

STA Budget meeting – 23/7/20

Virtually via messenger

Apologies – Philomena McClung

Present – Anna Johnston, William Derrick, Hugh McClung, Moira Robertson, Robert Cairney, Mags Hughes

Accounts

20/21 Accounts agreed – no issues. Passed by Hugh and seconded by Mags.

It was discussed that if the person who looks over the accounts does not want paid the STA could give the money to charity of her choice. This was agreed.

Budget/Workplan

Requesting £**** for 20/21.

TPAS conference will be majority of these costs – asking for 7 people but will include Delia this year as she has never been.

Workplan – agreed, but Robert noted that he had also been at the Glasgow Lighthouse event and asked to be added to this.

Moira also stated she will work on an Annual Report based on the workplan and everything that was achieved.

Hugh asked about the mention of the assurance statement and if this will be discussed with tenants this year – Leza confirmed that will be on the agenda for Wednesday's meeting with Gillian. Wednesday's meeting will therefore discuss; Charter Returns, Assurance statement for 2021, STA Budget/Workplan.

Hugh asked that were we aware of any surprises in the figures for the charter return yet – Leza advised she hadn't seen the figures yet but will ask Gillian if she would be able to supply the tenants with the figures prior to the meeting so there would be no surprises, and it will also give the tenants a chance to read them over, and ask questions.

William asked if we could also ask for an update on Rapid Rehousing – Leza will ask Gillian if we could supply this too.

Housing Application issues

Some concerns were raised relating to staff telling applicants to add as many areas as possible to their application – therefore leading to applicants being made offers for houses they did not want. Leza commented usually they are advised to do this if they are looking for a quicker offer, but applicants should never be forced to do it.

Leza asked if they were aware of applicants receiving letters regarding points, areas etc. after their application had been processed – tenants advised this does not happen.

Robert advised he had been told to add more areas and has been queued for an area he did not choose, he also stated he was told that bungalows are allocated to wheelchair users only. Anna confirmed that this is not the case, as she is aware of tenants who live in bungalows who are not in a wheelchair.

Robert also highlighted that he was told that the newbuild houses in Cowie have all been pre-allocated before they were even built.

Leza said she would email Steven McCabe with all these questions and ask for his comments. She will cop Willie into the email.

AOB

Mags said she had sent Willie a copy of a letter confirming that SC has cancelled the free 4 weeks rent. Moira stated there was no such thing as 4 weeks free rent as some people pay monthly and some people pay weekly etc. Anna and Leza both confirmed that SC had moved the 4-week free rent period to April when the lockdown first happened to help people who were financially affected by the pandemic.

Bin issues with SC – Hugh said there has been a huge response to the bin issues on the STA Facebook page and he thought it would be a good idea if we contacted these people to see if they wanted involved in the STA.

Leza confirmed she had 2 issues with this 1/ a lot of these people might not be tenants as its concerning bins and not housing, they could be private tenants or owner occupiers or tenants of other local landlords. 2/ as they had only contacted via a comment on Facebook the only way to contact them would be via messenger via their own personal Facebook page and people might not be happy about this.

Instead she suggested putting a post-up on the STA Facebook page/website relating to the bins, saying what a good response they had and asking people if they wanted to get involved to contact.... Leza said she would type something up and send it to Anna then we can post it on. Anna stated she knew a lot of the people who had commented, and they were not SC tenants.

Moira also raised concerns over the bins, and how twice the binmen had missed a street in Crainlarich. She had phoned to report this and contacted them via the website. They have told her it was a 7-day timescale for them to respond to her enquiry – which is not good enough. Therefore, she has contacted Councilor Earl about it.

No other business