

Minutes of VCSE Strategic Partnership Meeting

Held on Monday 7th November 2022

at the Barnwood Trust, Overton House and via Zoom (Hybrid)

In Attendance:
Tom Beasley (TB) – Active Gloucestershire
Chris Brown (CB) – Forest Voluntary Action Forum
Sally Byng (SB) – Barnwood Trust
Pippa Jones (PJ) – Create Gloucestershire (via Zoom)
Matt Lennard (ML) – Gloucestershire VCS Alliance
Vicci Livingstone-Thompson (VL-T) – Inclusion Gloucestershire
Ami Mortimer (AM) - Artlift & Gloucestershire Art Consortium (Acting Chair)
William North (WN) – The Long Table
Indigo Redfern (IR) – GL11

Apologies:
Kobe Francis (KF) – The Music Works

Guests:
Jill Parker (JP) – Gloucestershire VCS Alliance

Minutes by:
Karen Matthews – Gloucestershire VCS Alliance

The meeting commenced at 14:23PM.

17. Welcome, introductions and apologies	ACTION
<p>Apologies had been received from Kobe Francis (KF) who had been held up at another meeting. IR would join the meeting shortly.</p> <p>Apologies were accepted.</p>	
18. Declarations of interest	
<p>JP noted that she had not completed a Declaration of Interest form as a guest to the group and wished to declare her trusteeship of the Thera Trust.</p> <p>SB recorded that she was a trustee of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.</p> <p>TB recorded that he was a board member of North Nibley Festivals Ltd.</p>	
19. Minutes of the last meeting	
<p>The minutes of the 7th October 2022 were agreed to be a true account of the meeting.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <p><u>10 – ML to discuss the issue of engaging with the Health & Wellbeing Partnership Strategy at the VCSE Strategic Day on the 7th October and to provide the resulting report to the Health & Wellbeing Partnership.</u></p> <p>To be discussed under agenda item 4.</p> <p>14:27 IR joined the meeting.</p> <p><u>12 – All VCSE Strategic Partnership Members to let the Chair know if they knew of somebody appropriate for the Cotswold ILP group</u></p> <p>This had been actioned.</p>	

	<p><u>13 – Chair to update ToR to state that members should expect the discussions within meetings to be shared.</u> To be discussed under agenda item 6.</p> <p><u>14 – Chair to create the e-bulletin on a six-month trial basis to gauge its effectiveness</u> JP confirmed that there had been a section included in the Gloucestershire VCS Alliance about ILP reps a few weeks prior to the meeting.</p> <p><u>15 - TB to circulate the ICP minutes to the VCSE Strategic Partnership</u> This had been actioned.</p> <p><u>16 - Chair to contact district councils to find out how “Warm Spaces” were being coordinated.</u> This had been actioned.</p>	
20.	Developing a VCSE sector plan	
	<p>a) Reflections on strategy day at Hawkwood</p> <p>ML gave a PowerPoint presentation. The ICP was developing a 5-year strategy to be in place by December 2022. The VCS had been asked to contribute to the strategy, and this had been discussed at a “VCSE Strategic Planning” day at Hawkwood College on the 7th October.</p> <p>Zoe Clifford & Becky Wilmott from the ICP had been charged with creating the strategy and had asked permission to use the State of the Sector data within it.</p> <p>There was a discussion around the data with the following points made: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A breakdown of growth in income per financial year would help to identify the impact of Covid funding. - Removing the biggest organisations from the data would be useful to see if the same trends remained. - The number of newly registered charities by income group would provide insight into what was driving the growth in registrations. <p>It was agreed that narrative was required to give substance to the headline data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group felt that funders needed to be supported in making more sustainable funding decisions, catering for as many people as possible. - The growth in the number of newly registered charities could indicate that there was some duplication and scope for working together. - Decisions regarding mergers would be made at board-level and it was vital that the group had direct communication with trustees. - Capacity was required to look at structuring the sector in a different way. The possibility of infrastructure organisations “incubating” start-ups had been suggested and it was thought that this could be trialled. - The group needed a strategy which identified: what made the sector distinct from the state, what the sector wanted to achieve, and what the sector could offer. 	
	b) Turning themes into a plan	
	<p>ML shared a slide detailing the main themes of the plan: influence, innovation, collaboration and sustainability.</p> <p>JP had previously shared the report from the VCSE Strategic Planning Day on the 7th October.</p> <p>It was felt that the county needs more infrastructure to support the VCSE, but that this was very difficult to obtain funding for.</p>	

	<p>The Chair suggested that the group look at the work of the Billions Institute with regard to radical thinking.</p> <p>ACTION: ML to circulate his slide deck, inviting feedback on what should be the key messages behind the State of the Sector stats and further comment on the plan on a page.</p> <p>Feedback to ML by end of Wednesday 9 November.</p>	<p>ML</p> <p>All</p>
	c) Open Space event 22nd November	
	ML updated the group that the HCT (Healthy Communities Together) event would no longer be held as “Open Space” but would be a series of workshops.	
21.	Representative Roles	
	<p>JP informed the group that they had been offered a place on the Clinical Programme Board (CPB) which oversaw the work of all the Clinical Programme Groups.</p> <p>JP suggested that a representative could be selected from the group, or that ML or JP could attend on a temporary basis to gather further information.</p> <p>IR and ML both were interested in attending the CPB on a short-term ‘fact-finding’ basis and reporting back to the group.</p> <p>However, the group decided that, without representation on the Health & Wellbeing Board to provide a voice for the VCS, attendance at these subsidiary boards would provide little impact. It was also noted that attendance was not yet funded by the ICS.</p> <p>ACTION: JP to feedback the group’s decision to the Clinical Programme Board.</p> <p>ACTION: JP to request VCSE Strategic Partnership representation on the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p>	<p>JP</p> <p>JP</p>
22.	Updated Terms of Reference	
	<p>The updated Terms of Reference had been circulated in advance of the meeting to reflect discussions around the transparency of group discussions.</p> <p>The updated Terms of Reference were approved.</p>	
23.	Updates	
	a) Gloucestershire Health & Wellbeing Partnership	
	<p>15:44 PJ left the meeting.</p> <p>TB had attended an ICP workshop to look at the strategy. The meeting had been positive, and the contribution of the VCS had been welcomed.</p> <p>TB had offered to support some changes to the wording of the strategy and agreed to circulate his contribution to the group.</p> <p>ACTION: TB to circulate suggested wording for the ICP strategy.</p>	<p>TB</p>

	b) Enabling Active Communities and Individuals (EACI)	
	There had been no updates since the previous meeting.	
24.	Any other business	
	a) WhatsApp	
	JP suggested that the group setup a WhatsApp group. This was agreed. ACTION: JP to setup a group WhatsApp.	JP
	b) Vacant places within the VCSE Strategic Partnership	
	There was a discussion around how the two additional places within the group could be used. It was agreed that looking at a SWOT analysis to develop a strategy for the group should be added to the agenda for the next meeting. ACTION: JP to add “developing a strategy” to the next agenda. It was suggested that a trustee from the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, or member of their Youth Ambassadors Group would provide a different perspective. ACTION: SB to introduce JP to Roger Mortlock at the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.	JP SB
	The meeting concluded at 4:01PM The date and venue of the next meeting is: 1:30 – 3:30pm – 5th December at Sanger House, Gloucester Business Park, GL3 4FE	

Acronym Key	
ICB	Integrated Care Board
ICP	Integrated Care Partnership (also known as the “One Glos Health and Wellbeing Partnership”)
ILP	Integrated Locality Partnerships
VCSE	Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise sector
CPB	Clinical Programmes Board