



Kensington and Chelsea Social Council's Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 15 November 2018
1.15pm to 2pm

1. Welcome and Open Address by Chair

Michael Bach (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from the following: Vicky Cooper (Meanwhile Gardens), Helen Cylwik, Lizzie Fletcher (Paddington Development Trust), Roger Roberts (The Golborne Forum) and Mary White (Latymer Christian Centre) and Lin Gillians.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 17 October 2017 were approved.

The Chair reminded those in attendance that last year's AGM was overshadowed by the tragic events of the Grenfell Tower fire. The effects of this have continued to impact on the North Kensington Community and the work of the voluntary sector. New groups had been established and, with London Funders (including Trust for London), KCSC has been funding a full time post to support the recovery, set up and facilitate the Grenfell Network Group and support greater community engagement.

The Chair emphasised that the focus was now on recovery and to bring about lasting improvements in the relationship between the local authority and the community. He referred to the Council's recent efforts to improve engagement and consultation and the need for improved communication with residents so that these initiatives could be more effective. Grenfell was the catalyst for the Council to move closer towards working with the community and empowering them to shape their future. The Chair felt that KCSC's work was key and would feed into the recovery plan.

The Chair referred to the Leader of the Council's stated intention for RBKC to change its culture. A governance review had started, including a Governance Review Panel, which would include identifying new ways in which communities could be brought into decision-making arrangements. The Chair encouraged residents and the voluntary and community sector to engage in the process by visiting the Council's website to see changes in progress and by giving signed consent for KCSC to share their contact details (name, organisation and email address) with the Council.

The Chair then turned to the key work of KCSC in supporting the local organisations through the distribution of funds and also shaping the voluntary sector health transformation agenda, the funding for which was held in KCSC's accounts awaiting distribution. The core activities of the Social Council were financed by the Local Authority and the West London Clinical Commissioning Group.

For the future, KCSC's new three-year strategy has been published and the Chair drew attention to a new commitment to community development, anticipated to involve more ground work and being a positive element of local residents' self-determination in North Kensington and across the borough. He acknowledged that the Grenfell tragedy had launched everyone on a steep learning curve and that KCSC could only continue to provide support with continued funding for the post. The search for new partners would continue throughout 2018/19.

The Chair closed by expressing his gratitude to funders, stakeholders, all staff who have managed through the pressures of the past year, the Chief Executive, Angela

Spence who created the appropriate environment, keeping the ship afloat, and also to all of trustees.

In response to a question about the Council's communication difficulties, the Chair acknowledged that some residents felt that letters to households were preferred by some, emails alerts were not always effective and it would be better if the council could connect to existing networks.

2. Treasurer's Report

Mark Anfilogoff (MA), Treasurer, presented the accounts for income and expenditure during 2017/18 detailed in the annual report. Key areas were the high level of income for past few years, due to West London's Clinical Commissioning Group Self-care and Voluntary Sector Transformation which had contributed an extra £1.3m. £726,000 was held in the accounts to be transferred to VCOs as grant and contract payments including for delivery of self-care and for mental health, public and patient engagement voluntary sector transformation, North Kensington engagement self-care innovation, Thrive Strive stopping smoking cessation and the Notting Hill Carnival Pioneers projects.

The Treasurer explained there was £1.3m of income and expenditure was 1,058,000 with a surplus for the year of £253,000 so approximately £960,000 would be carried forward into 2018/19 mainly due underspend in some activities were there remained a lot of work to be done.

The Treasurer explained the structure of the accounts and division between restricted funds (funds to be used or given away for specific purposes) and unrestricted funds totalling £420,000. From this funds were designated, to be used for activities within the charity's remit including for project support and technology upgrades. Additionally, of the balance, sufficient reserves (£250,000) have been set aside to manage the organisation for five months in the case of emergency.

The Treasurer concluded by encouraging members to examine the Annual Report in detail at their leisure and referring to the funders detailed in the report who made the work of the charity possible. He also extended thanks to the community for their support and encouragement and also staff in the office for their work on the accounts.

The proposal to adopt the 2017/18 accounts was put by Annie Redmile, seconded by Stephen Duckworth and approved by the floor without opposition. The Board then voted on the re-appointment of Goldwins as the charity's auditors and this was unanimously agreed.

In response to a question from the floor, Angela Spence clarified that the London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) provided £5,000 of funding for KCSC to facilitate the Safer Neighbourhood Board. Local groups could apply for funding for projects which the KCSC could support.

3. Trustee Board Election

Sylvia Nissim, Office Manager advised that the elections would be conducted in accordance with the Memorandum of Articles which requires one third of the longest standing trustees to be step down and stand for re-election if they choose to do so. Additionally, Helen Cylwik co-opted onto the board in July would be standing for election.

The following trustees were nominated, seconded by the persons shown and elected unopposed:

Trustee	Proposer	Seconded
Mark Anfilogoff	Annie Redmile	Stephen Duckworth
Jamie Renton	Annie Redmile	Judith Davey
Michael Bach	Judith Davey	Annie Redmile
Helen Cylwik	Annie Redmile	Franka Obin

All other current Trustees would continue to serve on the KCSC board. Sylvia Nissim thanked the trustees for their time and commitment.

4. KCSC - Our work and Achievements

Angela Spence (Chief Executive) summarised the activity of the charity over the past year referring to the impact of the Grenfell Fire which had demanded a change in emphasis with the need to link with the wider community through attracting and supporting and more on the ground community development work.

On organisational development KCSC was responding to a review which took place in 2017 on its performance and impact and was now in a better position to know where there was room for improvement and to develop new ideas. She referred to new ways of carrying out organisational assessments and benchmarking to see where progress of VCOs was required. Additionally, 13 individuals in the voluntary sector had been able to take part in a leadership programme and received career coaching and mentoring.

The Chief Executive went on to state that KCSC had been working towards a new provider model as part of the health transformation agenda in order for the VCS to be better placed to bid for contracts. She also referred to the self-care programme which was moving from strength to strength and demonstrating the voluntary sector's valuable contribution to the wellbeing of older residents. Finally, emphasis was given to the important role of the voluntary sector organisation forums which provide opportunities for networking, engaging with commissioners and influencing decision making.

The Chief Executive added her personal thanks to her staff for all their work.

The Trustees welcomed Jenny Greenfield to her first AGM following her appointment as Director of Services. The Director introduced the strategic plan which set out the aims and objectives for the organisation for April 2018 to March 2021. The areas of work were Organisation Development, Community Development, Communications and Intelligence and Policy and Voice. She asked for comments on the priorities and heard that there was deep concern over the uncertainty of council funding and short notice of the need to make changes. Jenny Greenfield responded that KCSC had emphasised to the council that groups needed information as soon as possible, particularly given their limited resources.

The Chief Executive added that the organisation would aim to send out a survey to the voluntary sector to get a picture of the current funding situation post Grenfell.