

North East Tenant Voice (NETV) Meeting

Thursday 29 July, 09:30am – 12:30pm

via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Name	Organisation	Tenant (T) or Organisation (O)
Alan Black	Livin	T
Anda Baraskina	Beyond	T
Ann Potts	Karbon Homes	T
Anne Mahone	Jonnie Johnson Housing	T
Anthony Paul King	Darlington	T
Ashleigh Fullwood	Your Homes Newcastle	T
Des Mahon	Broadacres	T
Dorothy Mead	Beyond	T
Helen Hall	Gateshead Housing Company	T
Ian McKenzie	Gateshead Housing Company	T
Jackie Greenwood	Your Homes Newcastle	T
Janine Robinson	Beyond	T
Jim Scollen	Thirteen	T
Kathleen Newell	Jonnie Johnson Housing	T
Michael Lisle	Karbon	T
Pam Mclvor	Thirteen	T
Pedro Bengalinha	Broadacres	T
Sarah Warren	Broadacres	T
Sheila Capuano	Bernicia	T
Terry Chittenden	Believe	T
Val Scollen	Thirteen	T
Val Smart	Bernicia	T

The attendance list reflects the individuals who could be identified on the zoom call. Please let Leanne Farrell know any amendments so an updated list can be circulated.

Name	Organisation	Role
Gillian McLaren	Tpas	Facilitator
Emma Gilpin	Tpas	Facilitator/Minutes
Leanne Farrell	Tpas	Facilitator

Apologies:

Name	Organisation	Role
Julie Fishburn	Beyond Housing	T
Grace Curana	Thirteen	T
Anne Mahone	Johnnie Johnson Housing	T
Sam Grisedale	Beyond Housing	T
Theresa Jones		T

Valerie Lancaster	Beyond Housing	T
Beth Flinton	Beyond	T
Dave Fidgeon	Bernicia	T
Lisa Bennison	Gentoo	T
Mark Gilbank	Believe	T
Terry Chittenden	Believe	T
Tim Mason	Beyond Housing	T
Louise Bassett	Gentoo	O
Brenda Naisby	Gentoo	T
Dave Fidgeon	Bernicia	T
Dawn Pearson	Northumberland CC	T
Mark Gilbank	Believe	T

1. Welcome

Gillian McLaren, Tpas, welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 17 June 2021 were agreed as a correct record. Pam Mclvor advised two amendments. On the apologies Grace's surname is Curana and she is a Tenant from Thirteen and Ian McKenzie is a Tenant not an Officer.

3. Briefing Papers

No amendments to the papers, agreed for them to be included on the website under specialist groups. Michael suggested making them more formal and circulating to MPs and Councillors in the North East. Val Scollen advised she had attended an HQN event and they could be shared there. Alan has shared a Stigma report from work he has been involved in with Durham University which can also be included on the website. All members will look to include them on their various landlord's websites and a suggestion was made for them to be included as part of a pack for the launch event.

More members are needed for the digital poverty group and it was agreed, as put forward by Sarah, that groups should also consider rural issues. Helen advised she had not received all the papers so these will be re-sent. Leanne will send round all the specialist group details again with the offer to everyone to get involved in as many as they wish to.

4. Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct drafts

Jackie raised a strong objection to terms around not sharing information about the group without the committee's approval. In discussion it was agreed that it's important for messages to be consistent and agreed by the committee but that this could be re-phrased as members are encouraged to talk about and promote the group. Pam was concerned that the aims and objectives didn't restrict the group and it was agreed this would be expanded to add in that other areas would be considered by the group. There were concerns around the budget section with this discussion to continue in the finance section of the meeting.

5. Webpage content and NETV logo design

The webpage content is ready so the next step is to agree the logo in order for the pages to go

live. Eight options for logos were shared with the group and overall the preference was for option seven, as demonstrated by a poll, where 89% of members voted for it. Comments were made that it was important that it includes the words North East Tenants Voice for explanation but that it may also be good for the three houses to instead be a bungalow, house and block of flats, and also that it might be good to include people. Leanne will go back to the designer to request those two alternative options for final agreement to be gained via email so the webpages can be built.

6. Finance and funding

There were some queries about the information presented as it was thought that Beyond Housing and Thirteen had paid. Gateshead may well be paying in the near future as well. Agreed to share updated funding, with information about expenditure too, with the group. There was a discussion on how the finances will be managed longer term with offers from the group and suggestions of external support. This to be picked up again at a later date.

7. Geography

There was a lively debate and discussion regarding the geography for the group, and the map which had been shared, which didn't include North Yorkshire. Pam explained the discussions that had been held by the structure group and that this map was taken from the Boundary Commission merely to start the conversation with the full group. It was agreed that North Yorkshire would be included and that the map would not be used as it was felt to be excluding organisations/tenants and was not required.

8. Structure

Pam gave an overview of the proposed structure as discussed by the working group. There was discussion around the potential numbers and makeup of the Board, but all agreed it was necessary to have a Board fulfilling the functions of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer to support the wider forum, which is where the decisions would be made. This was confirmed via the chat. It was also agreed that they would serve different length terms to ensure there was continuity.

9. Next two meetings

All agreed for the next meeting to take place, face to face (with options for people to join online) on **15 September at the Radisson Blu in Durham**. Please note this is a change of date from 16 September due to availability of the venue. This meeting would be for everyone to meet each other properly, talk through the structure in more detail, people to be voted into roles and for discussing the final draft of the Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct (which unfortunately was not discussed due to timings and the group felt it was important this happened in an open forum rather than comments coming in via email).

All agreed for a launch event to be held in October with a working group to establish the details of Ian McKenzie, Pam McIvor, Sarah Warren, Sheila Capuano and Michael Lisle.

It was confirmed that Tpas would prepare a report detailing their support so far, which has

gone above and beyond the original agreement, with a proposal of what that could look like in the future, should the group wish to continue this support.

The group also asked for confirmation to be shared of the full membership.

10. Any other business

It was agreed to add another speciality group to the list concerning 'rural issues' and a suggestion was made in the chat by Michael to also add one around 'anti-social behaviour'.