



Forth Valley Social Enterprise Network Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 21 July 2021

10am – 12 noon

Chair: Anthea Coulter (CTSI)

Attendees Present:

Lesley Arthur (Reachout with Arts in Mind)
Lynn Blaikie (FV Chamber of Commerce)
Alan Clevett (SVE)
Karen D’Arcy-Kernan (CTSI)
Natalie Masterson (SVE)
Gerry McKeown (Camphill Blair Drummond)
George McMeechan (Dynamic Wheel)
Janie Meikle Bland (Picture the Possible Ltd)
Tracey Nicholson (SVE)
Eilidh Nimmo (CTSI)
Lee Robertson (Community Wellbeing and Education CIC)
Lee Stevenson (SVE)
Stephen Sutton (Bailliefields Community Hub)
Angela Watt (Resonate Together)
Donna Wood (Transition Stirling)
John Young (Vital Spark Racing CIC)

Apologies:

Sarah Philips (Stirling Council)
Jude Reid (Scottish Sports Futures)

Welcome and Introduction

Anthea Coulter, CTSI Chief Officer, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

FVSEN and Website Review

Karen D’Arcy – Kernan, CTSi, gave an overview of how she pulled the website together using MILO and external sources. 175 organisations are on the website from the FV area. A form will be sent out for organisations to give permission for their information to be on the website and to check their details.

Eilidh Nimmo, CTSi, shared her screen and showed attendees the FVSEN Website and went through it. Eilidh also explained that you can update information when you need to. The website is not live yet. Discussions took place on what can be added/taken away from the website. Quick links on the website were discussed and they were:

- Starting your social enterprise
- Resources and Support
- Local Support
- Training
- Funding
- National Support

Meet Lynne Blaikie - President of Forth Valley Chamber of Commerce

Lynne introduced herself and her role. Lynne's role as President and Chief Executive is a voluntary role. The President's role compliments Lynne's role at Stirling's Innovation Park where Lynne has worked for the last 16/17 years. Both roles are about helping businesses flourish and connect with each other.

The Chamber of Commerce has been going for a number of years. Lynne sat on the board for a few years and was voted in to be President 3 years ago. The Chamber of Commerce has 217 engaged members. They are a part of Chamber Network across Scotland. The Chamber of Commerce across Scotland represents 12,000 businesses which employs half a million employees who are an apart of the network. Every member of the business will get the full benefits when the business becomes a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Some of the benefits of being a member are:

- Networking events
- Invitations to Dinners
- Discounted Training

Lynne took some questions from attendees.

AOB – Partner Updates

Lee (Community Wellbeing and Education CIC) – The CIC has recently set up. It is a training school for beauty and holistic therapies in Falkirk. Lee and her colleague Donna are therapists themselves and want to bring the training to the community. They are focusing on women who have been through Domestic Violence to help them back into employment and upgrade their skills.

John (Vital Spark Racing CIC) – VPR CIC offers training opportunities for long term unemployment and disadvantaged people. –VPR CIC refurbishes power boats. They were in hub in Alloa and now are in a work shop in Castle Street Alloa. They have a new project, which is the redevelopment of Alloa harbour.

Donna (Transition Stirling) – Transition Stirling are running a community food project which uses surplus food from supermarkets. They are setting up a loose food shop and pantry. Their tool shop has been run online showing people how to do repairs themselves. Concerns around how the services are going to look once out of COVID-19.

Jerry – Camphill Blair Drummond – Camphill provide accommodation for 45 people with learning difficulties. The age range is 18-50. Camphill Blair Drummond offer day service for around 50 people. They

are hoping to establish a social enterprise and become more involved in FVSEN. Camphill have an artisan baker and would like to take it to market and want young people to become involved with it and provide training.

George (Dynamic wheel) – Dynamic Wheel promote the wellbeing and employability of people with a lived experience or mental health. The main social enterprise associated with Dynamain Wheel is Roots and Shoots.

TSI Update- Scottish Government are looking for views on the future of the social enterprise intermediaries bodies; click [here](#) to contribute.

Date of next meeting

The date of next meeting is currently Wednesday 29 September 2021, 10am – 12 noon.