

**Blackburn With Darwen Community and Voluntary Services
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held on Wednesday 21st February 2018
At Blackburn Youth Zone
Jubilee Street, Blackburn.**

Present:	Brian Todd (BwD OPF), L Bradley (Ghawazee), M Gaskell (Ghawazee), Karl Wilding (NCVO), Riyaz Patel(BwD YAP), Jane Dadswell (Travel Assist), James Coulthard (Travel Assist), Joan Cook (Stitch and Knit), Ruth Sroczen (Stitch and Knit), M Ahmed (OPF), Laura Booth (Townswomen's Guild), Jacqueline McGrew (Whitebirk and Intack TARA), Brian Holiday (Whitebirk and Intack TARA), Andrea Wensley (CVS), Natum Patel (AFG), Leanne Proctor (U2Getfit)
Staff in Attendance	Garth Hodgkinson, Yasmin Patel, Philomena Strickland, Steven Foden, Graham Aspin, Mohammed Kathrada, Lynn Hennessy, Denise Hayhurst, Nikki Kenyon, Debra VanAarde, Geoff Wilkinson, Kate Lee, Bernard Drinkwater, Bev Marsden, P Begum, Yasmin Patel, Garth Hodgkinson, Clair Bloomfield, Donna Talbot,
Apologies:	Vicky Shepherd (BwD Age UK), Mrs Wendy Cooper (Roe Lee Park Ladies Bowling Club), The Rt Revd Julian Henderson (Bishop of Blackburn), Sajida Shah, Musarat Rashid, (Kiren Group), Laura Wharton(Public Health Specialist), Gillian Davies(Bootstrap), Bob MacDonald(CVS), Pele Mathuada (CVS), Shanon Leadbetter (CVS)

	<p>The Chief Executive welcomed the attendees to the Conference and AGM.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the Members of CVS and explained that we were not expecting a fire alarm test and where the Emergency Exits are located. The speaker was introduced and it was explained that Laura Wharton (our second speaker) had to cancel as she is not well.</p> <p>Apologies were given.</p> <p>Guest Speaker – Dr Karl Wilding – NCVO – Director of Public Policy & Volunteering. Dr Wilding thanked CommunityCVS for inviting him to speak and explained he travelled a lot up and down the country to speak to various charities but it was good to be back in the town he grew up in and be sure he would be understood without having to change his accent. How our world is changing and how we expect it to change:</p>	Actions

NCVO is 100 years old next year and the changes have been vast. The number of charities are growing with government departments being turned into charities eg Canals and Rivers Trust and English Heritage and more charities are being added all the time. Small charities are doing ok because they never did have any money as they are volunteer led. These are the sports clubs and community groups. It is the medium sized charities that are suffering. They may have one or two employees, and the costs of running an office. Income from government looks like a slow upward curve but this is so we can deliver services so we get more in fees not grants which are declining. Replacing grants is very challenging – we need to make the case for small and medium charities. We need to tell the councillors about the work we do and get them to value the work we do as good value for money.

Volunteer time is as valuable as money. One in four adults volunteer every month six in ten volunteer at least once a year. Some volunteers don't see what they do as volunteering. How is volunteering going to change? The population is growing and getting older – older people use public services more – seeing GP's twice as often as they did twenty years ago and more of us are living alone – putting strain on the housing stock. Statutory Services are struggling to cope – they are reaching a tipping point and will need to try something different. They should be trying to rebuild the bonds in the community so people give more support to one another.

How can we involve Generation Y and get them to be the trustees of the future? People move about more and have less loyalty, they move between charities. The average age of trustees is 62 years but how can we attract younger people? Could we call the meetings at a better time? We need to look at Governance (Charity Code Of Governance) to improve the problems.

People are giving small chunks of time as they are very busy. We need to make volunteering more fun and be able to share it with friends – Micro Volunteering is appealing to the young and has less commitment. Millennial volunteers are glued to their phones and are smarter with media – so can have meetings on line with less travel. We need to keep volunteering relevant for them. For most young people looking for volunteering the first place they look is Do-it .org.

Can we learn from the public sector? Small things are the way forward to make a big difference

Thanks to Dr Wilding

Garth Hodgkinson – Community CVS Chief Executive Officer
Presentation – Attached

Questions and Answers

Q)

What do you think the politicians will say? You are doing a great job but now we have more money to spend on the bins and

things that the voters value and help them to get re-elected.

A)

Politicians like local charities and everyone is desperately trying to find solutions to the problems but they don't have vast amounts of money to fix things. We need to find different types of resources that we can raise for ourselves that and so we are not always going to a cash strapped government.

Q)

The Town Hall have a room off the reception with eight desks and chairs that were used to offer advice to the public on benefits now the Council don't have the staff to man them. Why can't CAB or another advice agency use them.

A)

If they can go to Cab / CVS for advice they are taking up the slack, but they don't have a bottomless pit that we can tap into to top up resources. We need to take what we have and make the most of it.

We need to celebrate our successes – it's not bragging!

We need to find ways to pull the heart strings of youth. They don't know what they want to do – just that they want to do something good.

Bad news sells but we need to get good news out there.

The Minutes Of the last Annual General Meeting 14th December 2018

Agreed as a true and accurate record – : Proposed Brian Todd
Seconded by Paul Mason

Matters Arising

Item 6 – Microphone – We need a roving microphone.

Trustees Annual Report

Tabled – This has been a productive year with the hard work of the volunteers and staff paying off. Most of the staff and volunteers were wearing the CommunityCVS Polo Shirts showing team spirit.

Independent Examined Accounts

Accepted – Thanks from Paul Mason to Garth Hodgkinson for all his hard work.

Appointment of Auditors

Appointment of auditor chair proposes same to continue this was accepted.

Election Of Committee

There are two Committee Members standing down Donna Bailey and Harriet Roberts. We thank them for their hard work over the years.

The nomination received is Sajida Shah, and there are three

	<p>committee members standing down and seeking re-election. The meeting accepts all the nominations.</p> <p><u>Launch of the Community Pledge</u> We have launched two new charities a Blackburn Community Foundation and a Darwen Community Foundation. The pledge is to donate either time or money to the Foundation of your choice.</p> <p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>It was proposed to make Blackburn with Darwen an age friendly area. Which was supported by the meeting.</p> <p>Funding Portal Welcome to Open 4 Community which is a free funding portal for voluntary, community and faith groups within the Blackburn with Darwen area. Open 4 Community empowers charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises to search for Government, Lottery and charitable trust funding in their local areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open 4 Community is advanced yet simple – an intuitive but easy-to-use funding search tool allows organisations and individuals to find out what funding is available to them by simply selecting from handy drop-down lists, such as what they want funding for or what type of group they are.• Interactive interface – alternatively, Open 4 Funding also incorporates an interactive browse tool that enables users to find funding by simply clicking on graphical icons, ensuring the portal is accessible whatever the user’s IT experience.• Complete and concise – search results are shown as a concise summary that can be sorted by various categories, such as funding body, application deadline or best match. Full information on relevant schemes is available at the click of a button, allowing users complete access to all-important details such as eligibility criteria, application forms, and who to contact.• Manage your information – funding search results and even specific schemes can be saved to a personal profile to set up email alerts that automatically inform users when similar schemes are added or updated.• Keep up to date – news articles are posted on a daily basis, keeping users informed about new grants, upcoming funds, approaching deadlines, and important policy announcements. They can also sign up to receive weekly newsletters packed with the latest and most relevant funding updates. <p>Meeting Closed</p>	