

## **VALUES & PRINCIPLES BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

**1300 - 1500 hours Wednesday, 18 March 2020**

Online – Zoom call

#### **Present:**

Cllr Chris Penberthy	Plymouth City Council (Chair)
Cllr Peter Curling	Hillingdon Labour & Co-operative Group
Cllr Iain Malcolm	South Tyneside Council
Cllr Sue Woodward	Burntwood Town Council
Cllr Stephen Stanners	Seaton Valley Community Council
Michael Curnow	Peopletoo
Simon Parkinson	WEA (Vice Chair)
Rebecca Harvey	Co-operative News
Nick Matthews	Co-operatives UK
Cilla Ross	Co-operative College
Kathryn Mackridge	TUC

#### **In attendance:**

Nicola Huckerby	CCIN (minutes)
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#### **Apologies:**

Cllr Ken Dalton	Halewood Town Council
Cllr Sue Woodward	Burntwood Town Council
Emma Hoddinott	Co-operative Party

#### **Absent:**

Cllr Hayden Philips	North Warwickshire Labour Group
Cllr Frank Walsh	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr John Fareham	Hull City Council

### **1. Welcome and introductions**

Councillor Penberthy welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for taking the time to join the call in what were such challenging circumstances. Cllrs Sue Woodward and Stephen Stanners were welcomed as new Members representing Burntwood and Seaton Town Councils respectively. Kathryn Mackridge was welcomed as the new representative for the TUC.

### **2. Minutes from meeting on 11 September.**

These were agreed as an accurate record.

### **3. Matters Arising from meeting on 11 September**

- 3.1. Beyond Asset Transfer Policy Lab – NH reported that the Brief to complete the report would be circulated to those organisations on the Dynamic Purchasing System as soon as their details were released.
- 3.2. Revised Events list for 2020 – NH reported that the scheduled events listing was ever changing in the light of COVID-19. A decision would be taken at the EOC meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March regarding the postponement of the Strategy Session and North East Regional Workshop scheduled for 8 and 9 June.
- 3.3. Nick Matthews reported that a decision on the whether to postpone Co-operative Congress and the Coop of the Year Awards would be taken by 27<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **4. Minutes of the informal meeting – 16 January**

These were agreed as an accurate record.

#### **5. Matters Arising from informal meeting – 16 January**

- 5.1. The Chair reported that he felt it would be useful to have an Additional Vice Chair for the Values & Principles Board. The role would be as an additional sounding board for the executive and to participate in the Executive Oversight Committee when the Chair was unavailable; reporting back on V&P matters.
- 5.2. It had been agreed at the last meeting to invite a representative of the Worker Coop Sector to join the Board. Action: Cilla Ross to set up a zoom call with Rebecca Harvey, Chris Penberthy and NH to discuss potential candidates.

#### **6. Minutes of the Joint EOC/V&P meeting – 16 January**

These were agreed as an accurate record.

#### **7. Policy Lab 2019/20 Work Programme**

It was agreed to:

- Contact all project leads and ask for revised estimated completion dates. Action: NH.
  - Request that reports include an Addendum explaining how councils continued to co-operate with each other in the current crisis. Action – NH.
- 7.1. Co-operative Approaches to Sustainable Food (Lead: Oldham Council) – NH reported that Oldham Council was working with Salford University to undertake the research on this project and were chasing information from a number of councils. The update was noted.
  - 7.2. Co-operatives Unleashed – as seen from the grassroots (Lead: Plymouth City Council) – Nick Matthews welcomed the report, and its underlying methodology for co-operative working. Sue Woodward explained that District Councils were being asked to provide more support to communities in the current crises and that this report was timely. The Chair suggested that the report was launched at the earliest opportunity now that the physical launch in Westminster had been postponed. Cilla Ross made an offer on behalf of the College to organise a Webinar as part of the launch.
  - 7.3. Co-operative Neighbourhoods (Lead: Stevenage Borough Council) – the update was noted.
  - 7.4. Promoting cities of service model of social action to CCIN members (Lead: Plymouth City Council) – The Chair reported that this event had been held in Plymouth on 30/31 January. The remaining action was preparing the Toolkit for the CCIN website. It was agreed to share this with V&P before launch.
  - 7.5. Achieving Social Outcomes (Lead: Peopletoo) – Michael Curnow reported that a workshop that had been held pre-Christmas, and that future Workshops might need

to be organised remotely. There is still a requirement for input from councils and an acceptance that it could take a lot longer to deliver the final product. The update was noted.

#### **8. Policy Prototypes 2020 - Health and Social Care – Work Programme updates**

A total of £20,500 had been awarded to members to deliver Policy Prototypes. Initially we were expecting to fund 30 – 40 Policy Prototypes but had only received 13 applications by the January closing date.

With the current national lockdown and people being encouraged to self-isolate It was agreed to offer all councils the opportunity to slip submission dates for three months if required. Action: NH to contact project Leads.

NH reported that Power to Change were really interested in three of the Policy Prototypes and had been introduced to the relevant leads. Projects marked with \*

It was noted that during the Assessment session on 16 January, a number of the projects had either included union engagement or had been asked to bring in a Union voice. Action: NH to introduce Kathryn Mackridge to these project leads. Projects marked ().

Cllr Sue Woodward commented that our work programme was incredibly relevant and ahead of the curve.

Cllr Iain Malcolm welcomed the excellent range of submissions and asked whether it would be possible to re-open bids and to encourage those councils who had not submitted to do so. Cllr Penberthy stated that he would rather work with the projects that had already been approved and to encourage those councils that had not submitted this year to do so next year.

- 8.1. Enabling a dementia friendly Burntwood – Burntwood Town Council. The update was noted.
- 8.2. Co-operative Engagement – Toolkit tests – Rochdale MB Council. The update was noted. ()
- 8.3. Connecting Communities: Stevenage Community Transport Service – Stevenage Borough Council. Simon Parkinson reported that a lot of evidence on community transport had been submitted to the GMCA Co-operative Commission. Action: NH to make introductions.
- 8.4. Kirklees Adult Social Care Vision – Social Marketing – Kirklees Council. The application had been re-submitted and was approved. The update was noted.
- 8.5. Catalysing Care Co-operatives through Community Engagement – Kirklees Council.
- 8.6. Personalised Commissioning model comparison event: Beyond Time and Task - Kirklees Council. The update was noted. \*()
- 8.7. Health & Social Care Urgent Response Team - Telford & Wrekin Council. The update was noted.\*
- 8.8. Plymouth Complex Leads Alliance - workforce development programme - Plymouth City Council. The update was noted.
- 8.9. Plymouth Diabaters - Plymouth City Council. The update was noted. Cllr Penberthy reported that project was likely to be completed as per the original schedule as it did not require face to face meetings.
- 8.10. Plymouth Health and Wellbeing Hubs - Plymouth City Council. Nick Matthews welcomed the timeliness of this project and asked whether there was scope to move

to a 'Digital' Wellbeing Hub. Action: Cllr Penberthy to contact the lead. The update was noted.

- 8.11. Living Well at Home (LWAH) – Tameside Council. As agreed, Cllr Dave Jones from NUL Council had meet with the team at Tameside, and the application had been re-submitted and was approved. The update was noted.
- 8.12. Neighbourhood Conversations - co-operative approach to strengthening community resilience at a locality level - Southampton City Council. The project lead had already been in touch to ask whether they could have an extension on delivery because of COVID-19. NH reported that Southampton were keen to work with someone on the DPS to help deliver the project. The update was noted.
- 8.13. City Co-operative Care Summit – harnessing the strength of the local community, voluntary and social enterprise sector to deliver innovative approaches in delivering health and social care - Southampton City Council. The project lead had already been in touch to ask whether they could have an extension on delivery because of COVID-19. NH reported that Southampton were keen to work with someone on the DPS to help deliver the project. The update was noted. \*()

## 9. 2020 Work Programme

As identified at the last meeting a number of projects were carried forward to this year's Work Programme:

- 9.1 **CCIN Complaints Process** – The Co-operative College was thanked for sharing their new Complaints Process. Cllr Penberthy offered to draft a process for the Network with Plymouth City Council staff, and to report back in three months. Action: Cllr Penberthy.
- 9.2 **New Member Relationships** – Cllr Penberthy said that co-operation between co-ops was part of our DNA and Members should be encouraging people to be braver in their decision making. It was agreed that this would be incorporated into Phase 2 of the Induction Programme. Action: Cilla Ross.

Cllr Peter Curling offered to do some work with the College for the Induction Pack on encouraging Opposition Groups to share resources. Action: Cilla Ross and Cllr Peter Curling.

- 9.3 **Health and Social Care Policy Prototypes**  
Policy Prototypes on Children and Young People – it was agreed to ask members to consider projects in this area for a further round of Prototype funding in 2021. The Chair asked that special attention be given to diversity and equality.
- 9.4 **'Co-operative difference in care' report** – it was agreed that a Brief was required in order to turn the 13 Policy Prototype reports into a format that councils could learn from. This might include further learning formats eg video. The type of methodological template was discussed eg: social value methodology, impact methodology. Examples of headings for each report included:
  - Who we worked with?
  - What we did
  - What happened
  - What we discovered
  - What we could have done differently
  - Learnings
  - How a Co-operative approach to social care is different

Volunteers were sought to help prepare the Brief to find a consultant from the DPS to pull this report together. The Chair suggested that an early appointment would allow us the opportunity to work with the councils preparing the reports to ensure that their final document covered all of the areas we were seeking. It was the Chairs view that the volunteer group would not exclude potential bidders for the work. The following agreed to prepare a first draft of the Brief in the next two weeks: Cllr Chris Penberthy, Rebecca Harvey, Nick Matthews, Michael Curnow and Cilla Ross.

Agreed: Jonathan Downs would be asked to circulate the Brief on the DPS.

## **10. 2019/20 Strategy and Action Plan**

Several actions had been assigned to V&P for delivery:

- 10.1 Develop a Framework on how different levels of membership might work together (2.3) – The opportunity to look at how do you do Group Thinking on video conferencing was a live issue. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.  
Action: NH
- 10.2 How to engage Affiliate Members in the process of developing innovative Co-operative Councils (2.4) - It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. Action: NH
- 10.3 Explore the potential of using universities as economic anchors (5.1) – NH reported that following this discussion at the last meeting she had spoken to Julian Manley at UCLAN to see if there was potential for a university group to work with the CCIN. Julian had offered to help formalise this. There are a number of partnerships being built across the Network:
  - UCLAN & Preston
  - University of Herts & Stevenage (Prof Mick Brooks)
  - University of Salford & Oldham
  - Co-operative University

It was agreed to bring a group of people together in the Autumn who might be interested in this project. Action: NH to arrange. Action: NH to see if any other councils are working with their Universities so that they can be included.

## **11. Any Other Business**

- 11.1. **CCIN Induction Programme** – Cilla Ross introduced this item. The College had prepared an updated work programme. The scheduled video interviews were being rearranged in light of COVID-19. Existing CCIN Introduction materials were being uploaded to a system called RISE. Action: NH to circulate the revised work programme.

Cilla Ross reported that she was personally undertaking some the research required for Phase 2 of the Programme.

- 11.2. N Huckerby reported that we'd been asked to provide a letter of support for a group of academics who are in the process of developing a major bid for funding from the ESRC for a project focusing on the role played by co-operatives and the social economy in state formation, reconstruction and regeneration in the British Isles and

Empire/Commonwealth since 1900. It was agreed to send the request to Cilla Ross who would advise a response, whilst acknowledging our non-political status.

**12. Date & venue of next meeting**

- 12.1. 12noon for 1230 – 1430 hours Friday 19 June 2020 in Committee Room 3, Rochdale Town Hall. Lunch will be provided. Venue subject to change depending on whether Co-operative Congress goes ahead.

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20-03-20