

# STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST LTD.



## Chair's bulletin October 2015

Dear Member

Welcome to the latest Chair's bulletin. I hope you find these bulletins interesting and informative. If not and you do have any questions, please do get in touch. Contact details are at the bottom of the bulletin.

### **AGM**

It's that time of year again and we will be holding our AGM at **7.30 pm on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 at Stratherrick Village Hall, Gorthleck**. Members will soon receive a package through the post which will include full details of the AGM.

As required by our Articles of Association, 3 directors will stand down at the AGM. That means that there will be 3 vacancies on the Board to be filled at the AGM. Any member of the Trust can stand for election as a director. If you would like to stand, you will need to submit your nomination form to the Trust's Administrator by 18 November 2015. This form will be contained within the pack you will shortly receive or can be downloaded from the Trust's website.

If more than 3 candidates nominate themselves as directors, there will be an election at the AGM. If no more than 3 candidates stand, then the 3 candidates will be automatically elected to the Board and there will be no need for an election.

There will also be an opportunity for members to review the Trust's accounts and ask any questions. It's a great chance to meet with and ask questions of your Directors. We strongly urge you to exercise your democratic rights and come along to play your part as a Member and very much look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

### **Membership of the Trust**

All of you reading this will already be members. However, I would ask all of you to encourage those in our community who are not members to join the Trust. Why be a Member? Everyone in our community is of course entitled to have an opinion on how the community money is spent. However, in order to have a say in how the Trust company is run and to be able to influence how the money is spent, you need to be a member. Only members are able to elect Directors and vote at the AGM. As we have advised previously, we cannot automatically give membership to the whole community because the law states that no one can be forced to become a member.

### **GRANTS**

The Board was delighted to award grants totalling over £20,000 at our last grant meeting in September. Notices of the awards have been published on our website, on the community notice boards and in public places within our community.

The next grant meeting will be held on 9 December 2015. The closing date for applications was 21 October 2015. Grants are awarded for a broad spectrum of purposes and details can be found on our web site.

December will be our last quarterly grant meeting. In response to community requests, from next year we will be holding bi-monthly grant meetings, so everyone will have even more opportunity to apply for a grant. As always, details can be found on our website or you can contact myself or any of the Trust Directors, our Administrator or Steven Watson, our Project Co-ordinator for advice.

### **PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR**

Steven has been with us for a few months now and is really getting involved with the various groups active in our area. Steven has recently contacted all the community groups that the Trust is aware of to offer his services so if he hasn't been in touch with you, and you'd like to meet Steven or seek advice from him, his contact details are shown at the bottom of the bulletin or on our website.

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Due to personal circumstances, Fiona Ambrose has decided that she can no longer undertake the role of Administrator and has recently given her notice to the Trust. We will therefore shortly be advertising for a new Administrator. A few details have to be discussed at the Board meeting on 4 November but the job will be advertised as soon as possible after that date.

On behalf of myself, the Board and Members, I would like to thank Fiona for all her hard work over the last 3 years. Fiona has been a lynchpin. Her organisational skills are legendary and she will be sadly missed by the Board.

If you (or anyone you know) would be interested in applying for the job, or would like to have an informal chat about the role, please do not hesitate to contact me. The role takes approximately 10 hours per week. You will need to be experienced in working with minimal supervision and have good communication and organisational skills. You will also need to have a good awareness of committee procedures, be capable of taking minutes and have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Don't forget to check out the Trust's website for local upcoming events, but some dates for your diary are:

**Boleskine Community Care's AGM** : 7 November 2015 @ 3pm (Stratherrick Village Hall)

**Fire Crew's Fireworks Display** : 7 November 2015 @ 7pm (Loch Ness Shores Campsite, Foyers)

**Loch Ness Luvvies**: 21<sup>st</sup> November @ 7.30pm (Stratherrick Village Hall)

An evening of entertainment which will include drama, a quiz, raffle and a buffet.

The Trust is delighted to support all these organisations with their services and events. Our thanks to all of these volunteers for their marvellous efforts on behalf of the whole community.

If you would like the Trust to advertise your event on its website, please contact us.

Thank you for your continuing support for the Trust and please do contact us if you have any comments. We appreciate feedback from the community and if you have any questions, or even better would like to be involved with the Trust, please get in touch.

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Sent on behalf of the Community Trust Directors:

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