

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST HELD AT WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE AND MS TEAMS AT 7.00 p.m. ON WEDNESDAY 2 MAY 2022**

Present	Chris Gehrke (CG), Kirsty Balfour (KB), Catriona Fraser (CNF), Maureen McGuire (MG), Ken Sinclair (KS), Gareth Jones (GJ)
Apologies	Lorraine Lewis (LL), Maire Brown (MB), Tony Foster (TF)
Chair	Kirsty Balfour (KB)
In Attendance	Carlene Vincent (CV), Laura Walker-Knowles (LWK), Caroline Tucker (CT)
Non-attendance	Mark Sutherland (MS)
Minutes	Laura Walker-Knowles (LWK)
Declarations of interest:	None

**A. INTRODUCTION**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**B. MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – 4 APRIL 2022**

**Matters Arising**

Grants – carry forward - add score to Laura Gwilliam grant assessment - LWK

*Action: CRM agenda item for next meeting – CRM – LWK*

The Board noted the ‘hub’, office/work/study space, has been advertised and is open every Wednesday, at Wildside, with staff also attending.

*Action: Confirm value of land – circulate information – TF*

Albyn Housing project – LL has sent the information to TF

IT issues resolved with KS – LWK

*Action: Action group information – carried forward to next meeting - TF/GJ*

CF has passed the Robertson Trust info to TF.

CG **PROPOSED** and CF **SECONDED** and the Minutes of Meeting held on 6 April 2022 were **AGREED** as a correct record without any further amendment and **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

**C. FINANCE**

The Board noted the circulated finance report. CV highlighted it was for a nine-month period end. The year-end reports have been sent to SSE. Budgets have been considered and TF will bring the final budget to the June Board, however, there is currently forecast more expenditure than income, so debate and decision will be necessary.

GJ, MM and KS had a meeting last week as the Trust Investment Committee and the Directors have written to Clarendon Investments with questions and suggestions in relation to the current investment portfolio. CV has previously circulated the paperwork to update the Director contacts at Clarendon.

CV highlighted that the Trust does not currently have a debit card for urgent payments out-with the normal payment runs, and this is something Directors may want to consider with CV's imminent departure.

*Action: GJ, KS and MM to sign the legacy fund forms at the next meeting and then forward to Clarendon.*

*Action: Collect the finance files from CV and bring them down to Wildside for temporary secure storage – CF/LWK*

*Action: Consideration to facilitation of urgent payments, extension of hours for finance officer, corporate credit card - agenda item for next meeting – KB/TF/LWK*

**D. GRANTS****(a) Student Grant****(i) Applicant:** Gill Gray

**Purpose of grant:** Course expenses.

**Cost of course:** £500

The Board **APPROVED** the grant in the sum of **£400**.

*Action: Update applicant on outcome – LWK*

**(b) Unincorporated Grant****(i) Applicant:** Michael Bloodworth

**Purpose of grant:** Equipment for fitness class.

**Amount applied for:** £1,000

The Board requested additional conditions and the updated assessment will be circulated for decision.

*Action: Add line asking for applicant's profession to application form – LWK*

**D. QUARTERLY COMBINED REPORT****(a) Combined Report**

The Board noted the circulated report. In TF's absence KB briefly ran through the report.

*Action: Agenda item for next meeting CRM – LWK*

*Action: Broadband info to CT – CG*

**(b) Brollygroup**

The Board discussed the reconvening of the Brollygroup and TF's report. The group are asking for £30,000 to re-start a number of schemes. The Board discussed the previous funding agreements made with SSE during the Covid crisis and noted that TF is in touch with Marianne at SSE to see how funds can be best used in these circumstances.

The Board discussed the different packages of help given previously during the covid pandemic, the governance and the checks that went along with this.

The Board discussed the current plan set out by the Brollygroup and their thoughts on providing support to those in need during the current cost of living crisis. A suggestion that Boleskine Community Care and/or the Knockie Trust would be the groups best placed to offer specific support, with administrative support from paid Trust staff would be a good way forward.

The Board were **AGREED** in principle that SFCT should offer support, with robust governance and due diligence to ensure it meets those who need it the most.

The Board noted SSE's principle that electricity/fuel cannot be subsidised as it does not leave a legacy in the community. It was agreed that a more regular meeting between directors and SSE would be helpful.

The Board discussed if investment income was subject to the same SSE funding principles and Directors will clarify at a meeting.

*Action: Set up agenda and meeting with SSE - TF*

**(c) Housing**

Carry forward item to next meeting.

**(d) Path Works**

Carry forward item to next meeting.

*Action: Agenda items housing and path works – TF/LWK*

<b>F. DEVELOPMENT PLAN</b>	
Update carried forward to next meeting – TF  <i>Action: Circulate round the Board any agreements required – TF</i>	
<b>G. SUMMER EVENT 2022</b>	
The event is scheduled for 23 July 2022 and will be a large event, the ‘Highland Gathering’ involving local businesses, pipe band, races and a sheep show etc.  The Board <b>AGREED</b> in principle the event go ahead with a budget of £10,000.	
<b>H. TRUST MANAGER - MONTHLY REPORT</b>	
The Board discussed the Trust pursuing land purchases, in particular the land at Inverfarigaig. The Board agreed that a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) for the Forest School building and land would be a suitable way forward.  <i>Action: Submit interest in CAT to Forestry Land Scotland - TF</i>	
<b>I.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>
	CF highlighted that the Jubilee Event, along with other events hosted by the Trust, were lacking in first aiders, and suggested that first aid training for all Directors should be taken forward. The Board discussed and noted that the role was usually filled by volunteer retained fire officers, but this may not always be an option for the future.  The Board noted the pitch had been cut today.  <b>Membership</b> The Board were pleased to note Ordinary Membership applications from Antonio Pia, Alister Chisholm and Susette Fisher.  <i>Action: Send e mail to get interest in first aid – LWK</i> <i>Action: Send Membership Certificates - LWK</i>
<b>J. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
Next meeting 1 June 2022, 7 p.m. Hybrid.	

*The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.*

Signed as a correct record of the meeting	
Signed .....	Date .....

04/05/2022

Chair (Kirsty Balfour)	
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