

**Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting of
Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
10am Tuesday 23rd July 2013
Friends Meeting House, Ship St, Brighton**

CVSF's Chair opened the meeting, welcoming and thanking members for making the time to attend.

Sally Polanski, CEO, gave a presentation on the Transforming Local Infrastructure project, detailing the context, process and work completed so far.

She explained that, owing to the expanding remit of the new infrastructure organisation, a change to CVSF's charitable objects is needed.

The proposed new Objects were introduced:

(1) To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Brighton and Hove and its environs (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") and, in particular, build the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.

(2) To promote, organise and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit."

An explanation of the new objects was offered and questions were asked of the panel:

Q: (Richard Scott, Guest)

There appear to be conflicts of interest in the services delivered by the new organisation. How will the independent voice/forum function be kept separate from policy/public sector led agendas?

A: We are aware of the tensions that exist and commit to continued awareness of that. The Reps Council has a key role to play in ensuring the independent voice of the sector is heard and understood. Maintaining an independent voice is also a key part of the new organisation's business plan.

Q: (Richard Scott, Guest)

It seems there are key health infrastructure organisations and projects, like Healthwatch, ICAS and Impetus projects that could be consolidated and included in the new organisation. Are there any plans for this?

A: The intention is for Healthwatch to eventually become an independent body. The Impetus projects that are transferring are those that provide "infrastructure support", i.e. support to community groups and/or voluntary organisations. The project that are staying are frontline projects. Thus, through the TLI organisation, Impetus will become a purely frontline organisation.

Q: (Michel Boyer, Black History Group)

How do we ensure the new organisation continues to focus on hearing the voice of the sector?

A: The networks will seek to gather the sector's views and will be attended by members of the Reps Council, so that Reps can accurately represent the views of the sector at committees and partnerships. We are confident that our members will continue to have opportunities to share their views.

Q: (Terry Rixon, Working 50 Plus)

Will the new organisation be changing its legal status?

A: No. It will continue to be a company limited by guarantee, and a charity.

Q: (Richard Scott, Guest)

Can you provide some clarification on the wording 'area of benefit' in the new objects. Does this refer to Brighton and Hove?

A: Principally, but not exclusively. The main focus will be Brighton and Hove, but the new organisation needs flexibility to enable it to support groups and organisations which cross administrative boundaries, and to generate income from groups and organisations outside Brighton & Hove. Trustees will be responsible for interpreting the area of benefit.

Q: (Val Cane, Working 50 Plus)

If the new organisation's work does step over geographical boundaries, would the group or organisations that is benefiting be expected to pay a fee?

A: The type of services the new organisation might provide to organisations outside Brighton & Hove would be the type for which it would charge a fee, e.g. consultancy. The new organisation is likely to provide a discount on charged for services to members, and organisations outside Brighton & Hove would not be eligible to join the organisation.

Voting on charitable objects

Members were invited to vote on each of the 2 charitable objects above.

PART A

FOR:	24 & 14 proxy = 38 votes
AGAINST:	0
ABSTENTIONS:	0

PART B

FOR:	25 & 14 proxy = 39 votes
AGAINST:	0
ABSTENTIONS:	0

The resolution is therefore carried.

The formal EGM closed at 10.40am.

CVSF Members Attending

Ann Tizzard	<i>Knoll Community Association</i>	Member
Arran Evans	<i>Sussex Interpreting Services</i>	Member
Bert Williams	<i>B&H Black History</i>	Member
Caroline Ridley	<i>Impact Initiatives</i>	Member
Chris Lau	<i>Carers Centre for Brighton and Hove</i>	Member
Doris Ndebele	<i>Black & Minority Ethnic Community Partnership</i>	Member
Eva Jarvis	<i>Grace Eyre</i>	Member
Gary Pargeter	<i>Lunch Positive</i>	Member
Geraldine Des Moulins	<i>The Fed Centre for Independent Living</i>	Member
Gill Reynolds	<i>Impetus</i>	Member
Helen Russell	<i>CHIBAH - Co-operative Housing in Brighton & Hove</i>	Member
Helen Starr-Keddle	<i>Harvest Brighton & Hove</i>	Project of member
Jane Lutter	<i>Jesus Fellowship Church (Brighton)</i>	Member
Jannet Cook	<i>Metamorphosis Art Group</i>	Member
Jess Crocker	<i>Harvest Brighton & Hove</i>	Project of member
Jess Wood	<i>Allsorts Youth Project</i>	Member
John Patmore	<i>Brighton and Hove's Wildlife Forum</i>	Member
Kaye Duerdoth	<i>The Trust for Developing Communities</i>	Member
Louise Stone	<i>Adventure Unlimited</i>	Member
Nick Douglas	<i>LGBT HIP</i>	Project of member
Paul Bramwell	<i>Brighton & Hove Speakout</i>	Member
Rik Child	<i>Brighthelm Church and Community Centre</i>	Member
Simon Lewis	<i>CityCoast Trust</i>	Member
Sophie Franzen	<i>Bridge Community Education Centre</i>	Member
Stuart Derwent	<i>East Sussex Credit Union</i>	Member
Terry Rixon	<i>Working 50 Plus</i>	Member
Tim Smith	<i>Grace Eyre</i>	Member
Tomas Saig	<i>Radio Free Brighton</i>	Member
Val Cane	<i>Friends of the Pepperpot</i>	Member
Vicky Watson	<i>B&H Citizens Advice Bureau</i>	Member

Others Present

Ceri Davies	<i>Community University Partnership Programme (CUPP)</i>	Observer
Ian Chisnall	<i>Christian Action Network</i>	Observer
Kat Pearce	<i>Individual Delegate</i>	Observer
Kate Kirkham	<i>Worthing Council for Voluntary Service</i>	Observer
Philip Carpenter	<i>Individual Delegate</i>	Observer
Richard Scott	<i>Individual Delegate</i>	Observer
Charlie Peverett	<i>NEO</i>	Presenter

CVSF Staff & Volunteers Present

Clair Farenden	
Cynthia Marin Jimenez	
Dan Salisbury	
Fabia Bates	
Jenny Moore	
Kate Welsh	
Laura Williams	
Libby Young	
Magdalena Pasiut	
Rachel Papworth	
Sally Polanski	
Stella Peyerl	
Steve Hearsom	
Jane Viner	<i>Healthwatch Brighton & Hove</i>

Apologies

Alan Cooke	<i>Craven Vale Community Association</i>
Alison Marino	<i>Volunteer Centre Brighton & Hove</i>
Chris Todd	<i>B&H Friends of the Earth</i>
Frances Duncan	<i>Whitehawk Inn</i>
Francis Tonks	<i>B&H Older People's Council</i>
Fred Maillardet	<i>Remap (Brighton & Hove District)</i>
Jackie Chase	<i>Radio Free Brighton</i>
Jackie Grigg	<i>Money Advice and Community Support Service</i>
Jessica Sumner	<i>Age UK Brighton & Hove</i>
Joanna Gurr	<i>SPIN (Single Parent Information Network)</i>
Judy Rollings	<i>Stepping Stones Pre-school Portslade</i>
Leonard Kroon	<i>Jesus Fellowship Church (Brighton)</i>
Les Gunbie	<i>Brighton Peace & Environment Centre</i>
Lis Gohrisch	<i>Daybreak Family Group Conferences</i>
Madeline Peasgood	<i>Epilepsy Action Brighton and Hove Branch</i>
Michael Mansi	<i>Sudanese & Arabic Speaking Elderly Association</i>
Mukesh Patel	<i>Gujarati Cultural Society</i>
Robert Brown	<i>Action for Bevendean Community</i>
Simon Frost	<i>Parity Trust</i>
Vivenie Niragire	<i>Rwandan Youth Information Community Organisation</i>