, 13 January 2016

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 as follows –

<u>Interest</u>	<u>Prescribed description</u>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's area. For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the Council's area for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) – (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where – (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the Council's area and (b) either – i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or ii. If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, your spouse or civil partner or person with

whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose, “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

NOTE: the requirements in respect of the registration and disclosure of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and withdrawing from participating in respect of any matter where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest apply to your interests and those of your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner where you are aware of their interest.

Access to Information

Agendas and reports can be viewed on the Gloucester City Council website: www.gloucester.gov.uk and are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

For further details and enquiries about this meeting please contact Parvati Diyar, 01452 396192, parvati.diyar@gloucester.gov.uk.

For general enquiries about Gloucester City Council’s meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk.

If you, or someone you know cannot understand English and need help with this information, or if you would like a large print, Braille, or audio version of this information please call 01452 396396.

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Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the Public and Press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

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- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building; gather at the assembly point in the car park and await further instructions;
- Do not re-enter the building until told by a member of staff or the fire brigade that it is safe to do so.



GRANTS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FORUM

MEETING : Thursday, 16th July 2015

PRESENT : Councillor David Brown
Councillor Gerald Dee
Councillor Terry Pullen
Councillor Hannah Norman
Robin Agascar, Gay- Glos
Barrie Wyatt, GAVCA
Gary Loftus, Forever Manchester

Ex-Officio Member

Councillor Jennie Dallimore, Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods

Officers in Attendance

Gareth Hooper, Senior Engagement and Partnerships Officer

APOLOGIES : Councillor Usman Bhaimia, Councillor Kathy Williams, Pauline Reynolds (Gloucestershire African and Caribbean Association), Anne Whitworth (Gloucester Law Centre), Mike Harrison (Hucclecote Community Association), Michael Teesdale (Abbeydale Community Association) and Helen Black (GAVCA)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Robin Agascar was appointed Chair for the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 29 January 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

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4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no questions from members of the public.

5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no petitions or deputations.

6. WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS) IN GLOUCESTER

The Forum considered an update on the work undertaken to date to explore options for future joint working between Gloucester City Council and the Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) in Gloucester.

Barrie Wyatt advised the Forum that two meetings had been organised by GAVCA with the VCS in May and June. The Forum noted that these meetings had intended to explore areas of common concern and approaches to future joint working.

The Forum noted that the meeting with the Council's new Managing Director, scheduled for Thursday 23 July, had been rearranged and would now be held in either August or September.

Barrie Wyatt advised that a number of themes had been identified at the meetings with the VCS. It was also noted that the following areas of focus had been identified:

1. Role of the VCS
2. Role of Gloucester City Council
3. Reasons for joint working between the VCS and Gloucester City Council

Barrie Wyatt suggested communities were better served by working together and establishing shared values. He also suggested continued joint working between the VCS and Council should be explored to help establish clear working relationships.

Members of the Forum recognised the challenges facing the VCS and highlighted the decline in funding and the impact this had on engagement within the VCS.

Barrie Wyatt suggested the meeting with the Council's new Managing Director would be a step forward in establishing a new working relationship and would potentially allow the Council and the VCS to make a more significant impact in communities in Gloucester.

Robin Agascar advised the Forum that he had attended a meeting organised by GAVCA and commented that all present at the meeting had recognised the considerable changes within the VCS. He suggested the discussions were useful for agreeing a new direction for the Forum in the future.

Councillor Dallimore reminded the Forum that despite the changes the Council had continued to engage with the VCS on a daily basis.

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It was noted that despite cuts in funding, the Council was still the most generous authority within the county and was committed to supporting the VCS.

Councillor Dallimore stated that any proposals for changes to the Forum would have to be presented to the Council's Constitutional and Electoral Working Group before being considered by Council.

Councillor Dee queried if the Gateway Trust had any involvement with the Forum. He was advised by Councillor Dallimore that they currently had no involvement with the Forum but that they could be invited to future meetings.

Councillor Brown questioned what could be done to ensure members of the VCS felt valued.

Councillor Dallimore suggested it was important to understand what being valued meant before considering what could be done to achieve this.

Barrie Wyatt suggested partnership working between the VCS and the City Council was one way of showing appreciation for members of the VCS.

Robin Agascar suggested the decline in voluntary structures had reduced the number of opportunities for the VCS to voice their concerns.

Councillor Dallimore advised the Forum that the Council still engaged with the VCS and cited the Safer Gloucester Partnership as an example.

The Senior Engagement and Partnerships Officer advised the Forum that it was important to consider how funding is allocated within the VCS to determine the best ways to assist communities.

Members of the Forum agreed that there had been substantial changes within the VCS and that it was important for the Forum to adapt to reflect these changes.

7. VOLUNTARY SECTOR UPDATE

Robin Agascar advised the Forum that many organisations in the VCS had tailored the delivery of their services following changes to the sector.

Barrie Wyatt advised the Forum that there was a shared feeling across the sector that more was being demanded of the VCS.

Councillor Dallimore suggested it would be useful to have further details of the increased demands being faced by the VCS. She was advised by Barrie Wyatt that GAVCA produced an annual survey which could be shared with the Forum.

Councillor Dallimore advised the Forum that she was not aware of any grant funded organisations that had been forced to close.

The Forum noted that several social enterprise groups had been created at neighbourhood level and were performing well.

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8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21st January 2016 at 18:00 hours.

Time of commencement: 18:00 hours

Time of conclusion: 19:05 hours

Chair