

More than just a landlord

# **Board of Management Minutes**

Date of Meeting: 14th May 2020

Please note that these minutes have been edited to remove any information relating to personal/confidential/commercially sensitive or of a personal nature.



Present	In Attendance
Janet Strang (Chair)	Frank Sweeney, Group Chief Executive
Lesley Keenan	Elaine Nimmo, Minute Secretary
Willie Gibson	
June Fenelon	
John Kelly	
Brenda Johnstone	
Brian McCabe	
Drew Hall	
Elizabeth Shedden	
John Nisbet	
Liam Loudon	
Margaret Davison	

	RITY RED - SECTION 1 - STANDING ORDER ITEM AND GOVERNANCE ITEMS	ACTION			
1.	Apologies				
	Apologies were received from Cllr Miller and Cllr Reid.				
2.	Chairperson's Remarks				
	<ol> <li>The Chair asked all Members to mute their microphones unless they wish to speak and to say their name prior to speaking.</li> <li>The Chair asked all Members to ensure that their mobile phones are switched off.</li> <li>As there were confidential items on the Agenda the Chair read out the following confidentiality statement:</li> </ol>				
	In compliance with the Regulatory Code of Governance and Board Members' Code of Conduct all items detailed in this notice as being confidential and associated papers are strictly confidential and should not be discussed with any external party either prior to or after said meeting by any Member of the Board of Management.				
	In terms of good governance all members should note that when the director/officers are giving or presenting their report that there will be no interruptions to allow them to finish their reports. Questions can be asked after the presentation.				
	4 Return to Work  The Group Chief Executive confirmed that the Executive Management Team continue to plan for an eventual return to work for staff and are looking at installing acrylic screens at staff workstations and in the reception area. It was noted that the garden squad made a phased return to work from Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2020.				
	The Group Chief Executive advised all Board meetings will continue to take place via Microsoft Teams for the foreseeable future.				



PRIOR	ITY RED - SECTION 1 - STANDING ORDER I	TEM AND GOVERN	ANCE ITEMS	ACTION
3.	Declaration of Interest Four Board Members declared an interest Club funding application which has been a Better Places Fund. The declaration of inte in the register.	submitted to Mak	ing Our Communities	CEO
4.	Requirement of the Writing (Scotland) Act 2 None.	1995		
5.	Adoption of Minutes and Business Arising f	rom Same		
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Board of Management Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	John Nisbet	Brenda Johnstone	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Corporate Strategy & Business Plan Review Session 1 - 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2020	Willie Gibson	John Kelly	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Development Services Sub Committee Confidential – 23rd January 2020	June Fenelon	Brian McCabe	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Development Services Sub Committee Confidential – 26th February 2020	Elizabeth Shedden	Brenda Johnstone	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Development Services Sub Committee Confidential – 9th April 2020	Brian McCabe	June Fenelon	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Housing & Property Services Sub- Committee - <b>30</b> <sup>th</sup> <b>January 2020</b>	Elizabeth Shedden	John Nisbet	
	Matters Arising: None.			



PRIORI	TY RED - SECTION 1 - STANDING ORDER I	TEM AND GOVERN	ANCE ITEMS	ACTION
5.	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Housing & Property Services Sub-			
	Committee	Same	as above	
	Confidential - 30th January 2020			
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Housing & Property Services Sub- Committee - 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Elizabeth Shedden	John Kelly	
	Matters Arising: None.		-	
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Housing & Property Services Sub- Committee Confidential - 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Same	as above	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Finance & Corporate Services Sub Committee Confidential – 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	June Fenelon	Elizabeth Shedden	
	Matters Arising: None.			
	Meeting	Proposed	Seconded	
	Audit Sub Committee  Confidential – 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Drew Hall	John Kelly	
	Matters Arising: None.			
6.	Risk Management and Review (CONFIDEN (Confidential Report is commercially so because disclosure would harm commercially and the Group Chief Executive advised that Framework will not be reviewed with an COVID-19 pandemic. It is therefore proposed	ensitive therefore ial interests.)  t the Risk Manage external consultan	ement Strategy and It this year given the	
	take a session with the Board of Manage risk register in early June 2020.		•	
	Board agreed to the proposal and noted to risks to be added to the register given the Chief Executive advised a date will be agreeful will be issued in due course.	e current COVID-19	climate. The Group	CEO



PRIOR	ITY RED - SECTION 1 - STANDING ORDER ITEM AND GOVERNANCE ITEMS	ACTION
7.	Scheme of Delegation The Group Chief Executive advised that the documents are currently under review and will be presented to the Board in June for consideration.	CEO
8.	Notifiable Events The Group Chief Executive referred members to the previously circulated report confirming the Association has raised two notifiable events under the Scottish Housing Regulator's Notifiable Events guidance as follows:	
	23/03/2020 Performance and service delivery issues regarding COVID-19 – Closure of offices etc.	
	03/04/2020 Performance and service delivery issues regarding COVID-19 – Closure of Victoria House.	
	Board noted.	
9.	Making Our Communities Better Place Funds Year End Report The Group Chief Executive referred members to the previously circulated report. The Board discussed the content and were disappointed with the level of feedback questionnaires received.	
	Board of Management agreed to hold the issue of funding payments until feedback questionnaires are received given the low response rate.	CEO
	Successful funding award letters and the funding application forms will be amended to advise applicants that cheques will not be issued until feedback questionnaires are received.	CEO
10.	Making Our Communities Better Place Fund Freeze The Group Chief Executive referred members to the previously circulated report.	
	The Board of Management agreed to freeze the Making Our Communities Better Places Fund given the current COVID-19 pandemic until the Government relax the restrictions on the lockdown and staff are back at work in the office. All applicants will be advised and a notice will be published on the Association's website confirming the fund has been frozen temporarily.	CEO
11.	Making Our Communities Better Places Fund(s)  The Group Chief Executive referred members to the previously circulated report.	
	The Board of Management approved holding £5,000 in reserve for each of the two funds, for applications received at the end of the financial year.	CEO
	It was agreed this will be built into the budget figures for future years starting in 2021/2022.	Ex Dir F&CS



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12.	Secretary's Report The Secretary reported the following had been received:	
	<ol> <li>Correspondence</li> <li>SFHA Membership Renewal 2020 received for affiliate membership £18,543.</li> <li>Received a thank you email from card from Ayrshire Music Festival for their donation from Making Our Communities Better Place Fund.</li> <li>Received a thank you email from Mauchline Holy Fair Committee for their donation from Making Our Communities Better Place Fund.</li> <li>Received an update email from Aria Pascual (Karate), Making Our Communities Better Places Fund on her latest achievements.</li> </ol>	
13.	Subsidiary Company Report (CONFIDENTIAL) (Confidential Report is commercially sensitive therefore has been withheld because disclosure would harm commercial interests.)  Board noted the content of the report.	
14.	EVH Report to Board Members  The Group Chief Executive referred members to the previously circulated report and advised that all conferences have been cancelled. Executive Committee meetings are still taking place virtually with the next one scheduled for 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2020.	
	The Board noted.	
15.	Health and Safety Board noted a health and safety group minutes of 6th February 2020.	
16.	Policies for Ratification The Group Chief Executive advised the Board the undernoted policy was reviewed and proposed changes are highlighted in red.	
	Board of Management Induction, Learning & Development Policy – CE0010 The Chief Executive presented the policy for consideration and asked if there were any questions. No questions were received on the policy.	
	The Board of Management approved the policy for ratification.	
	Tenancy Sustainment Policy – PSH022  The Group Chief Executive advised the Board the undernoted policy was identified as being a requirement from the recent Mulholland Housing Consultancy assurance statement review and is recommended to the Board of Management for ratification.	
	The Chief Executive presented the policy for consideration and asked if there were	



PRIOR	PRIORITY RED - SECTION 1 - STANDING ORDER ITEM AND GOVERNANCE ITEMS	
16.	any questions. No questions were received on the policy. The Board of	
	Management accepted the policy for ratification.	
	The Board of Management approved the policy for ratification.	
	The Board of Management ratified the acceptance of the 2 policies presented.	
17.	Development Programme	
	(Confidential Report is commercially sensitive therefore has been withheld because disclosure would harm commercial interests.)  The Group Chief Executive advised a report will be presented to the next Development Services Sub Committee providing information on how COVID-19/Social Distancing restrictions will impact the Associations sites when they	Ex Dir Dev
	return to work.	

PRIO	RITY RED - SECTION 2 - IMPORTANT ITEMS MUST BE TAKEN	ACTION
18.	CEO and Executive Director's 360° Appraisal Report (CONFIDENTIAL)  (Confidential Report is commercially sensitive therefore has been withheld because disclosure would harm commercial interests.)  The Group Chief Executive advised the appraisal process has been carried out by Remarkable and will be tabled at the next Board meeting.  The Board noted.	CEO
19.	Local Area Committee – Dumfries & Galloway Update Report (Confidential Report is commercially sensitive therefore has been withheld because disclosure would harm commercial interests.)  The Group Chief Executive referred Members to his previously circulated report and agreed to delay the assessment/workability report by Mulholland Consultancy until November 2020 given the current climate.	CEO
20.	Quarterly Performance against Strategic Objectives The Group Chief Executive referred Members to his previously circulated report and advised that quarter 4 will be discussed in detail at the Corporate Strategy & Business Plan review session on 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2020.	
21.	Quarterly Performance against Workplan/Targets (CONFIDENTIAL) The Group Chief Executive referred Members to his previously circulated report. It was noted that the training sessions will resume post COVID-19 for Board members.  The Board noted the content of the report.	



PRIOR	ITY RED - SECTION 2 - IMPORTANT ITEMS MUST BE TAKEN	ACTION
22.	Self-Assurance Update The Group Chief Executive referred members to his previously circulated report and confirmed Mulholland Consultancy will carry out the self-assessment against the SHR's Financial and Governance Standards June/early July 2020.  All items contained in the self-assessment action plan which have been	
	completed will be reviewed by Mulholland Consultancy and presented to the Board in August 2020 for sign off and submission of the Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.	CEO
23.	Severance Payments Policy The Group Chief Executive referred members to his previously circulated policy which has been drawn up by the Executive Director of Finance & Corporate Services and Dawn Robertson of Rooney Nimmo. The policy was identified as being a requirement from the Mulholland Housing Consultancy assurance statement review.	
	The policy has been prepared to ensure it meets the criteria contained in the Standards of Governance and Financial Management for RSLs of the Scottish Housing Regulator.	
	The Board of Management approved the Severance Payments Policy.	
24.	Settlement Agreements Policy The Group Chief Executive referred members to his previously circulated policy which has been drawn up by the Executive Director of Finance & Corporate Services and Dawn Robertson of Rooney Nimmo. The policy was identified as being a requirement from the Mulholland Housing Consultancy assurance statement review.	
	The policy has been prepared to ensure it meets the criteria contained in the Standards of Governance and Financial Management for RSLs of the Scottish Housing Regulator	
	The Board of Management approved the Settlement Agreements Policy.	

PRIORITY ORANGE – SECTION 3 – ITEMS TO BE TAKEN, TIME PERMITTING	
None.	

PRIOR	PRIORITY GREEN – SECTION 4 – ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY	
25.	25. Share Analysis Year End Report	
	Board noted the content of the report.	
26.	Quarterly Policy Review Progress Report February 2020-April 2020	
	Board noted the content of the report.	

Minutes of Board of Management Meeting Held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 2.00 pm via Microsoft Teams



PR	PRIORITY GREEN – SECTION 4 – ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY		
27	7.	Scottish Housing News Article - SHR The questions remain. Time for an	
		independent review?	
		Board noted the content of the report.	

The Meeting then closed at 3.10 pm.

	Signature	Date
Approved to Proceed to		
Chairperson for Sign-Off:		
Approved for Circulation By:		
Proposed By:		
Seconded by:		