



**VOX 47th Board Meeting
Monday 26th January 2015
The Renfield Centre Glasgow**

Present

Joyce Mouriki MBE	Chairperson
Gordon Johnston	Vice Chairperson
John Sawkins	Secretary
Dougie Pickering	Treasurer
Chris Evans	Member Director
Frank Fallan MBE	Member Director
Donald Grant	Member Director
Carol Mapley	Member Director
David Harrison	Member Director
Colin Murchie	Member Director
Tracy Laird	Member Director
Richard Norris	Co-opted Director
Alex Davidson	Co-opted Director

In Attendance

Wendy McAuslan	Development Coordinator
John Steel	Administration Officer

Welcome

Joyce Mouriki MBE welcomed everyone present with a very special welcome to Tracy Laird who had been unable to attend in recent months due to severe illness.

Apologies

Dianna Manson	Member Director
Marie Docherty	Board Advisor

Declaration of Interest

A discussion took place regarding the meaning of a "Declaration of Interest"

Minutes

The minutes of the last board meeting held on 24th November 2014 were approved on the motion of David Harrison and Dougie Pickering.

Matters Arising

- a) Colin Murchie intimated that he had made an apology for absence at the last meeting which hadn't been recorded.

- b) Much discussion took place regarding the subject of confidentiality and it was agreed that at the Extraordinary General Meeting the Chairperson would announce that no tweeting, blogging or photographs would be allowed.
- c) It was agreed once again, that due to further email correspondence from a previous member of VOX, that any future correspondence from the individual should be addressed to the office and that legal advice would be taken in this regard.
- d) Due to the resignation of Frank Fallan MBE, two VOX members were recommended as board members, Lorraine Nicholson and Liz MacWhinney. After due consideration, a vote was taken which resulted in Lorraine Nicholson being co-opted as a board member until the next Annual General Meeting.
- e) See Me Partnership Group; Dougie Pickering and Donald Grant to represent VOX at meetings of this group.
- f) Terms of Reference?
- g) Human rights info to Graham Morgan?
- h) Expressions of interest were required for someone to represent VOX at the Royal College of Psychiatrist.

Development Coordinator Update

1. Grant/Funding Updates

We have received the £10,000 from See Me to progress the work set out in our working agreement. Other grant funding is being drawn up in accordance with the timetable.

2. Future Funding

Mahmud and I are planning to put together a first stage big lottery bid by the middle of February, please get in touch if you would be able to assist in pulling together stage one.

3. Staffing

The senior development officers' contract currently ends at the end of March 2015, we need to decide how to progress thereafter.

4. Diversity Work

As mentioned we now have all of our community leaders in post and are continuing to progress the aims in the comic relief action plan and outcomes.

Current work includes a questionnaire on offending and mental health.

5. Strategic Work

- Scottish Recovery Network (SRN)
I will update on the peer support work at the next board meeting, we have still to meet to progress.
- Support in Mind

The information sharing/confidentiality event will be likely to be March. I will provide a more detailed update when available.

6. Involvement Work

The report which provides an overview of the event which took place in Moray has now been put together; this should be sent out in the next few days together with a date to bring together interested parties.

7. Policy Work

Smoking: Graeme is progressing the work in relation to the potential removal of the exemption (which protects psychiatric patients from being prevented from smoking in the grounds of psychiatric hospitals). He has produced a letter; please see separate paper, which could potentially be used by advocacy groups to influence their local area.

Mental Health Act Forms: Mahmud and I went through the forms which are to be used in conjunction with the amended mental health act. We have a few suggestions (based on members previous comments on the mental health bill, views in previous meetings and wider issues), and shall send these around the board.

8. Communications

The communications sub-group have initiated work with a new website provider to take forward our website refresh.

9. Group members get together

We have written a report from the outcome of the group members get together. The report provides some suggestions about what the purpose of the group will be. Please see separate paper.

10. Members Meeting

We have over 60 people who have registered to attend the meeting on the 7th February.

So far we have Dr Gary Morrison from the mental welfare commission who can give an overview of insight and capacity. We also have updates from some of our community leaders on our diversity work.

I am currently planning the facilitated sessions, so we can make best use of the discussion around insight and capacity. See separate paper – for ideas

11. Sub-group meeting

The training, research and development sub-group meeting shall look at the write up of the last members meeting to decide on the direction/further consultation work for the following year. We shall also consider the way forward for on-going issues such as SDS, and think about how we attract wider membership e.g. who have the right skills and experience to help steer this group.

Directors Information Sharing

- a) Colin Murchie gave a report on a meeting of Support in Mind and suggested that 'Talking Therapies' should be at the forefront of services offered to service users.
- b) Dougie Pickering spoke on the South Ayrshire Strategic Plan.
- c) Chris Evans spoke on the Mental Health Bill and a discussion took place in regards to treatment intervention and Compulsory Treatment Orders.
- d) Richard Norris suggested that VOX should prepare a statement for political parties in the run up to the General Election.

Winter Members Meeting

A discussion took place regarding the forthcoming Members Meeting and in particular the Extraordinary Members Meeting. It was decided that Gordon Johnston would chair that part of the event.

Any other Competent Business

- a) As this would be the last meeting attended by Frank Fallan MBE, grateful thanks were extended for his generous contributions and support to VOX since its inception. Personal thanks were given by Joyce Mouriki MBE and Alex Davidson.
- b) Tracy Laird spoke to the board members regarding her illness.
- c) Congratulations were extended to Joyce Mouriki on the great honour in receiving an MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honour List.
- d) Wendy McAuslan intimated that we had received a letter from one of our members who is part of the In Care Survivors Group. The letter informed us that the groups funding was due to run out in March this year and asked if it would be possible for our organisation to supply a letter of support with regard to obtaining future funding. It was unanimously agreed by the board that as this group has a direct link to mental health we should be giving them our support.
- e) It was intimated that there has been an error in the list of meeting dates for 2015. The March meeting will now be held on Monday 23rd March instead of Monday 16th March.
- f) Four applications for individual membership were approved.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday 23rd February at 1.00pm



**VOX 48th Board Meeting
Monday 23rd February 2015
The Renfield Centre Glasgow**

Present

Gordon Johnston	Vice Chairperson
John Sawkins	Secretary
Dougie Pickering	Treasurer
Chris Evans	Member Director
Donald Grant	Member Director
David Harrison	Member Director
Colin Murchie	Member Director

Apologies

Joyce Mouriki MBE	Chairperson
Tracy Laird	Member Director
Dianna Manson	Member Director

In Attendance

Wendy McAuslan	Development Coordinator
Graeme Bowman	Senior Development Officer

1. Welcome and Apologies

Gordon chaired the meeting in Joyce's absence.

2. Declaration of interest

No declarations of interest were raised.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were approved by Dougie and seconded by David.

4. Matters Arising

- The letter regarding in care survivors group had been sent.
- The meeting for March was clarified as the 23rd March.
- It was agreed that at the next board meeting after the governance training a discussion would take place in relation to the EGM, and in particular next steps/board members recruitment.
- Graeme shall update the board in relation to the board members get together.

4. Financial Update

We are currently around **5K underspent**, a financial update was provided. Some suggestions for some of the underspend could include the following;

- Banner for VOX to promote our work
- Additional copies of the annual report
- Publicity materials to include our new logo
- Additional training to be provided e.g. gcvs
- Additional support with policy development e.g. brighter purpose

Action: It was agreed that the publicity materials should be progressed, and training as identified.

5. Development Coordinators Update

VOX Members Meeting – Follow Up

We are starting to put together the evaluation information we received from the members meeting. Due to the nature of the meeting - an EGM then a specific topic the initial feedback is that some members felt a sense of frustration around not having an opportunity to chat in a small group setting.

For this reason Wendy stated she will be arranging three sessions (two in the central belt and one outwith), open to all members to attend to discuss capacity and impaired decision making, followed by a discussion on “hot topics” to inform future areas of work. To be arranged for April.

Peer Support

Wendy stated that the focus of the peer support work will be about looking more at emotional connections than the content side of things in relation to peer support. SRN and VOX are starting some initial discussions with groups to capture good practice/scope the different forms of peer support.

Future Board Training

The following suggestions for training were noted.

- Reading/Developing financial updates.
- Applying for funding (maybe we could ask the Mental Health Foundation for support on this)

Other areas which were mentioned included a fuller understanding of OSCR and Companies House.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Community Leaders have started to use the case study templates, and we will arrange for a training/learning session in the middle of April for the community leaders.

Action: WM to arrange community leaders training session for April.

Wendy shall meet with Derek from bright purpose mid-march to work out where/when to use the tools which have been developed to date e.g. case studies, influencing sheets, members' survey etc.

Action: WM to progress

Finally another key area we are developing is a difficult situations reflective learning type tool. It is hoped this can be used to influence culture and future ways of working, and ensure staff and directors feel supported when going through any difficult situations which arise.

Action: WM to progress with Bright Purpose

Policy Developments

Responses were sent to the Scottish Government in relation to the changes to recommended forms to be used alongside the mental health act. Joyce and Wendy also met with an individual from the legal team who is working on the bill to give some feedback.

Funding Update

Anticipated end of year spend was discussed, it was noted that there were two areas where the spend had to be amended, firstly in relation to the community leaders being paid for by VOX as opposed to the MHF, and secondly that the monthly donation hadn't yet been added in.

Action: WM to progress invoicing the MHF, and adding in donation to the accounts.

Finally it was also stated that we still needed to carry out an exercise which would combine some of the codes together to make the financial update clearer. The board thanked Wendy for the update.

6. Directors Updates

John Sawkins felt that the most salient points from directors updates need to be captured more readily in the minutes, it was suggested that the key points are summarised for the purpose of the minute taker.

7. Group members get together and Communications Update:

8. AOCB

Wendy noted that we had received a couple of individual members concerns regarding a facebook conversation. We agreed to wait until these were received formally so we can discuss more fully.

9. Next Meeting

Monday 27th April 2015 at 1.00pm



VOX 49th Board Meeting Minutes

Monday 27th April 2015

The Renfield Centre, 260 Bath Street Glasgow

Present	Gordon Johnston	Vice Chairperson
	John Sawkins	Secretary
	Colin Murchie	Member Director
	Carol Mapley	Member Director
	David Harrison	Member Director
In Attendance	Wendy McAuslan	Development Coordinator
	John Steel	Administration officer
Apologies	Joyce Mouriki MBE	Chairperson
	Dougie Pickering	Treasurer
	Donald Grant	Member Director
	Chris Evans	Member Director
	Tracy Laird	Member Director
	Dianna Manson	Member Director
	Richard Norris	Co-opted Director
	Maria Docherty	Advisor
	Dr. Alison Thom	Co-opted Director

1) Welcome

Due to the unavoidable absence of Joyce Mouriki MBE, Gordon Johnston took the chair and welcomed everyone present.

2) Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Minutes

The minutes of the last board meeting held on 23rd February 2015, having been previously circulated, were formally approved on the motion of Colin Murchie and David Harrison.

4) Matters Arising

The following items from the minutes of the last board meeting were discussed;

- a) Financial Update, it was intimated that some of the underspend would be taken up by ordering new banners, publicity materials with our new logo, additional

training for staff/board members and additional support with policy development.

- b) Directors Updates, it was agreed that the salient points from Directors updates would be included in future minutes.
- c) Reimbursement of fees paid to Community Leaders.

5) Development Coordinator Update.

1. Grant/Funding Updates

We are currently chasing up Comic Relief in relation to the two funds Mary Eastmond mentioned when we met.

Big Lottery stage one first draft is almost completed.

2. Staffing/Funding

Back-up plan if we don't obtain funding, e.g. what we should/shouldn't focus on. Could two or three people volunteer to pull together a back-up plan for best use of resources if they are reduced?

3. Diversity Work

Awareness Raising: Moving Minds 7 will launch 2015's Mental Health Arts and Film festival on the 10th of October. Mahmud has been supporting community leaders in bringing together their reports and planning for contributions to this event.

Mahmud delivered a lecture on media reporting, lived experience and best practice to 2nd Year journalism students at Strathclyde University.

Community leaders Strands: Year three outcomes are being progressed for each strand, additional areas of work include;

- Involvement at Art conference and workshops for young people and Mental Health.
- We have recruited additional community leader Tam Ryan who will lead on a football and mental health literacy project in Edinburgh for young people (this is to utilise additional resources which weren't fully used in year two)
- Supported the Prison Advocacy network to link in with the Mental Welfare commission to look at their Prison work. We have also taken part in positive prisons positive futures labelling and language focus groups.

Research: Mahmud took part in research with the Scottish Universities Insight Institute on access to Mental Health for linguistically and culturally diverse patients.

Influencing

Mahmud met with the Scottish Government assessor for customer excellence awards to support Glasgow museums and our partnership with them.

4. Strategic Work

Scottish Recovery Network (SRN)

The SRN and VOX are progressing the Peer Support scoping work. This includes a survey monkey and phone discussions on peer support projects as a starting point for exploring peer support in Scotland.

Support in Mind

Frances Simpson, The Chief Executive from Support in Mind and I have delayed the sharing good practice on confidentiality/information sharing at present due to competing work demands in Support in Mind.

5. Involvement Work

Three sessions, as agreed are arranged for capacity/decision making discussion sessions with members. These will take place in Glasgow, Perth and the Borders. The dates are as follows;

6th, 11th and 13th May. See separate paper.

6. Policy Work

Graeme is continuing to take forward some of the work in relation to the potential removal of the exemption (which protects psychiatric patients from being prevented from smoking in the grounds of psychiatric hospitals).

VOX responded to the loneliness consultation.

7. Communications

The communications sub-group are progressing the best approach for the ongoing issues in relation to MTC media.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

We have prepared a grant chart for how to take forward and build in the monitoring and evaluation aspects of our work.

We have a special session aimed at community leaders to support them in monitoring the community leaders' work. This is being held on the 21st April.

9. Group members get together

Graeme will share the feedback on the group members get together which was held by Klacksun in March.

10. Staff Supervision

We have started to undertake 360% appraisals for staff; we shall also develop personal development plans for everyone (current ones are out of date).

6. Opportunities for Involvement

Carol Mapley to link in with John Sawkins with regard to attending meeting of the Royal College of Psychiatrists

7. Any other Competent Business

Training Opportunities; John Sawkins indicated that he would prefer training on Social Media.

8. Applications for Membership

One application for membership was approved by the board.

Next meeting Monday 22nd June 2015