

Gloucestershire Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday
September 27 2011



Attendees: GAVCA Members

Sally	Byng	Barnwood Trust
John	Beattie	Bishop's Cleeve Village Hall
Nasreen	Akhtar	Ethnic Minorities History Project
Rose	Acock	Furniture Recycling Project
Robin	Agascar	Gay-Glos
Pat	Scannel	Tredworth Residents and Tenants Association
Adele	Owen	Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers
Jenny	Hopkins	Gloucestershire Deaf Association
Howard	Francis	Gloucestershire Ethnic Minority Business Association
Khoboso	Hargura	Kargi Pastoralist Link
Terry	Haines	Severn Athletic Club
Lynette	Hurley	GAVCA individual Member - Trustee
Jo	Brown	Third Sector Services
Albert	Gardiner	7 th Day Adventist Youth Circuit
Kevin	Holt	Gloucestershire Enterprise Ltd
Matthew	Ward	Independence Trust
Peter	Cripps	Glofolk
Elisabeth	Skinner	GAVCA Individual member : Trustee – proxy vote
Kathy	Tasker	Young Gloucestershire – proxy vote
Natalie	Wadley	National Star College – proxy vote
Imran	Atcha	Gymnation / Friendship Café – proxy vote
Lawrence	Hughes	Fair shares Gloucestershire – proxy vote

Attendees: non members

FirstName	Surname	Organisation
Bob	Lewis	
Lamarana	Jalloh	
Camilla	Hale	Stroud Preservation Trust
Frances	Roden	Stroud District Council
Lindsey	Saysell	Glo-Active
Sherry	James	Glo-Active
Baz	Williams	A4E
Dave	Kearley	A4E
Tess	Liebschner	Gloucester City Council
Riki	Moody	Gloucester City Council
Des	Thomas	Gloucester City Council
Philip	Booth	Guideposts Trust
Rachel	Anstey	Hucclecote Police Station
Adam	Poole	Hucclecote Police Station

Val	Baker	Job Centre Plus
Sandra	Norman	Longlevens Neighbourhood Partnership
Steve	Jordan	Cheltenham Borough Council - Leader
Martin	Horwood	Martin Horwood MP for Cheltenham
Rachel	Hankins	RZ Hankins Consultancy

GAVCA Staff Attendees

Angela	Gilbert	Sally	Pickering
Susan	Urch	Hannah	Gorf
Mary	Boucher	Honey	Lucas
Jane	Jarman	Charlee	Kay
Gabi	Gogan	John	Gray
Jess	McQuail	Roisin	Harte

Apologies

Hazel	Lonsdale	Third Sector Services
Lavinia	Sidgwick	Summerfield Charitable Trust
Derry	Cleaton	Shire Training Workshops Ltd
Eileen	Summers	Royal Forest of Dean Angling Club
Alex	Corgier	Home-Start (Stroud & Dursley)
Bharti	Patel	Gloucestershire Lifestyles
Paul	James	Gloucester City Council
Brendan	Conboy	Door Youth Project
Rosemary	Lynn	Cotswold District Council
Jennifer	Taylor	Cotswold District Council
Geoffrey	Clifton-Brown	Cotswold District Council
Pat	Ayres	Cirencester Support and Self Help Group
Theresa	Watt	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (Gloucestershire)
Carole	Watson	Barnardo's In Gloucestershire
Christina	Snell	Age UK (Gloucestershire)
Gina	Butler	
Rachel	Wright	Gloucestershire County Council
Tim	Fretter	Forest Voluntary Action Forum
Clare	Levay	Allsorts
Jane	Griffiths	Cheltenham Borough Council
Julius	Marstrand	GOPA
Chris	Blick	Volunteer & Community Action (Stroud District) Limited
Pam	Graham	Crossroads Care (Forest of Dean and Herefordshire)
Diana	Docksey	Longlevens Neighbourhood Partnership
John	Burr	Newent Civic Society
Celia	Kay	St Vincent's and St George's Association
Olivia	Main	St Vincent's and St George's Association
Carmel	Webb	Tuffley Community Association
Pam	Smith	2Gether NHS Foundation Trust

1 Robin Agascar, Chair of GAVCA, welcomed everyone to the AGM and noted the list of apologies as above.

2 Minutes of the AGM held on September 27 2010

These were approved as a true record.

Proposer – Adele Owen (GARAS), Seconder – Pat Scannel (TETRA)

There were no matters arising.

3 Chair's Report

Robin Agascar summarised the progress that GAVCA had made in the past year in delivering its core services of support, training and representation for the VCS across Gloucestershire. Having planned for potential budget cuts of 50%, the organisation only suffered a 30% reduction in its budget and Robin praised the whole staff team for dealing with the resulting re-structuring and redundancies so positively and constructively.

Robin then reflected on his time on the GAVCA Executive Committee, as he prepared to stand down as Chair, in keeping with the organisations' Memorandum and Articles, which ensure a continual turnover of trustees in order to keep the organisation fresh. Back in 2002, it was a small Gloucester-only service: GCVS, and had come a long way to the countywide organisations that it now is.

Robin concluded by commenting on the exceptionally good relationship between trustees and staff that he has enjoyed at GAVCA and by thanking all colleagues on the Board and staff and volunteers for their contributions over the past year.

4 Annual review of 2010-11

Sally Pickering, Chief Executive, presented the highlights from this year's Annual Review, which illustrated 6 key themes to GAVCA's work over the past year. These were:

- **Promoting new ways of working**, including support around Personalisation, and support to new partnerships and consortia.
- **Working Together**: leading co-production between the public and voluntary sectors on refreshing the Compact, reducing re-offending and developing an Ageing Well Strategy.
- **Supporting the Sustainability of the VCS**, through one to one support, information services, training, funding fayres, and new links with private sector companies.
- **Supporting Active Communities** by helping people gain the skills and confidence to become active citizens. This included the Take Part Programme, the Making Change Leadership Development course, new volunteering services and new ways of celebrating and recognising volunteers, particularly in sports clubs.
- **Supporting a collective voice for the VCS** through continued support of VCS representation in county and district partnerships, with 495 individuals having actively engaged in the work of the VCS Assembly and 40 VCS representatives supported during the year.
- **Widening GAVCA's Reach** to break down barriers to involvement, including an increase of 19% in people attending training, engaging directly with 77% of the BME

organisations in the county, developing a new VCS Forum in Tewkesbury and new services in the Cotswolds and Stroud.

Sally finished by summarising the key challenges for the coming year, including: finding new ways to influence public sector services; re-shaping how infrastructure is provided with partners in the county; finding ways to make the GAVCA training programme sustainable; and continuing to highlight the impact of public spending cuts on both the VCS and the communities it serves. However, Sally confirmed that, as the challenges grew and the pace of change grew, so also did the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff at GAVCA, who were more motivated than ever to rise to these challenges.

5 Treasurer's Report

Howard Francis presented the accounts for 2010-11. He pointed out that the breakdown of income showed that GAVCA had become less reliant on grants and received more income in contracts and traded services, as it adapts to the changing times, and that this was something that the wider VCS needed to take heed of.

Income was up £103k on the year before but this was partly due to the timing of when cash was received for projects that would take place in the coming year.

Howard pointed out a new budget line called "Grants Received / paid as Lead Agent" which was monies received and then distributed to partners where GAVCA was supporting consortia projects.

Overall, GAVCA's financial position was healthy with reserves of £96k- a reduction on the year before, but still sufficient to be in line with its Reserves Policy.

Howard finished by thanking the Finance Officer, Susan Urch, for all her hard work, and asked the meeting to approve the accounts. They were approved by all members present.

Proposer – Terry Haines (Severn Athletic Club)

Secunder – Lynette Hurley (Individual member)

6. Appointment of Auditors for 2011-12

Robin proposed that GAVCA continue to employ Griffiths Marshall as auditors and this was approved by the members.

Proposer - Terry Haines (Severn Athletic Club)

Secunder – Nasreen Akhtar (Ethnic Minorities History Project)

7. Election of trustees for 2011-12

Robin explained that the trustees standing down this year were: Robin Agascar, Howard Francis and Terry Haines. Joanna Gregory had also resigned as a Trustee during the year due to other commitments.

Robin and Howard were unable to stand for re-election according to the Memorandum and Articles as they had served for the maximum length of time permitted.

Terry Haines was eligible to stand for re-election.

Furthermore, the following trustees, who were co-opted during the last year, were also standing for election: Lamarana Jalloh, Khoboso Hargura, Albert Gardiner and Nasreen Akhtar

Proposer – Pat Scannel (TETRA)

Secunder – Sally Byng (Barnwood Trust)

Members were asked to approve all 5 nominations en bloque and voted unanimously to approve these.

8. New Officers

Robin welcomed Lynnette Hurley as the new Chair and Lamarana Jalloh as the new Treasurer and they both stood up to introduce themselves to the members.

Sally then thanked both Howard and Robin for their many years of commitment to GAVCA and presented them with a gift by way of thanks.

9. Guest Speaker

The AGM was then formally closed and Robin introduced the guest Speaker: **Jenny Hopkins from the Gloucestershire Deaf Association** who gave a through provoking and honest presentation about her organisation's experience being a "User-led" organisation. This challenged the audience to consider how to ensure that all trustees had the skills required to be a trustee and to govern the organisation effectively, and what additional resources or support might be needed to avoid tokenism and ensure that service users can contribute fully.

A workshop then followed which enabled participants to explore some of the issues raised in relation to their own organisations.