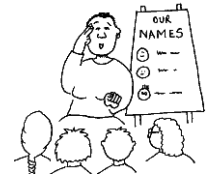


**Meeting: Thursday 15 January 2015**  
**4.30 – 6.00**  
**Fairfield House, Conference Room 1**



**1. Present**

Caroline Crozier, Sandy Florence, Evgenia Kochkina, David Ledner,  
George Maben, Mizan Rahman, Fiona Wallace (Chair)



**2. In Attendance**

Rona Duncan, Erin Cuthbertson, Paul Johnson & Bryan Pottinger

**3. Apologies**

Nila Joshi, Mizan Rahman, Mags Bryan



**4. Previous Minutes (December)**

Accepted as accurate.

**5. Equalities Engagement Officer**

Erin Cuthbertson introduced herself to the group. Group welcomed her to her new position.

**6. Matters Arising**  
**Events Calendar**

- Councillor Pottinger has produced a *draft* Calendar of Events and also highlighted the Midlothian Council calendar of events.
- Group discussed strengthening links with a range of departments in the Council and, in addition, what should be included in the MPEG calendar of events. Suggestions included Equalities issues, Religious festivals etc. Calendar would provide a focus for MPEG activities.
- Rona will contribute from a Police Scotland perspective.
- Erin is going to look at calendar and then discuss her ideas with group members at the next MPEG meeting.
- 27<sup>th</sup> January - World Holocaust Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> February – ‘Purple Friday’. Police Scotland is hoping to be involved in this event.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> February – ‘love my library’ week

## **Membership of MPEG / Attendance at meetings / Development of MPEG in 2015**

- Group agreed that meeting days and times should remain the same as present, for the near future.
- There was agreement that the group would collectively work to promote MPEG to encourage a wider diversity of members.
- Guest speakers would be invited to increase interest in the group.
- Create a link between Midlothian Council and the MPEG website.
- Ensure that we have a link to the Midlothian Voluntary Action website
- Keep 'Calendar of Events' on the MPEG agenda
- Meeting could be held in other areas of the county
- George highlighted the success of the new Kinship Carers group in the Penicuik area



**Action** – All members

### **7. AGM & Annual Accounts**

- Paul is completing the Annual Report for 2013- 2014.
- He is also in the process of compiling accounts for the group. Signatories for the account need to be removed and new signatories added to the account.
- Group also agreed to bring forward the dates of successive AGM's in order to bring meetings in line with accounting year.
- A proposal will be submitted and discussed at the AGM in March



**Action** - Paul will complete the Annual Report and email to the Chairperson (Sandy) in order for him to insert his contribution.

Sandy and Paul will complete the OSCR return and arrange to complete the accounts and get them checked and independently verified.

Accounts to be presented at the next MPEG meeting and then submitted to OSCR Group

### **8. AGM**

Date agreed as Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>. Preparations will commence in January 2015

**Action**

### **9. A.O.C.B.**

None

### **10. Date & Time of Next Meeting**

5<sup>th</sup> February, Fairfield House, Conference Room 1, 4.30 – 6.00pm