

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS
COMMUNITY TRUST HELD AT WILDSIDE, WHITEBRIDGE AND VIA MS TEAMS
AT 7.00 pm ON WEDNESDAY 2 AUGUST 2023**

Present	Gareth Jones (GJ), Kirsty Balfour (KB), Catriona Fraser (CF), Ken Sinclair (KS), Chris Gehrke (CG), Malcolm Stewart (MMS), Mark Sutherland (MS), Susan Greer (SG), Maureen McGuire (MM)
Apologies	Maire Brown (MB)
Non-attendance	-
Chair	Catriona Fraser (CF)
In Attendance	Tony Foster (TF), Laura Walker-Knowles (LWK), Fiona Mustarde (FM), Susan Low (SL)
Minutes	Laura Walker-Knowles (LWK)

Declarations of interest: None.

(A) INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

(B) MINUTES

KB **PROPOSED** and KS **SECONDED** and the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2023 were **AGREED** as a correct record **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

TF ran through the outstanding actions.

In relation to first aid, CF and MS are working on a resilience group in the community. CF has looked into provision of Red Cross first aid training every three months with invitations to attend for up to 10 community groups at each session.

(C) FINANCE REPORT

TF introduced the new finance team members, Fiona Mustarde, Finance Manager and Susan Low, Bookkeeper. The Board were pleased to welcome the new team members.

7.30 p.m. FM and SL left the meeting.

(D) GRANT APPLICATIONS

Non-constituted Grant Application

Applicant: Lindsey MacNaughton

Application for: Part subsidised places for residents in the Trust area for sound baths and meditation.

Amount applied for: £966.00

Total cost: £1,662.00

The Board **APPROVED** the grant in the sum of £966.00 with additional conditions that the number of attendees/beneficiaries to be provided in the completion report, along with postcode data.

The Board discussed how grant recommendations are reviewed by Directors when staff assess grants and the system will be reviewed before the AGM 2023, revised and launched at the AGM.

The Board agreed to also review and highlight what is not funded.

7.34 p.m. Susan Greer joined the meeting.

Action: Draft grant criteria and discuss with SSE - TF

Action: Circulate statement of principles drafted by SW – TF

(E) TRUST MANAGER'S REPORT

Staffing

The Board were pleased to note the new employees Calum Martin, Marketing Officer and Matthew Burns, CAP Project Officer.

TF advised the Board that the Administrator, Laura had resigned. The position will be advertised, and Laura will assist with handover.

Errogie Church

The Planning Officer is in place and TF had a positive meeting which was supportive.

Wildside Centre

Planning have also approved the playpark at Wildside.

Wildside Playpark

The intention is to gather more feedback from the community on what they would like installed with the group then approaching three suppliers for quotes which will facilitate an application for funding. However, quotes will initially be online estimates, as until funding is confirmed suppliers will not spend time collating detailed figures. An application has been submitted to Stronelairg. If planning is successful, Caroline and KB will invite suppliers back to the site and bring

three designs to the community and interested parties asking them to pick one of the installers and the final design. It is hoped the process of install will take 10 to 12 weeks from placing the order.

Charitable Status

The Board noted TF is meeting Accelerate on Tuesday, 8 August.

Board Meetings

TF requested given Board Meetings were moving to every two months, that Directors please check and respond to e mails between meetings. Directors were also requested to boot up laptops regularly to ensure updates were installed for security and performance.

The Board noted the circulated current discussions with Clarendon in terms of the recommendations and the tax implications highlighted by FM. The investment subgroup was not in attendance at the last face to face meeting with Clarendon and there was an agreement the Trust were not selling but were buying and clarification is required.

Action: Clarify position and actions with FM and return to Board – TF

Action: Arrange standalone meeting in relation to investment – TF/sub-group

Budgets

TF introduced the new mechanism for the Board to request funds for projects.

TF had circulated two different examples of the completed form for Directors to review. It follows the format of the external grant application forms but with an in-house style. Directors can reach out to staff for assistance where quotes and other information is required in support. The completed 'application' will then go to TF who will incorporate into his monthly report.

Action: Review grant application/report and return to TF – Directors

Inverfarigaig Residents Group (IRG)

The Board noted the update.

The purchase is nearly complete, and the Trust will become the owner with £8,000 for the Trust's liabilities for tree felling and architect fees of £2,750.

The Woodland Trust has offered a 75% grant for planting 250m of native Scottish hedging plants at the roadside boundaries of the fields. The lease with IRG and the Trust is not yet finalised/agreed and the Board therefore approved a payment of £578.40 to secure the grant with the Woodland Trust.

8.40 p.m. KB and GJ left the meeting.

(F) AOCB

Foyers Bay Keys

Directors discussed access to Foyers Bay for non-Trust residents and agreed at this time no keys could be given to non-residents.

New Members

The Board were pleased to note two new Ordinary Members, Robert Gooch and Charlotte Page.

Equality and Diversity Training

The Board discussed diversity training; the Board noted all policies were still in the process of being updated specifically for the Trust.

Large Group Grant

SSE will not accept the interim role in relation to a recent grant application. The Board discussed the application and next steps.

Paths Group

The Board discussed inviting the Paths Group to make a presentation at the next meeting.

Housing

In relation to housing, the Trust is going to look at this again. The Board discussed the importance of attracting families to the area with provision of facilities such as after school care and the playground.

The Board noted the Inverfarigaig houses were being built by the Communities Housing Trust and suggested the Trust discuss criteria with them, such as grants available to build your own home, supporting housing in other ways other than financially and hopefully finding a way to steer new residents to the area.

Action: Send Membership Certifications – LWK

Action: Invite Paths Group to October meeting - TF

(G) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.00 p.m. Wednesday, 4 October 2023 at Wildside Centre/MS Teams

The Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed by Chair (CF) _____

Date _____