



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST HELD AT STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY HALL AT 7.00pm ON WEDNESDAY, 3 MAY 2017

Present	Peter Faye, Zoe Iliffe, Sharon Ferguson, Ken Sinclair, Julie Murphy, Hugh Nicol, Garry Page, Stewart MacPherson and Gordon McAndie
Chair	Zoe Iliffe
In Attendance	Steven Watson (Project Co-ordinator), Laura Walker-Knowles (Administrator)
Apologies	Frank Ellam

Declarations of interest

Garry Page **declared an interest** in Foyers Primary School.

**PRESENTATION BY BOLESKINE COMMUNITY CARE
Morag Cameron and Jane O'Donovan**

The Chair welcomed Morag Cameron, Chair, and Jane O'Donovan, Secretary, of BCC to the meeting. Morag and Jane attended the meeting to give a presentation on BCC's soon to be released Feasibility Study and to discuss future proposals and funding for BCC.

BCC is currently running a drop-in centre at Unit 2 Lower Foyers two days a week, however BCC is keen to expand their services. Their feasibility study has highlighted some additional services that could be offered which would require further financial support from the Community Trust.

BCC would initially like to secure the whole building at Lower Foyers whether that be through an acquisition by BCC or preferably the Trust. Subsequent to that, services such as respite care or chiropody services, amongst others, might also be accessible. A respite centre would however require a Service Manager post filled by a qualified individual as the BCC trustees do not have the experience to advance this type of role. BCC wondered whether the Trust would be prepared to consider either acquiring the site or funding BCC to enable them to attempt this and whether the Trust would provide funding for a salary for an employed role, three days per week initially.

A general discussion took place on the size of the project, the status of the building's lease and its terms. The Board queried if the provision of respite care was a statutory provision as, if so, the Trust could not fund the project. BCC agreed to provide further information on how its relationship with NHS and Highland Home Carers operated.

It was **AGREED** that the Board would discuss the proposals further and revert to BCC as soon as possible. The Chair thanked Morag and Jane for attending.

Morag Cameron and Jane O'Donovan left the meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She advised that IT usage had been checked and all mailboxes are within acceptable limits.

Correspondence had been received from Eddie and Margaret Fraser advising that Andrew Cameron had now carried out the work as requested to replace the skylight window and they would like to thank the Trust for the grant and the extension of time permitted which allowed Andrew Cameron's health to improve and for the work to be undertaken.

2. MINUTES – 5 APRIL 2017

A discussion took place in respect of Minute no. 9 relating to the Broadband update. Subject to a proposed amendment to Minute no. 9, Peter Faye **proposed** and Garry Page **seconded** and the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 5 April 2017 were thereafter **AGREED** as a correct record and **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING:

- South Loch Ness Nursery: Steven had written to Rena regarding the equipment.
- Grants Team are in the process of arranging to meet to review the grants procedure.
- No response from SSE regarding the recently submitted funding report.
- The password has been updated on Director's secure site.
- Administrator chasing response from storage company in relation to setting up an account and acquiring boxes.
- Steven Watson confirmed he had met with the local resident looking for a grant to attend a charity project abroad and her mum but that there had not been any progress further.

3. GRANT UPDATES

Group – Foyers Primary School – Outdoor Activity Trip to Loch Insh (Corriegarth)

*Garry Page **declared an interest** and left the meeting.*

Action
by

- (a) The Chair reminded Directors of the circulation of the assessment report by email due to the circumstances of this grant application. The Chair confirmed that a majority of directors had voted by email and the grant had therefore been approved. The Board **RATIFIED** the grant decision made by email.
- (b) A completion report for the School's previous grant had been circulated relating to the School's minibus hire last year. As had been a condition of the grant, a trips log had been received to accompany the completion report.

Directors were most concerned to note that a school outwith the Trust's area was mentioned in several of the trips. While these trips were also accompanying Foyers Schoolchildren this puts the Trust in a difficult position as the Trust cannot fund activities or organisations located outwith our area unless those activities are specifically for the benefit of Stratherrick and Foyers residents. The Project Co-ordinator advised the Board that there were occasions when the children were going to play tennis and it was thought additional students were taken from Aldourie to bulk up numbers would make the trip more beneficial. While it was noted that a contribution to the petrol costs had been provided from Aldourie, no contribution had been made towards the actual hire of the minibus itself.

Directors were also disappointed to note that Stratherrick Primary School had not been included in any of the trips, even though it had been expressly included in the grant application that the minibus would be available for use by Stratherrick Primary School as well as Foyers.

Directors felt it necessary that the Chair should write to Foyers Primary School to note their concerns and to remind the School that Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust cannot fund activities or the provision of services to a group resident outwith our area.

ACTION: Write to Head of Foyers Primary School

ZI

Garry Page returned to the meeting.

4. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(a) Hannah Slater

The Chair confirmed an application for membership had been received from Hannah Slater.

Hannah has also expressed an interest in becoming a Director when she finishes her university dissertation later this year and following a discussion with the Chair she may be invited to give a presentation to the June Board meeting with a view to possibly being co-opted as a Director.

The Board **APPROVED** the Membership Application.

5. FINANCE

(a) Finance Report

The Chair ran through the Finance Report and Directors noted the income and expenditure for the last month. Directors noted the Trust's balance at the end of April totalled £694,173.82.

The following invoices/expenses were required to be approved:

- (b) Administrator expenses: £110.63
- (c) Administrator Timesheet: 2 hours overtime
- (d) Project Co-ordinator expenses: £98.65
- (e) Book-keeping Invoice: £234.00
- (f) DTAS Membership Invoice: £75.00

The Board **APPROVED** the payment of the invoices (b) to (f) above.

(g) Grant Payment Allocation

Due to the new reporting requirements of SSE Directors had asked Frank Ellam to draw up recommendations on fund allocations for grants. Frank had therefore proposed a policy to apply to fund allocations as follows:-

- Student and Sporting - Knockie or Aberchalder otherwise Glendoe
- Energy and Small Grants – Glendoe
- Boleskine Community Care – Dunmaglass (as the first payments had been allocated from here)
- Main Grants – Dunmaglass or Corriegarth (for individual decision)

The Board **APPROVED** the recommendations on grant allocation.

It was also noted that Frank had recommended that, if Foyers Primary School grant had been approved, it was recommend that this be allocated from Corriegarth to make it the first payment from that fund.

The Board APPROVED Foyers Primary School grant to be paid from the Corriegarth fund.

6. ENERGY/RENEWABLES TEAM UPDATE

The Project Co-ordinator went through the update report and it was noted that the Team were looking at the suggestion of a new energy efficiency scheme with easy to understand measures that

community members could take up. It would follow a similar process to the lightbulb scheme.

The Board discussed the idea in general. The Chair reminded the Team that measures proposed in any scheme would need to be able to be demonstrated to be energy saving measures.

SW/GM

ACTION: Energy Team to formalise proposals for a subsequent meeting.

7. FOYERS BAY PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

The Team advised the Board that Heads of Terms for the Lease are now finalised and agreed. The fishermen have been invited to a meeting on Wednesday, 10 May 2017. Peter Faye has met with Hydro Angling Club. Apparently, the boat they sail is owned by SSE. They also have a constitution.

Regarding possible funding, any application to Highland Council cannot be submitted until the Lease has been completed.

8. LIAISON DIRECTOR UPDATE

Gordon McAndie advised that a walkway is going to be fitted alongside the bailey bridge at Lower Foyers. The walkway is coming from Elgin where it is no longer required.

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council had hoped to have three proposals for grant applications to the Trust. The grant relating to running costs for the Foyers toilet is the only one currently ready and which has now been submitted. The other applications relate to upgrading the fencing at Foyers Cemetery and a refurbishment of existing toilet block. These further applications will be submitted over the coming year.

Gordon advised that one of the Community Councillors had raised that he felt that the Community Council was wholly for the community's benefit and therefore queried why they should have to go through the SFCT grant application process? The Chair reminded the Liaison Director that this is the process that all groups must comply with as it has been agreed with SSE. If the Trust does not require groups to comply with this agreed process, SSE could raise concerns about how the Trust was managing the funds and SSE has the right to remove the funds from the community.

The Project Co-ordinator suggested that to assist SFCC's transparency and to highlight the importance of obtaining three quotes invitations to tender could be sent out by applicant groups. It was also noted that quotes also actually assist the group as it ensures good practice and that they are not being overcharged for services.

It was also noted that the Project Co-ordinator is assisting Kim Burton at SFCC with their future grant applications.

9. PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR UPDATE

Steven Watson confirmed that he had been dealing with the action points from the April meeting including encouraging new grant applications and chasing up completion reports. The PCO is visible in the area again. Some new photos have been put on website and there are more to come. Grant-wise, we have seven applications in for the current deadline. PCO is on the hunt for copy for the next edition of the news. Foyers PS dolphin trip at beginning of June and it is hoped an article will follow that.

The Quest Loch Ness event has been postponed to next year.

The Chair advised that Steven is still working three days per week and would like to continue this until July. Following annual leave in July he would thereafter like to return to four days per week. The Board **NOTED** this increase in working days following Steven's annual leave in July.

ACTION: Communications Team to meet re next issue of news.

*GP,
SW,HN,
SM*

10. AOCB

(a) Broadband Update

Sharon Ferguson updated that additional lines are now installed at the Hall and the cabinet is being installed next week. There had been an initial technical delay but this seemed to have been resolved and the test phase equipment should hopefully be installed in the next few weeks.

(b) Boleskine Community Care

Following the earlier presentation, the Trust discussed BCC's proposals.

The Board **AGREED** that they would support BCC by investigating the potential for the Trust to acquire the site at Lower Foyers from HIE and/or SSE.

With regard to BCC's employment proposal, while the Board supported BCC in principle, the Board will require substantially more clarification and more detailed information and proposals before making any decision with regard to funding.

EMails

(c)

Garry Page confirmed his emails are finally now working.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 7 June 2017, venue to be Stratherrick Hall if available.

The Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed by Chair (ZI)

Date
