

STEWARTRY COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE

REORGANISATION PROGRESS REPORT AT 31 AUGUST 2018.

Background.

Since the diversion of Government funding to Dumfries & Galloway Third Sector Interface some five years ago to centralise the provision of Community information and assistance. The Stewartry CVS has managed to continue with dwindling resources and by securing some directly funded Government Projects, these have now come to an end. One very late payment for some survey work undertaken in 2017 contributed to an ongoing cash flow problem.

At the start of these difficulties our permanent staff agreed that their redundancy payments would be paid out of the value of the office premises upon its disposal. The office premises are now on the market at an estimated value of £48,000. The redundancy payments will be £37,772.

New Premises.

Negotiations with The Kirkcudbright Development Trust have been completed to offer ample accommodation at an affordable rent. In fact the new premises are better situated nearer the Town Centre. The ultimate goal will be to become part of the community support units at The Johnston School Centre.

Our existing I.T. services provider has generously agreed to move all our equipment free of charge whilst also providing a years free support to help with our current difficulties.

Staff Changes.

Following the very well attended S.G.M. 31 July and the many testimonials and messages of support we have received including a spontaneous 300 signature petition. The Board decided to revisit and plan operational duties with one less full member of staff.

Two key items of great value to the community were identified at the S.G.M.

1. Community Councils Forum/Gateway.
2. Stewartry Food Bank Referral Agency.

An experienced volunteer has come forward to Chair and Facilitate The Community Councils Forum which we will continue to organise. The Stewartry Food Bank will be maintained from the new premises.

The SCVS founded in 1971 has terms of employment that are generous by today's standards. The plan is to maintain our current Charity registration and convert the Company to a SCIO, this will reduce costs, the Company will then be closed by OSCR

Only one four day per week and one one day per week staff will be retained and greater use will be made of existing and future volunteers from within the community.

The weekly figures for income and expenditure are detailed in APPENDIX A.

Funding.

Members of the community have been invited to contribute monthly direct debits donations to fund our shortfall. The question is how many will donate, it will require some 241 donations at £4.00 / month. Just one week after the initial appeal some offers of £10.00 a month have been received.

If the present Grant level could be maintained by D&G Council during this ongoing Appeal period this would be a big help.

Training.

It is planned to train all staff on short courses to enable support services to continue and develop advice on committee skills, employment guidance, licensing regulations and PVG (Disclosure Checks) including assistance in the preparation of accounts for independent examination.

Review.

The Board will modify this plan in the light of forthcoming donations and the level of Grant availability within the next six weeks.

Personal Note.

I would just like to thank the staff for continuing in these uncertain times, my Board colleagues for developing the various plans needed, most of all the members, community groups and individuals who have made it worth trying.

Derek Smith

Chairman.

APPENDIX A.

SCVS present income from services provided:20/8/2018

Excludes Free Services Provided for Charities.

Greyfriars House Day/Day Management.	£	/ Week.
Cleaner & Maintenance admin.& Book Keeping	1.93	

Parish Church.	Book Keeping.	27.70	/ Week
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Payrolls for:

Greyfriars Church	7.70	/ Week.
Parish Church	7.70	
P.I.N. Parents	7.70	
Kilquhanity	7.70	
Caring for Carers	7.70	

Office Services:

Printing	
Copying	
Tickets,Certificates Design,Production.	208.00 / Week

Total income excluding examination of accounts for OSCR and PVG registration and all Grants.	276.13 / Week.
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SCVS present costs:

Salaries	1 staff member for Four Day Week	353.00
	1 staff member for 2x1/2 Days Week	88.00

Rent and Costs	441.00
	58.00

Total anticipated Costs:	499.00 / Week.
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Shortfall to be made up by Donations and Grants.	223.00 / Week.
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