

OLDER PEOPLE'S ADVISORY GROUP

ABERDEEN, 16 June, 2015 - Minute of Meeting of the OLDER PEOPLE'S ADVISORY GROUP. Present:- Councillor Cooney (Chairperson); and Councillors Lesley Dunbar, Jaffrey and Yuill; and Suzy Gentle, (Age Scotland); Chris Dunhill (Silver City Surfers); Daniel Johnston (Cash in your Pocket); Norman Miller (Workers Education Association); Lyn Ross (Aberdeen Care and Repair), Tom Ross (Voluntary Sector Association); Jane Russell (ACVO); Morag Tamisari (University of the Third Age); and Wendy Edmond-Stuart (Aberdeen Action on Disability)

Officers in Attendance: Lynsey McBain (Legal and Democratic Services); Tom Cowan and Julie Somers (Older People and Rehabilitation); Lyndsay Johnstone and Joanne Larsen (Community Planning Partnership) and Sandra Bruce (Strategist) and Baldeep McGarry (Communities, Housing and Infrastructure)

In attendance: Harley Hamdani and Dean McBain (Aberdeen FC Community Trust)

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor Donnelly, Fiona Evans, Leonora Montgomery, Pat McConnachie, George Thomson, Alice Brooks and Celia Tramene.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Advisory Group had before it the minute of the previous meeting of 19 February 2015.

The Advisory Group noted that Ron Webster had recently been admitted to hospital and wished Ron a speedy recovery.

The Advisory Group resolved:-

- (i) To request that the clerk write to Ron Webster on behalf of the Group, to pass on their best wishes in regards to his health; and
- (ii) to otherwise approve the minute as a correct record;

COMMUNITY PLANNING

3. The Advisory Group received an update from Joanne Larsen in regards to the Advisory Group and its intended move to the Community Planning Partnership.

Joanne explained that through the Councils recent committee restructure that the Advisory Group would disband and move to a new thematic group under Community Planning Partnership (CPP).

Tom Cowan provided details on the Single Outcome Agreement and highlighted the number of thematic groups which would relate to older people. He advised that there was a recognition that the thematic themes needed to be more specific to older people and by moving the Advisory Group to CPP it would be more beneficial to older people and their needs. Tom concluded that moving forward, he asked that OPAG endorse the changes, before going forward to CPP for further endorsement.

Members then asked a number of questions in regards to the thematic themes and the proposed changes.

The Advisory Group resolved:-

- (i) to thank Tom Cowan and Joanne Larsen for their efforts with the transition for the Advisory Group;
- (ii) to endorse the proposed changes to the Group; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the information provided.

ABERDEEN FOOTBALL CLUB COMMUNITY TRUST

5. The Advisory Group received a presentation from Dean McBain and Harley Hamdani, from Aberdeen FC Community Trust.

Dean explained that the trust was now a stand-alone charity and had 14 members of staff, who worked with 700 children on a weekly basis in football, as well as 3 full time staff working on community engagement. Dean outlined that there were five strands of activity that they were concentrating on and aimed to engage with more people. He explained the areas they were currently involved with, namely (1) getting people involved with walking football, (2) using specialist gym equipment for over 65's (3) alternative therapies, (4) Pittodrie health walks, (5) AFC in various parks, (6) equity project and (7) active reminiscence.

Harley spoke about his equalities role and explained that it was funded through the Scottish Football Association. He outlined that he wanted to lead the equality project and wanted to learn how to engage with older equalities groups.

Members then asked a number of questions in regards to the project.

The Convener thanked Dean and Harley for their informative presentation.

The Advisory Group resolved:-

- (i) to thank both Dean and Harley for attending the Advisory Group and for their valuable presentation;
- (ii) to request that the clerk send out the contact details to members for both Dean and Harley; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the information provided.

GOLDEN GAMES

6. The Advisory Group heard from Julie Somers who provided information on the recent golden games.

Julie explained that there were over 1200 events held throughout the games, with partnership development very important. They aimed to promote active ageing and noted that over 400 people took part in the various events.

Julie highlighted that there were more female participants than men, however the amount of males had increased from other years and statistics would be available in due course along with participants age bracket.

The Advisory Group also watched a short video on the games.

The Convener thanked Julie and the others involved and noted how the games had gone from strength to strength over the years.

The Advisory Group resolved:-
to note the information provided.

SILVER SURFERS UPDATE

7. The Advisory Group heard from Chris Dunhill, Silver Surfers who provided an update on the recent work of the organisation.

Chris explained that the Silver Surfers had been in existence for 10 years now and were involved with many projects, which included (1) Reaching Out: Going Local, which had 4 separate locations and was becoming more self-sustainable, (2) monthly information sessions at Satrosphere, (3) Monday afternoon session at Michie the Chemist and (4) the Silver City Surfers School Squad, which was funded by the Change Fund.

Chris provided details on the 10 year celebration they held at Cineworld, where they invited along partners, children from Mile End School and other interested parties.

Chris also explained about the new Generation Games project which would run for 12 weeks.

The Advisory Group resolved:-

- (i) to thank Chris for all of the valuable information she shared
- (ii) to request that Chris pass on their thanks to Donna Sim for her continued efforts; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the information provided

SIGNPOSTER PROJECT

8. The Advisory Group heard from Tom Ross who provided information on the Signposter Project.

Tom issued members with a paper, outlining the recent developments with the project. The paper explained that there had recently been an agreement between the Director of Social Care and VSA that the hosting of the project be moved and managed as part of Footprints Connect, which commenced on 1 June 2015.

The paper also explained that the Footprints Connect have been assisting VSA in coordinating the project over the past year so it was envisaged that the transition would be relatively seamless.

Moving forward, Footprints Connect would like to engage further with member groups of OPAG in setting up a focus group looking at both the Footprints Connect website functionally and the SDS digital inclusion agenda.

The Advisory Group resolved:-
to note the information provided.

ABERDEEN STRATEGIC TRANSPORT STUDY

9. The Advisory Group had before it a copy of the Aberdeen Strategic Transport Study.

The paper explained that Peter Brett Associates, SIAS Limited and Natural Capital had been appointed by NESTRANS to undertake the Fraserburgh and Peterhead to Aberdeen Strategic Transport Study. The purpose of the study was to identify and examine options for improving strategic transport connections between Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Aberdeen, incorporating the Energetica corridor. The study would examine all modes of transport which would include rail, bus, road and active travel connections.

The Convener explained that the study was in the early stages and asked members about key transport problems that they had encountered and asked that any comments be fed to Sandra Bruce directly.

The Advisory Group resolved:-

- (i) to request that members write to Sandra Bruce with any comments, who would issue a joint response from OPAG; and
- (ii) to otherwise note the information provided.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

10. The Convener opened the meeting for any other competent business, whereby Suzy Gentle provided information on Age Scotland.

Suzy explained that Age Scotland work with people over the age of 50 and try to help individuals plan for later in life, as often people in their 50's/60's don't plan for retirement. Suzy highlighted that the charity is a membership organisation and membership was free for individuals.

The charity aimed to bring together a wide range of groups who work for the benefit of older people. Suzy also provided details on the campaign and policy department of the charity who worked alongside Silver Line, which was an open line for anyone to call 24 hours a day, originally set up by Esther Ransen.

The Convener thanked Suzy for her very detailed update and asked that Suzy provide another update in due course.

The Advisory Group resolved:-
to note the information provided.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13. The Advisory Group noted that the date of the next meeting would now be Tuesday 16 June at 2pm, replacing the original date of Thursday 11 June 2015.
- **COUNCILLOR COONEY, Convener**