



Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Thursday 24 February 2022 at 10:00 am via **Microsoft Teams**

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Present:	Mr R Martin (Chair)	In attendance:	Mr J Turner
	Mr C Allan		Mr N Hall
	Ms C Cuthbertson		Mr N Pollard
	Mr D Mackie		Mr D Mackenzie
	Mr A Smith		Ms S Smith
	Mr D Bittleston		Miss M Paton (minutes)
	Ms S Blackhall		
	Ms J Pritchard		

**1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr Dickson and Ms Biberbach.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18 JANUARY 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18 January 2022 were approved:

Moved: Mr Smith  
Second: Mr Mackie

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18 JANUARY 2022**

**4.1 Chair Recruitment**

Mr Hall advised that the meeting on Monday 28th February 2022 with Aspen People no longer suited a number of Board Members, because of other commitments, and would therefore be cancelled.

The Board agreed that in rescheduling the meeting Aspen would be asked to provide a draft role description so that the Board could make best use of the time. NH

**4.2 Any other Matters Arising**

Mr Turner provided the Board with an update on the current position with Unite. A further update will be provided at the March Board meeting.

Mr Turner advised a meeting with MSP Patrick Harvey is scheduled for Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, Mr Harvey will get the chance to meet with tenants and apprentices from the KickStart programme.

## **5. CORPORATE BUSINESS**

### **5.1 C~urb 6 Ltd Updated Articles**

The Board discussed and considered the previously circulated report.

***The Board approved the recommendation to pass a special resolution to incorporate changes to Articles of C~urb 6 Ltd.***

***It was resolved that pursuant to Chapter 2 of Part 13 of the Companies Act 2006, the directors of the Company agreed that the articles of association attached to the written resolution (as circulated with the papers for this meeting) be adopted as the articles of association of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing articles of association of the Company.***

## **BUSINESS PLANS**

### **6. Business Plan Cover Report**

The Board discussed and noted the previously circulated report.

Mr Turner advised the Board this is the second year that the Link Group Board has approved the business plans for the various group member organisations. Mr Turner further advised the Board each plan was different from a structural perspective however all were designed to meet the various regulatory requirements.

Mr Turner agreed to investigate whether future business plans could be simplified as all related to the overarching Link Group business plan and also whether it was feasible for the plans to be produced in the same style and format. The Board noted that due to regulatory requirements each plan did require to include specific information. JT

### **6.1 Link Housing Association Business Plan**

The Board discussed and noted the previously circulated report.

Mr Mackenzie advised the Board a staff event would be held in April 2022 where the Link Housing staff would be able to discuss the business plan and their role in achieving objectives.

Mr Mackenzie advised a piece of work around rent affordability will take place and he anticipated information/issues will be highlighted around fuel poverty through this survey and reported back to the Link Housing Board and ultimately the Link Group Board.

Mr Mackenzie advised the Board that the Communities Strategy which was being produced at the same time as the business plan will be finalised shortly and presented to the Board. A key theme throughout the strategy is tenant engagement.

***The Board approved the Link Housing Association Business Plan.***

### **6.2 Horizon Housing Association Business Plan**

The Board discussed and noted the previously circulated report.

Ms Pritchard advised the Board a key focus has been around existing services, particularly affordability and how to better support tenants and customers. Ms Pritchard further advised the Board the business plan was approved by the Horizon Board on 17th February 2022.

***The Board approved the Horizon Housing Association Business Plan.***

### **6.3 Larkfield Housing Association Business Plan**

The Board discussed and noted the previously circulated report.

Mr Turner advised that Link Group had previously provided a loan to Larkfield, due to the financial benefit and advantageous covenant controls through the Group. Mr Turner agreed to review the amount of money being invested in the planned maintenance programme to ensure properties were being properly maintained.

**JT**

***The Board approved the Larkfield Housing Association Business Plan.***

### **6.4 West Highland Housing Association Business Plan**

The Board discussed and noted the previously circulated report.

The Board noted the current transitional period and the ongoing recruitment for a new Chief Executive Officer for West Highland. Mr Bittleston advised interviews for the role will commence in March 2022.

***The Board approved the West Highland Housing Association Business Plan.***

## **6.5 LinkLiving Five Year Strategic Plan**

The Board discussed and noted the previously circulated report.

Ms Smith advised that the LinkLiving plan will be taken to the LinkLiving Board this evening for approval. Ms Smith highlighted the work that has taken place to align internal strengths with the external environment.

***The Board approved LinkLiving's Five Year Strategic Plan.***

### **7. Any Other Business**

Mr Turner advised the Board the Link Group Business plan and C~urb Business plan would be brought to the March Board for approval.

The Board agreed as restrictions ease and staff return to offices, certain meetings should be held in person such as business plan approval going forward. The Board agreed it would be beneficial to opt for a similar hybrid model for Board meetings.

Miss Paton agreed to circulate a poll to Board members to consider dates to commence in-person Board meetings.

**MP**

Mr Turner noted that an extensive piece of work is scheduled for 2022/23 to review and streamline group recharges and to ensure that the process for charging was fair, transparent and consistent. The work would highlight areas where efficiencies may be needed to provide competitive group wide services.

### **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 15 March 2022 at 10:00.**

**Meeting Closed at 11:52**