



MINUTES of the MEETING of the STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST LIMITED held at the CATHOLIC CHURCH HALL, WHITEBRIDGE, ON WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2016

Present Graeme Ambrose, Frank Ellam, Peter Faye, Sharon Ferguson, Zoe Iliffe, Stewart MacPherson, Gordon McAndie, Hugh Nicol, Ken Sinclair
Chair Zoe Iliffe
In Attendance Steven Watson (Project Coordinator), Fiona Ambrose (Administrator)
Apologies Martin Donnelly
Also in Attendance Jeanette Taylor

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair gave a warm welcome to Jeanette Taylor who had very recently been appointed to the post of Administrator to the Trust.

2. MINUTES – 13 January 2016

Graeme Ambrose proposed, seconded by Ken Sinclair, approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2016.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2016 were **AGREED** as a correct record, **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

Stewart MacPherson declared an interest and left the meeting during consideration of the following item

3. GRANTS

a) Student - Angus MacPherson (Ref: ST25/2015)

Grant Awarded - £200

Grant Purpose: for travel expenses

The Directors **APPROVED** the application.

Sharon Ferguson declared an interest and left the meeting during consideration of the following item

b) Main - Guides, Brownies and Rainbows (Ref: M26/2015)

Grant Requested - £3,734.70

Grant Awarded - £3,734.70

Grant Purpose: To contribute towards the cost of an overnight trip for 29 girls to Craggan Outdoor Centre and the cost of the hire of Stratherrick Hall

The Directors **APPROVED** the application.

c) Sporting - Duncan Mackenzie Macpherson (Ref: SP27/2015)

Grant Awarded - £200

Grant Purpose: To contribute towards the costs of attending the International Super Cup in Manchester in July 2016

The Directors **APPROVED** the application.

d) Main - Boleskine Community Care (Ref: M28/2015)

Grant Requested - £10,000 – ongoing over 3 years - total sum of £60,000

Grant Awarded - £60,000

Grant Purpose: for the ongoing development of Boleskine Community Care over a three year period by providing revenue costs; enabling the Trustees to sign a potential lease on the HIE unit in Lower Foyers and to allow 50% contribution to a Care Manager Post as well as ongoing operational costs and to allow other funders to commit to match funding.

Following the approval of SSE, this application was treated as a single application for £60,000 payable in instalments with the result that BCC would still be able to make future applications in subsequent years.

The grant will be paid over a period of three years in six instalments, paid on a 6 monthly basis

Conditions to be met:

1. That the Chair will meet with the Trustees of Boleskine Community Care to gain assurance for the Directors of the Community Trust that the Trustees are fully aware of the commitment they are undertaking on behalf of the community.
2. The release of instalments after the first sum of £10,000 to be based on 6 monthly performance and progress reports
3. All promotional/advertising material and correspondence to acknowledge the funding received from SFCT. The SFCT logo to appear on all such documentation with the words *“Funded and supported by Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust Limited”* clearly legible.

The Directors **APPROVED** the application in the sum of £60,000.

e) Energy Saving - Tetlow Blair Mackenzie-Bentley (Ref: ESTG29/2015)

All the necessary paperwork had not been received.

The Directors **AGREED** to defer consideration of this application to the next meeting.

4. FINANCE/INVESTMENT INTO “LEGACY FUND”

Finance

The Finance Director advised that at the end of January 2016 there was £681,615 in hand spread between 9 banks/building societies.

Legacy Fund

It had been agreed previously that the sum to be invested in a Legacy Fund in the first year would be £140,000. This was 25% of the current funds. In future years, with an income of £260K per annum, the sum invested would be £65.5K. The Directors required to determine how funds would be invested.

The Directors

1. **AGREED** to accept the recommendations from Clarendon Financial Planning in their letter dated 7th December 2015 (**Appendix 1 hereto**)

2. **NOTED** that the fees payable to Clarendon would be in addition to the sum to be invested but that the platform fees and Co-funds fees would come from the £140,000 investment.

5. **INVOICES/EXPENSES**

a) Project Co-ordinator – January (£85.86)

b) Administrator – January (£255.91)

The Directors **AGREED** to pay the invoices in the sums shown above.

6. **COMMUNITY BROADBAND**

The current proposal was that the scattered areas of Ward 13 to come together to form a constituted group which would propose a plan to Community Broadband Scotland for a wireless system to reach isolated users.

The Directors **AGREED**

1. To participate in the Ward 13 scheme and that members of the Broadband team be part of the Steering Group to be formed

2. That the Trust should lead on a community survey, to be funded by Community Broadband Scotland, to determine the level of interest within the community.

7. **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

The Directors **APPROVED** the applications for membership from Julia Reid and Charles Cowe, Whitebridge.

8. **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION/PUBLICITY – UPDATE ON PROGRESS**

A number of papers had been produced by the Communications Team updating Directors on the plans for the public consultation day on Thursday 3rd March.

The Directors discussed the various documents and **AGREED** that any comments should be passed to the PC as soon as possible.

The Directors recorded their appreciation to both the Brownies and the Loch Ness Luvvies for giving up their sessions in the hall on 3rd March to enable the Trust to carry out the consultation throughout the afternoon and into the evening.

9. **REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP LIST**

The Directors reviewed the membership list for accuracy. A number of individuals had moved out of the area. The Administrator would update the list accordingly.

10. **ACTION LIST/TIMELINE**

The Chair talked through the actions from the last meeting. She confirmed that a number of actions were complete, some were ongoing and a number were covered in reports on the Agenda.

The Timeline was reviewed and would be updated to reflect the current position.

11. **UPDATE REPORTS**

(a) **Funders Team**

There were no updates at this time.

The Directors **NOTED** the position.

(b) Liaison Director Report

A report by the Liaison Director provided an update on matters relating to the Community Council. The Community Council had agreed to operate the toilets at Foyers this year and to front planning applications for Trust projects, if it was so minded to support them, so as to reduce planning application fees.

The Directors **NOTED** the position.

(c) Project Co-Ordinator/Projects

A report by the Project Co-ordinator outlined the range of activities which he had been involved in during the month of January, specifically encouraging grant applications for the next grant meeting in April, providing help to groups to research or cost their ideas and assisting with applications to other funders.

It was suggested that the drop in dates which the PC had arranged and which were shown on the News and Events section should also be included on the PC page of the website.

The Directors **NOTED** the position.

(d) Community Land Purchase

The terms of the contract and the various documents had been agreed. The final formal letter to conclude the contract was awaited. The grant of £28,200 from the Scottish Land Fund was expected to be transferred to the Trust account in the next few days.

The Directors **NOTED** the position.

(e) Quarterly Foyers Bay Project Team Update

A report by the Project Team provided an update on progress in relation to the potential developments at Foyers Bay, including the installation of a slipway and pontoons. A presentation of the initial proposals would be made at the consultation day.

The Directors **NOTED** the position

(f) Quarterly Energy/ Renewables Update

A report by the Energy/Renewables team made reference to the various energy saving schemes available, the reduction, in January 2016, in the revenue (feed in tariff) on solar panels and on the plans for a piece of ground to be identified for a community woodpile.

The Directors **NOTED** the position.

(g) Quarterly Grants Team Update

The Grants Team had its first meeting to review the Grants system and a number of recommendations had been made.

The Directors **APPROVED** the following amendments:-

Main Grants – Change to the wording on the website and advertise the fact that grants of over £10K are available to groups for larger projects, not just Legacy Projects.

Emergency Funding – highlight on the website that under very exceptional circumstances, hardship, energy efficiency and sporting grants can be dealt with on an urgent basis, as long as the application met all the usual criteria.

Frequency of Sporting grants – that two sporting grant applications be permitted within a 12 month period.

Level of grant for sporting and education grants – that the level of grant for up to 2 sporting applications and for one student application be increased to £500 per year, sporting applications to be within a 12 month period and student applications being the academic year – August to July.

Clarification of Student/Education/Training Grant

The Directors requested the Grants Team to revert back to a future meeting with clarification on the criteria for such grants.

12. AOB

Easter Abercalder Wind Farm

Frank Ellam advised that Alex Catto had suggestion that the funds made available from the Abercalder wind farm be shown on the website as being attributable to the Easter Abercalder Partnership.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 2 MARCH 2016 – (Venue to be arranged)

The Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Signed by Chair _____

Date _____