



**Working Group for Older People (WGOP)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 11th November 2015
at 11.15am at The Eastfield Inn**

Present: Val Bishop (VB) (Chairman), Gay Huggins (GH) (Treasurer & Secretary), Wendy Hull (WH) (SB Neighbourhood Watch Network Rep), Sue Boyd (SB) (WOT Ward Rep), Helen Furber (HF) (Henleaze Ward Rep), David Mayer (DM) (NP Chairman & WOT Ward Rep), Alan Aburrow (AA) (WOT Ward Rep), Graham Donald (GD) (Co-opted).

Andrew McGrath (AM) (BCC NP Area Coordinator) attended for part of the meeting.

Also in Attendance: Sylvia Kelly, Christine Walker, Mike Huggins (MH).

Chairman's Welcome: VB welcomed everyone and said how pleased she was to see so many at the AGM. VB stated that we are a group, we work together as a group and make decisions as a group.

Apologies: James Lynch (BOPF), Cllr Glenise Morgan, Mildred Miller, Audrey Indge.

Minutes from AGM held on 18th November 2014: The minutes were agreed. The review of the work of WGOP dated November 2014 had been subsequently added to these minutes.

Matters Arising: None.

Constitution: VB pointed out that the group needed to have a Constitution as we have a bank account. HF, on behalf of the group, had revised the Constitution following our last meeting. A full discussion took place and MH stated that he had concerns over various parts. For example, nowhere did it state that anyone could vote. Under Election of Officers it does not specifically enable anyone to vote. HF agreed to this point. DM also raised various concerns. DM said one option was to have Committee Meetings, and Public Meetings. He stated that the Terms of Reference of any NP group should provide for an NP elected Chair, but not necessarily an elected NP Secretary or Treasurer. The Constitution did not make reference to other roles. HF said that this Group has its own finance and the bank would need to know who the signatories are. Various questions were raised about those elected to the Committee. MH suggested that the 3 main positions should be staggered as, should they all change at the same time; there would be a complete change of management with no continuity. However, it was pointed out that reps are elected for a two year period. HF said this could all change in May following the elections/boundary changes. GD also raised the problem that if someone was ill, or moved away, etc, there is no procedure to follow. There is no provision for replacing them temporarily. SB felt we had done well in the past but appreciated we have to ensure we are acting properly. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that HF, VB, GD and MH would form a small committee to review the Constitution and report back.

It was suggested that the AGM should occur after the May elections in future. With the boundary changes, Stoke Bishop would still have two Councillors and four Ward representatives. However, Westbury-on-Trym/Henleaze would be combined and it has not yet been decided whether they will keep their individual Open Forums or merge.

HF stated that, as we are keeping to the old Constitution, we needed the finances to be independently examined. She suggested Gordon Richardson, CA, might be prepared to do this and she would contact him. He is the vice chair of the Bristol Disability Equality Forum in Bristol.

Andrew McGrath joined the meeting at this point. Sue Boyd had to leave the meeting.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman's Report was sent out in advance of the meeting. There were no matters for discussion arising from the Chairman's report. The Chairman's report was approved unanimously.

DM thanked VB on behalf of NP3 and congratulated the group on all its work.

Treasurer's Report: GH had produced a statement of account up to 31st October 2015 showing a balance of £1,852.01. After discussion it was agreed that a table showing the restricted funds relating to the Well Being Grant of £3,000 and the £500 grant from St Monica's should be added to clarify the figures. It was agreed one should be provided before the next meeting. The Independent Examiner will require the amended statement. GH did not have a budget for 2015/16.

Election of Officers: AM then asked if any nominations had been received for Chairman. VB agreed to stand again. She was proposed by AA and seconded by GH. Agreed unanimously. She was prepared to hold this position up to the next NP elections with certain caveats in place. There had been two nominations for Treasurer, GH and HF. After discussion it was agreed that GH would remain as Treasurer. HF requested that it should be minuted that she would prefer to be Treasurer but, the interests of group harmony, will accept the role of Secretary until May 2016.

Any Other Business: 1) VB referred to the next Pick-Me-Up trip on 9th December. To date GH had received 27 names. A lot had come from Henleaze as they had received notification via the Henleaze Society Newsletter, but the posting was now out and it was being advertised widely. We had also received an application from a lady known to have dementia who was not intending to bring a carer. DM asked if BCC have carers who could come along but AM was not sure anyone would be available. It was suggested that Cllr Glenise Morgan might have some ideas. VB asked GH to send the list of applicants to all committee members who might then be able to identify any other persons requiring support.

2) Bristol Dementia Active Alliance were holding a meeting on 17th November which VB hopes to attend but she felt that our group did not necessarily wish to become a formal member of the BDAA.

3) VB has prepared a report for the December NP Forum, which she agreed to circulate. AA offered to put it on the NP3 website.

4) WH – she had met with Ms Palmer of the Community Access Support Services. They were interested in coming to talk to us. A grant is available which must be used by February 2016. Such a grant could be useful to WGOP.

5) HF suggested we take the details of Sylvia and Christine so they can be added to our list of contacts.

6) AA thanked the group for their work. He suggested Doctor's surgeries as an outlet for our "Activities for the over 55's" booklet. VB confirmed that this had already happened.

There being no other business, VB thanked all for coming and the AGM was declared closed at 1.20pm.