



Harrogate and Ripon Centres  
for Voluntary Service

**HARROGATE & AREA COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE LIMITED  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday 9 October 2019, 1.00 pm  
The Arches @Holy Trinity, Kirkby Road, Ripon HG4 2EY**

**1. WELCOME**

John Fox, HARCVS Chair, welcomed all present to the AGM. John gave a special welcome to Civic Guests: Chair of North Yorkshire County Council, Cllr Jim Clark; Mayor of Ripon, Cllr Eamon Parkin; Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Pateley Bridge, Cllr Chris Skaife and Cllr Mike Holt; Mayor of Boroughbridge, Cllr Geoff Haldenby.

**Also Present**

Nigel Ayre, Healthwatch North Yorkshire; Bernadette Barnes, St Wilfrid's Community Centre; Ian Bergel, HARCVS Trustee; Alex Bird, Harrogate Dramatic Society; Maurice Bull, HARCVS Trustee; Ann Byrne, Harrogate Borough Council; Frances Elliot, HARCVS; Lisa Fletcher, Ripon Community Link; Damien Handslip, Hands-On Enterprise Development Services; Tony Hirst, Ripon Museums and National Trust; Sally Horner, Carers' Resource; Lizzie Hughes, HARCVS; Angela Jones, HARCVS; Deborah Knopwood, North Yorkshire Police; Vicki Lever, North Yorkshire Youth; Stuart MacKenzie, HELP Ripon & Rural; Tim Mallett, HARCVS trustee; Liz Meade, North Yorkshire County Council; Liz Milner, Nidderdale AONB; Nicky Newell, Jennyruth Workshops Ltd; Gemma O'Connell, Ripon Museum Trust; Jack Palmer, National Trust; Julie Proudler, HARCVS; Brian Quinn, North Yorkshire Humanists; Anne Richards, Bilton & Woodfield Community Library; Carolyn Sands, Ripon Community Link; Caroline Shead, Macmillan Cancer Support; Sheila Skinner, HARCVS; Lisa Stirk, Home Instead Senior Care; Anne-Marie Tarter, C3: Cathedral Community Connections; Helen Thornton, Ripon Museum Trust; Christine Turner, HARCVS; Carol Watson, North Yorkshire County Council; Karen Weaver, HARCVS; Andy Wilkinson, Friends of Harrogate Hospital & Community Charity; Anna Woollven, HARCVS; Lee Wright, Essential Needs.

**2. APOLOGIES**

David Ashton-Jones, Disability Action Yorkshire and HARCVS trustee; Amanda Bloor, Chief Officer, Harrogate and Rural District CCG; Patrick Brady, HARCVS Trustee; Kevin Douglas, HARCVS Trustee; Nanci Downey, Versus Arthritis; Les Ellington, Parkinsons UK, Harrogate District; Melanie Fenner, North Yorkshire County Council; Richard Flinton, Chief Executive, North Yorkshire County Council; Cllr Sam Gibbs, Harrogate Borough Council; Susie Hart, Artizan International; Owen Jones, Claro Enterprises; Cllr Carl Les, Leader, North Yorkshire County Council; Andrew Marson, HARCVS Trustee; Cllr Stuart Martin, Mayor of Harrogate Borough; Julia Mulligan, North Yorkshire Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner; Phil Newby, HARCVS; Ruth Newton, HARCVS Trustee; Sussana Parkinson, Crossroads Care Harrogate,

Craven & York; Edward Pickering, Citizens Advice Craven and Harrogate Districts; Bev Richardson, HARCVS trustee; Veronica Ridsdale, JWP Creers; Mrs Johanna Ropner, Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire; Steve Russell, Chief Executive, Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust; Wallace Sampson, Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council; Julian Smith, MP for Ripon & Skipton; Les Sudron, Happy Wanderers; Sandanam Thevarokiam , Dignity Through Education; Gill Thrush, HNHA; Richard Watson, Whixley & District Community Cricket & Sports Club; Alison Wrigglesworth, Alzheimer's Society.

### **3. MINUTES OF 2018 AGM**

The Minutes of the 2018 AGM held on 11 October 2018 were accepted as a true record.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

### **5. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

HARCVS Chief Executive, Karen Weaver, and Ripon Service Co-ordinator, Julie Proudler, presented the Annual Report on behalf of the Board.

In her review, Karen looked to new opportunities and challenges as HARCVS moved forward as a multi-purpose charity. Karen's presentation highlighted achievements in what had been a year of consolidation for core CVS services, following major changes in funding the previous year. Continued core grant funding from Harrogate Borough Council had been vital to the charity's ability to offer support to charities and volunteers.

HARCVS connected and collaborated with people to support communities; provided local information services; supported local community and social action and community fundraising; managed practical support services helping people stay safe and well at home. The AGM was an opportunity to thank everyone for their support during a year of working in partnership. This had enabled the quality of the services HARCVS continued to offer to support the local voluntary and community sector and older and vulnerable people to be maintained, as well as supporting the development of new products and services.

Consultation with HARCVS members had confirmed that they saw a continuing role for a locally based support and development charity with local knowledge. With a staff team of only 19 (10 FTE), the work of HARCVS was made possible by over 100 dedicated volunteers.

During the year, HARCVS completed negotiations with Harrogate Community House Trust to transfer ownership of the building and successfully competed for the NYCC Community Based Wellbeing and Prevention Support contract for the Harrogate District.

It had been really rewarding working with Two Ridings Community Foundation and Harrogate Borough Council on THE LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District and THE LOCAL LOTTO. £70k had been distributed to local groups through THE LOCAL FUND, including £34k

invested by generous local 'dragons' at a Dragons' Den event. 85 groups had signed up for THE LOCAL LOTTO and £55k raised in the first year adding to local fundraising efforts.

Going forward with the integration of health and social care services in the District, it was important that voluntary and community sector organisations supporting good health and wellbeing were involved in plans for services

HARCVS was delighted to hold the AGM in Ripon and Karen thanked Ripon City Council for their support.

Julie explained how the HELP Ripon & Rural Befriending and Voluntary Driving Services and Help at Home helped people to stay connected, to get out and about in the community and be safe and well at home. HELP also ran a Craft Group in Ripon, the Here To HELP 'drop-in' information service and Here to HELP talks on topics such as staying Warm & Well. Together with the HELP Driving Force service based in Harrogate volunteer drivers had completed an amazing 10.5k journeys during the year.

Chair of Finance Committee, Ian Bergel, presented the accounts, which had been approved by the Board of Trustees at their meeting on 17 September 2019.

HARCVS finished the year with an overall deficit of £48,308, which was significantly better than the planned budget deficit for the year of £51,953. This was made up of deficits of £24,678 within unrestricted funds and £23,630 within restricted funding relating to expenditure of funds received in the previous year. The team was working hard to reduce the deficit and the forecast was for an improvement in the current year, but HARCVS would not be able to continue to operate at a deficit for ever.

In addition, but below the bottom line on the Income & Expenditure account, HARCVS received the donation of the Harrogate Community House Building and an additional £64,894 of restricted funding from the dissolution of Harrogate Community House Trust Ltd.

Like many charities, HARCVS has continued to deal with the impact of reductions in public sector funding and increased competition for other sources of funding. With careful management of costs and some new funding from other sources HARCVS had mitigated the worst of these difficulties.

Total income was £384,642 (£323,481 in 2017/18) with the increase reflecting delivery of accommodation services (predominantly via rental income) generated from acquiring Harrogate Community House.

Expenditure also increased in the period to £432,950 (from £360,827 in 2017/18), reflecting increased activity, service delivery and expenditure relating to Harrogate Community House.

The trustees were comfortable with the overall results.

There were no questions and The Report and Financial Statements were approved by members present.

**6. ELECTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The following trustees were nominated for election and were appointed:  
Caroline Shead (nominated by Alex Devereux, Macmillan Cancer Support)  
Kevin Douglas (nominated by Malcolm Margolis, Harrogate & District Cycle Action) (re-election)  
Ruth Newton (nominated by Rosemary Triffitt, Sharow & Copt Hewick PCC) (re-election)  
John Fox (nominated by Andy Wilkinson, Friends of Harrogate Hospital and Community Charity) (re-election)

Trustees at their first meeting after the AGM were able to elect Honorary Officers.

**7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

The existing Auditors J W P Creers were re-appointed.

**8. CLOSE OF AGM**

The formal business closed at 1.30pm. Four Connecting Ripon Network members were then given the opportunity to share how they work to give hope for a positive future. There were inspiring contributions from Ripon Community Link, Ripon Museums, National Trust Skell Valley Project and C3 Cathedral Community Connections. They all demonstrated how their work links to the HARCVS vision ‘People in the Harrogate District benefit from leading fulfilling and active lives and make a positive contribution to local community life.’

The Connecting Ripon network was set up 6 years ago, with support from Ripon City Council, and brings together the many local organisations and groups doing fantastic work in and around the City.

Signed .....  
(Chair)

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