



Kensington and Chelsea Social Council's Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 29 October 2024
10.00am to 12.30pm

1. Opening and welcome

Angela Spence, CEO of KCSC welcomed everyone to the event and informed attendees that this year they would be starting with presentations/performances from invited local organisations.

Baljit Badesha, Director of Nucleus Advice Centre, Emmanuelle Marcel, Director of Kamitan Arts, and Chris Herbert, CEO of Fit for Life all presented information about the important role their organisation played in contributing to building and supporting community resilience. Kamitan Arts along with Alexander D Great also delivered several poetic performances to showcase the work they do.

The AGM began after a short break following the performances.

2. AGM welcome

KCSC's Chair - Shelina Thawer (ST) - formally opened the annual KCSC AGM meeting, noting that the annual report was available online.

[View KCSC's Annual Report here](#)

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from members Khadija N'Diaye (Cheri Coco), Effy Harle (Goldfinger), Matt Begg (Citizens Advice K&C), David Trodden (Philbeach Residents Association), Teresa Meekings (Community Massage London), Phayza Fudlalla (BME Health Forum) and Abderrahman Elguerbouzi (Strengthening Kensington Youth & Families).

Proxy Forms Completed

Roohy Shahin (Persian Care Centre), Nicola Butler (K&C Youth Foundation)

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the AGM held on 31 October 2023 were formally approved by the members.

4. Matters Arising

Nothing to note.

5. Chair's Address

ST highlighted the theme of the AGM this year which was Community Resilience and thanked the three previous presenters for their contribution to building and supporting community resilience within the borough. ST went on to say that whilst disaster preparedness is important for the VCS, community resilience is also about the building

blocks that that are needed across the social and economic spectrum to enable communities to thrive.

ST then shared her reflections on KCSC's past year and shared highlights with attendees beginning with the strategic planning process and that KCSC spent most of 2023-24 reflecting on its work, what we deliver and why. KCSC also reflected on what will be important for the local voluntary and community sector in the future. All of this work prepared KCSC to develop the new strategic plan. In addition, KCSC carried out an extensive impact review with stakeholders for which she thanked all those that took part. ST stated that Angela would provide more detail on the impact review during the AGM.

ST went on to say that during 2023-24 KCSC was successful in securing a further three years of funding from RBKC through the Voluntary Sector Support Fund and Public Health funding. This will enable KCSC to deliver its core organisational development support, representation and facilitation of partnerships, networking and learning events.

ST also thanked the Board of Trustees for the additional time spent during 2023-24 in strategic planning sessions, stating that she found all of the discussions fruitful as well as inspiring to see such commitment in steering the future of KCSC. ST went on to thank Annie Redmile who was a trustee until the autumn of 2023. ST also took a moment to reflect on Stephen Duckworth who was a trustee of KCSC and had sadly passed away a few weeks ago.

Finally ST shared her appreciation from the Board of Trustees to all of the staff past and present throughout the last financial year who have delivered all of the services.

ST opened the floor for any questions or comments of which there were none.

6. Treasurer's Report

MD stated that KCSC's income for 2023-24 stood at £1.267m an increase of £248,000 on the previous year. Total expenditure for 2023-24 was £1.632m and giving us net movement in funds of £363,000 reduction. A brought forward balance of £1.1m resulted in KCSC ending the financial year with funds to carry forward into the next financial year at £738,000. MD highlighted that much of the brought forward is committed through restricted funds, which stands at £514,000.

Unrestricted general funds amount to £224,000, a small increase of just £7k compared to the previous year. The reduction in the funds carried forward is because during the year KCSC gave out £743,000 of its income to voluntary and community organisations through various grant programmes funded by Northwest London ICB (Integrated care Board). During 2023-24, Trustees agreed £150k be set aside to maintain 6 months operating costs in case it was needed.

MD thanked all of KCSC's funders for 2023-24 – namely North-West London ICB whose ongoing funds continue to provide sector support. RBKC Corporate and Public Health Grants, Trust for London and Tudor Trust in funding KCSC's community development work and finally City Bridge Foundation and The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

In ending his report, MD referenced looking to 2024-25, stating that KCSC was in a secure financial position with ongoing funding from the NHS to continue to fund local organisations to deliver self-care services and to support the sector to engage in

strategic opportunities as a result of structural changes within the NHS at the local level. For KCSC to also continue to provide organisational and community development support through funding from the council, Tudor Trust and the Greater London Authority.

MD thank asked members, by show of hands, if happy to receive the accounts.

Members confirmed to receive the accounts, none opposed and no abstentions.

Appointment of the Auditor

KCSC's Treasurer – Modan Deb (MD) - confirmed that the 2023-24 accounts had been professionally approved by Goldwins Ltd. MD went on to say that Goldwins will remain the current auditor whilst KCSC tender out the service within the next few weeks. On this basis MD proposed Goldwins remain as the auditor for KCSC until the tender process comes to an end and the auditor is appointed.

Members approved the reappointment of Goldwins Ltd as auditors until the auditor is appointed following the tender process, none opposed and no abstentions.

7. Staff presentations

Liam Pywell, Bi-borough VCS Health Strategic Lead, KCSC/One Westminster; Health and Wellbeing

LP started by confirming KCSC's role within health and wellbeing which is to:

- To co-ordinate strong relationships between the VCS & statutory health partners
- Establish the VCS as a leader within the health & wellbeing agenda
- Build and sustain the VCS role in addressing health inequalities
- Support VCS organisations to provide commissioned health and wellbeing services

He went to say that KCSC has established our membership within the Integrated Care Board (ICB) Placed Based Partnership as well as established a joint programme with the ICB to address health inequalities called Vibrant & Healthy Communities. Liam concluded by adding that KCSC would continue to advocate on behalf of the VCS and the local community within our leadership and influencing role.

Angela Spence, CEO, KCSC; KCSC Outcomes and Impact Review

AS began by thanking all those that contributed to KCSC's external outcomes and impact review. She confirmed that the online survey for all community organisations, groups

and local residents received 54 responses (50% Residents, 45% VCO's, 5% Other).

There were 28 one-to-one conversations with VCOs to gather a deeper understanding of where KCSC is having an impact and suggested areas of improvement, and finally seven one-to-one conversations with key stakeholders, being people in senior decision making positions including within the Council and the NHS, to gather a deeper understanding of where KCSC is having an impact and suggested areas of improvement.

The findings included an understanding of the landscape KCSC is operating in, the needs of the voluntary and community and statutory sector and of the local community.

AS concluded with the recommendations for KCSC from the findings – to carry out more hand holding; to play a more active and present role to up-skill and train the sector; to equip the sector to deal with increasing external pressures; and to invest in the sector by platforming and promoting the sector with senior decision makers have helped in the development of KCSC's new 3-year strategy. Both the Impact Report findings and the 3 year strategy can be viewed on KCSC's website [here](#).

ST thanked AS for the presentation, stating the importance of KCSC knowing where and how we do better. ST thanked the staff of KCSC for how well they had taken the feedback from stakeholders on board.

8. Appointment of KCSC Trustees

AS presented the list of trustees for this year and confirmed the names of trustees who would be continuing for 2025-26. [View the current list of trustees here](#).

ST thanked Annie Redmile, KCSC's trustee who had stood down, expressing gratitude for her service to KCSC. ST then introduced Joe Batty who would pay tribute to Stephen Duckworth, previous trustee of KCSC, who had passed away in September this year.

9. Tribute to Stephen; Joe Batty, Head of Community Development, KCSC

JB began by stating his commemoration was on behalf of the trustees and staff of KCSC and stated that it was fair to say that Stephen made an immeasurable impact in the area over decades. He commented that whilst Stephen was quiet, unassuming, forensic, it was always wrapped up with a big beaming smile.

JB went on to provide further background details to Stephen's life stating that Stephen lived in the community for decades, coming to North Kensington in the 1960s when he joined the community of Methodists in a church commune. He remained active in his beloved Notting Hill Methodist Church right until the end, where he cherished the ethos of inclusion, anti poverty and fairness. Stephen's passion for public housing saw him involved for decades with the National Housing Federation and other organisations helping to keep housing associations true to their mission. Stephen was also a keen community campaigner and he even found time to be on the Pensions Trust board for many years.

JB ended by highlighting how whilst Stephen was on the Board of KCSC, he had worked with him on the development of the Council's Charter for Public Participation as well as KCSC's work in responding to housing developments in the borough and that Stephen would be truly missed.

ST thanked JB for his commemoration and noted that there will be a memorial service for Stephen and that his family will likely be in touch with members of the community and friends and others to notify them.

10. AOB

None

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, ST adjourned the meeting.