

**Minutes of meeting held at the  
Elan Valley Hotel, Rhayader on  
16 October 2013 10.30am**

**Present:**

Gareth Newton (Chair), Sue Trevelyan-Jones, Catrin James, Grant Poiner, Jamie Jones Mead, Dafydd Baker, Tim Opie, Tracey Thomas, Steve Drowley, Mark Isherwood, Ann Smith, Colin Heslop, Alan Twelvetrees.

**In attendance:**

Liz Rose (ETS Adviser/Secretary).

**Apologies:**

Andy Borsden, David Algie, Jane Williams, Mike Greenaway, Tillie Mobbs, Sam Evans, Gary Foreman, Jo Sims.

**1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/CHAIR'S REPORT**

- 1.1 GN welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Mark Isherwood, attending his first meeting as Colegau Cymru representative.
- 1.2 GN reported that he had had various meetings since last ETS, including: the newly established Youth Work Alliance Wales; Joint ETS; University of South Wales with Jo Sims; and with Community Development Cymru.
- 1.3 TO said that YWAW is a developing group comprising representation from PYOs, CWYVS and ETS and that its ToR has been changed to extend membership to TAG Wales and two practitioners.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record with the amendment to change item 8.1 from MEd to MA.

**3. MATTERS ARISING (which are not included on the Agenda)**

- 3.1 The ETS 'endorsed' and 'approved' logos and guidance on their use are now available but need to be sent out.  
**Action: LR to distribute.**

**4. SECTOR FEEDBACK**

- 4.1. Local authority and voluntary sector representatives raised concerns as noted at the previous meeting about the severe cuts to the service. Representatives of PYOG and CWYVS are meeting separately with Jo Banks and Sam Evans to discuss current issues and will report on any implications for training and endorsement. They will also discuss the future of ESF programmes.
- 4.2. PYOs reported that the mood is very sombre and that deep cuts – ranging from 0% to 65% - are being implemented. TO reported that he is attempting to collect information on the nature of cuts across Wales and will share what he can.
- 4.3. The Welsh Govt budget will be announced shortly and a number of meetings are being held to look at the implications. Cuts not only affect the service that can be delivered with young people but also have a knock on effect for the voluntary sector and will limit the YS ability to meet the wider youth engagement and progression agenda.

- 4.4. There is considerable uncertainty about the role of the voluntary sector and CWVYS in particular because of the WG 'Third Sector Review' and no mention of CWVYS within the Vision paper.
- 4.5. CWVYS was pleased to report that their workforce Quality Mark pilots are going well as is the Stepping Stones training course which has completed 200 units. Students are also progressing onto Level 2&3 Youth Support Worker training.

**Action: GN to meet with CWVYS to discuss training opportunities**

- 4.6. STJ provided an update on Community Development: CDC has been awarded two-year funding from WG and will now take on the approval work themselves. Meetings are being held with England Standards Board and Northern Ireland to ensure parity. The formal committee will meet on 29 October and will look at endorsement of programmes and recognition of courses. There is also a wish to develop an APEL process to recognise workers who have a lot of experience but no qualifications. STJ was glad to see progress after attending ETS meetings for 10 years.
- 4.7. In light of this change, the relationship between ETS and CDC will now need to be reviewed in terms of committee membership.
- 4.8. It was confirmed that the period of endorsement for programmes covered under the ETS pilot would remain.
- 4.9. Agored: DB reported that the FE sector is working in the environment of the ongoing qualifications review, including discussions on cross-border use of qualifications. The new Level 2&3 YSW qualifications are currently being developed and need to be in place by October 2014.
- 4.10. Cuts within the FE sector are also having an effect on provision. AS mentioned the need for short in-house training sessions as it is difficult to release staff for longer programmes
- 4.11. TAG group: SD reported that all the issues discussed have an impact on HE sector. Cuts to services mean there are fewer placement opportunities but conversely there is often a rise in full time students at times of austerity. We need to look carefully at the WG agenda for youth work as university cohorts are increasingly made up of students from 'non-traditional' youth support sectors and few from a youth work background. This obviously has implications on the curriculum and context provided.

## 5. WELSH GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENTS

- 5.1 **Vision paper** – covered in Sector updates.
- 5.2 **Youth Engagement & Progression Framework** – meetings with Youth Service teams are ongoing regarding the implementation plan but issues of capacity mean that there is variation in levels of provision and development.
- 5.3 **Registration of youth workers** – There is no mention of registration in the Vision paper although the Education Bill is progressing through the legislative/committee processes. There appears to be a phased approach to registering workers with youth workers lower down the list. Issues of parity amongst the professions are still being raised in responses. Discussion took place about the links to the NYA's Institute for Youth Work which, while registering workers, does not have the same regulatory functions as bodies for teachers or social workers.

**Action: Watching brief. Sub group to be established comprising SD, DB, CJ, JJM.**

## **6. SECTOR SKILLS COUNCIL UPDATE**

6.1 The National Youth Agency has submitted a bid to UKCES on behalf of Joint ETS and the Federation for Community Development and Learning for the orphan 'youth & community' SOCode. This will cover work on NOS, Sector Qualification Strategy, Apprenticeships and Labour Market Intelligence. The importance of employer engagement was emphasised in the bid. The tendering process has a number of stages to go through.

**Action: LR to inform members of progress.**

6.2 The UK-wide CLD Panel will hold a meeting in Birmingham on 11 Nov, hosted by CLD Scotland, to discuss options for its future.

**Action: SD will attend and provide feedback.**

6.3 The QAA Subject Benchmark statement for youth and community work is to be reviewed (benchmark statements provide a basis for the design of university programmes).

**Action: All to be aware and ready to contribute to the re-write.**

## **7. ETS WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2012-13**

7.1. **Terms of Reference amendment** – These have been amended to accommodate representation from Colegau Cymru/Colleges Wales. However, they will need to be revisited now that CDC is taking responsibility for the endorsement of community development programmes. This will also affect the ETS logo.

**Action: GN & LR to discuss with CDC.**

7.2. **Youth Support Worker Endorsement Guidelines** – LR & DB will attend a meeting with Awarding Organisations from England on 21 Oct arranged by the NYA. This will look at a proposal to produce one qualification at Level 2&3 for England and Wales that can be delivered through an agreed group of AOs only. Employer engagement in the development of the new qualifications and the qualifications/experience of verifiers will also be considered.

**Action: LR & DB to follow up with NYA.**

7.3. **Quality Mark** – Following the induction day in June, the criteria for the 'Young People's Development' section were re-written and circulated to the writing group for comment. Copies were tabled for additional comment. The voluntary sector pilot organisation will be KPC Youth in Bridgend but a LA pilot has not yet been identified. TT offered Monmouthshire if no other organisation is available, especially at this time of uncertainty due to cuts. CJ reported that the CWVYS QM has been piloted in 6 organisations and is being well-received.

**Action: Any comments on changes to Young People's Development section to be sent to LR. LR to contact PYOs to seek a local authority pilot.**

## **8. ENDORSEMENT ACTIVITY**

8.1 **Glyndŵr – PgDip/MA:** The date for the panel visit has now been postponed until 28/29 January 2014.

8.2 **Cardiff Metropolitan** – Nothing to report.

8.3 **UWN/USW** – GN and JS met with staff to discuss a change of assessment and award regulations and the wider issue of progression from the Foundation Degree and were happy with the information provided.

**Action: Meeting note to be circulated if appropriate**

- 8.4 **Trinity Saint David** – Jane Williams will act as panel Chair and an initial meeting with UWTSD staff will be held on 17 Oct.
- 8.5 **OU – BA:** The date for re-endorsement by Joint ETS is now believed to be 2015 not 2014 so no further action is needed at present.
- 8.6 **Agored Cymru** – Nothing further to report.

#### **9. JNC UPDATE**

CJ spoke to the update provided by DA prior to the meeting, which covered:

- an offer of 1% rise on all grades and allowances from Sept 2013 has been made but this has not yet been agreed by the Staff side;
- Clarification of the JNC Agreement is being sought concerning 'rolled up holiday pay' which may breach the Working Time Directive.

#### **10. JOINT ETS (JETS) MEETING**

The meeting held in Birmingham on 8/9 Oct mainly covered the bid to UKCES for the SSC work for JETS to act as the sector specialist. Changes to European funding streams were also discussed.

**Action: GP to forward information on Erasmus+ to LR for circulation**

#### **11. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE (covered under 4.6 above)**

#### **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 13.1. The annual monitoring forms for endorsed HEI programmes are about to be updated and distributed.
- 13.2. YWAW will take on the publishing of the Principles & Purposes document reprint and the Marketing group will become a sub-group of YWAW.
- 13.3. Forthcoming national conferences for youth work include one in Cardiff on 19 November organised by Rick Newnham of Cardiff Met, and a Welsh Govt conference in north Wales on 20 Feb 2014.
- 13.4. AT is updating his published book on community development and invited individuals to take part in a virtual group to contribute to the update.

**Action: AT to forward information to LR for circulation**

#### **13. CONFIRMATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Weds 12 Feb 2014 (Catrin apologies)

Weds 14 May 2014