

## **Draft minutes of the VSSN Annual General Meeting 2016 (22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016)**

**VSSN members present:** Nick Acheson, Pete Alcock, Ellen Bennett, Alison Body, Victoria Boulton, Louis Carserides, James Davies, Houda Davis, Chris Dayson, Stephanie Denning, Angela Ellis Paine, Eddy Hogg, David Kane, Sonia Liff, Rob Macmillan, Peter Maple, Naomi Maynard, Ester McGeeney, Ellie Munro, Matt Poole, Emma Taylor-Collins, Chris Wade

**Non-members present:** Paul Adnitt, Nadia Bashir, Janet Batsleer, Ruth Boys, Helen Garforth, Clare Holdsworth, Kiran Kenth, Vidal Kumar, Jane Leathley, Beth Longstaff, Steve Miles, Sarah Mills, Shane Mochrie-Cox, Katherine Smith, Marcus Smith, Patrick Taylor, Harriet Thew, Catherine Waite

**Apologies:** Mike Aiken, Helen Cameron, Chris Cornforth, Anjelica Finnegan, Ann Hindley, Jacqueline McFarlane Fraser, Linda Milbourne, Geoff Nichols, Bhanu Ramaswamy, Mike Woolvin, Meta Zimmeck

**Minutes of the 2015 AGM:** These were accepted subject to any corrections notified within the next week.

**Chairs remarks:** Rob Macmillan, chair of VSSN, reported on the year to the end of July 2016. Highlights of the year have been two successful day seminars; an annual conference, organised in partnership with NCVO; the ongoing development of the *Voluntary Sector Review* with Policy Press; and the maintenance of the discussion list. A significant development within the year has been the end of the contract for VSSN's executive officer function and the recruitment of a new team to provide this service. RM thanked Appleby Ltd, on behalf of the Steering Group, for their excellent work supporting the Network over the past few years, while also welcoming Beth Longstaff and Jane Leathley as our new Executive Officers.

**Annual report and finances:** RM presented VSSN annual report, including finances, on behalf of the treasurer, Meta Zimmeck. VSSN's financial position is solid, but with no room for complacency.

**Election of VSSN Steering Group:** Everyone who had stood for election was thanked. Linda Milbourne, Mike Wolvin, and Jane Cullingworth were elected/re-elected to the Steering Group. Peter Maple and Louis Caserides have come to the end of their term of office and were warmly thanked for their contributions.

**Election to the VSR Editorial Management Board:** Eddy Hogg and Féilim Ó hAdhmaill were elected to the journal Editorial Board. Chris Cornforth steps down as Chair of the Editorial Board after three years and a longer history of support for the Journal and VSSN as a whole. Chris was thanked for his significant contribution. Nick Acheson also reached the end of his term of office and stepped down from the EMB, although he continues to be actively involved through his role of one of the co-editors of the journal.

**Any other business:** Various events, conferences and publications were announced, including the next VSSN Day Seminar which will be in Glasgow in May 2017.