



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST HELD AT WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE AT 7.00pm ON WEDNESDAY, 7 AUGUST 2019

Present	Peter J Faye (PJF), Zoe Iliffe (ZI), Frank Ellam (FE), Garry Page (GP), Olaf Olsen (OO), Ian Bateman (IB), Margaret Cormack (MC), Gillian McIntyre (GM)
Apologies	Sharon Ferguson (SF)
Chair	Peter J Faye
In Attendance	Steven Watson (Project Co-ordinator) (SW) Laura Walker-Knowles (Administrator) (LWK)
Declarations of interest	None

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first Board Meeting to be held at Wildside and thanked all for attending.

The Barn Dance tickets are a sell-out.

Mr Ken Sinclair has resigned from the Board of the Trust.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 JULY 2019

Subject to a small additional sentence at Page 4, Minute 4, Zoe Iliffe **PROPOSED** and Olaf Olsen **SECONDED** and the Minutes of Meeting held on 3 July 2019 were **AGREED** as a correct record without any further amendment and **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

Housing Survey

In SF's absence this was carried forward to the next meeting.

Summer Event

SW has spoken to the Chair of the Village Hall Committee concerning the loan of furniture for the summer event. The Board expressed thanks to the Trustees of the Village Hall for their assistance.

Update Footers

Most Directors have now updated their email footers and the remaining will do so this week.

Action Sustainable Energy/Heating for Wildside

SW/GP to investigate air to air heat pumps and other options.

Action by

Collation of proposed new names for Wildside Property

The favoured names are Wade or Wade Bridge Centre, Fechlin Centre or Thain Centre followed by Whitebridge Centre and Wildside Centre. The Board discussed and decided to give the Community the opportunity to vote for their favourites.

MC gave the Board updated information on the community's suggested uses for the Wildside (sic) Centre. In summary, out of 250 responses 22% voted for a shop or a craft shop, 14% café, 16% classes and meetings, 12% multi-function/conference facility, 11% heritage centre and 8% theatre and cinema. The suggestion with the most votes for the surrounding grounds was for an outdoor activity centre at 25% including suggestions such as a zip wire.

It was also suggested that contact be made with the organiser of local outdoor craft/produce markets.

Action: Article for the news in relation to ideas for Wildside.

*MC/GP
Comms
Team*

The Directors discussed proposals for groundworks and landscaping around the Wildside property. GP and MC to seek advice from expert.

Action: Speak to organiser of local Community Markets.

Action: Speak to Civil Engineer re possible works.

*MC/GP
MC/GP*

Macleod and MaCallum are instructed to establish ownership of land adjacent to the Wildside property. If an owner is identified the Chair suggested the Trust should request they clear the area and install fencing.

Grant Totals

LWK will collate the figures for 2018/19 and FE will audit when compiling the bi-annual report to funders.

3. FINANCE

Management Accounts / Annual Accounts

FE took the Board through the Profit and Loss Account and the Balance Sheet at 30 June 2019. The accounts have been delivered to the external accountants and no changes are expected except for a provision for corporation tax on investment income.

4. GRANT – STRATHERRICK PUBLIC HALL

FE explained the situation in relation to the Hall's grants. The most recent award being made in September 2017 of £18,755 over 3 years. FE explained to the Board that these funds had been scheduled to be released at various intervals and now further funds had been requested by the Hall Committee. However, this request was out of sync with the initial timetable.

FE had drafted and set out a proposal for payment of the balance of funds and the Board **AGREED** that the remaining funds for the second and third year payments be released now. The Board were also in agreement that a meeting to discuss the current position and the future be arranged with the Hall.

*Action: Alert Trustees of Village Hall to imminent payment.
Action: Arrange meeting with Trustees of Village Hall.*

*FE
PJF*

5. GRANT APPLICATIONS

Sporting Grant Application

Applicant: Chantelle Lewis
Total Project Cost: Unknown
Amount applied for: £250

Purpose of grant: to attend weekly cheerleading classes.

The Board **REJECTED** the application due to it not meeting the criteria for a sporting grant award.

Fund: N/A.

Student Grant Applications

Grant Applicants: Luke Burgess, Jessica Main, Isabel Slater and Amy Craven
Total Project Cost: £500 each
Amount applied for each applicant: £500

Purpose of grant: Student costs.

The Board **APPROVED** the four grants in the sum of £500 each.

Fund: Glendoe

Energy Saving Grant Application

Grant Applicant: Jill Bryant
Total Project Cost: £4,801.20
Amount applied for : £500

Purpose of grant: cladding and insulation.

The Board **APPROVED** the grant in the sum of £500 but requested confirmation that work had not yet started, as the Board is not permitted to award grants retrospectively.

Fund: Glendoe

6. AGM

The Board had reviewed the Membership Register and passed amendments to LWK.

*Action: Send rejected email addresses for checking to Directors.
Action: Review Articles and pass any comments to the Chair.*

*LWK
Directors*

7. MONTHLY BROADBAND UPDATE

The Board noted the report from the Broadband Team. The Chair updated that the fibre optic line from Gorthleck exchange to Stratherrick Hall should be live in the next two weeks.

ZI is preparing a report on the Lease and Title in reference to the proposed lease with Dunmaglass Estate.

8. ENERGY AND RENEWABLES UPDATE

The Team suggested a community transport group be set up to include users such as school/s, BCC etc. Further information to be sought on potential Community Transport initiatives

9. FOYERS BAY UPDATE

OO took the Board through his report.

A primary point to recall regarding this project is the shallow nature of the bay and the consequent limit of boat size that can be accommodated. It is estimated that seven metres length and 700mm draught is probably the maximum to be allowed at the current stage.

Presentation of the report to the Board compared costs and longevity between possible plastic and metal pontoon walkways. A possible addition of a larger head pontoon was agreed.

Discussion and agreement was reached regarding arboreal trimming and tidying around the site protecting broadleaf and other substantial growth to flourish.

Litter and other debris clearing remains an issue which problem will hopefully reduce as community involvement increases. This will be encouraged within a future Code of Conduct yet to be written and instituted.

New woodland walkway signage is being installed while it is regrettably noted that a 'No fires and no litter' sign has been irresponsibly removed by person(s) unknown.

While ownership of some existing craft, including derelicts on shore, remains unknown, these questions will be followed to conclusion.

It is proposed to hold a community open meeting on 21 September at Stratherrick Public Hall and to include a notice of this in the forthcoming news magazine where a questionnaire

will be included as an introduction. This is aimed at community involvement to guide the Trust decisions.

It is intended that institutions such as RNLI, Highland Council and Scottish Canals will be kept up to date with progress in this development and the Trust will contact these parties accordingly.

It is understood local fishing clubs have yet to complete Licences to Occupy and remain where the huts are currently situated. It is imperative that documentation is completed to avoid a breach of lease covenants on the part of the Trust.

The restorative nature of extending the existing slipway into Loch Ness and creating a boat launching and retrieval facility is receiving much thought and it is expected that submission to authorities such as SEPA will progress in the forthcoming quarter. Consideration of input from industrially competent persons is a possibility in this regard.

Actions that are already part of the project budget were agreed and are now to be taken forward: -

- Preparation, transport and galvanising of the existing metal pontoons from Foyers Bay and return;
- manufacture and galvanising of pontoon metal doubling clamps;
- grading the slip roadway, infilling around the compound fence and main gateway and clearing loose boulders at the water side; and
- arboreal tidying and chipping around the site.

Action: article in the news advertising an open day.

Action: Speak to Bob Main.

Action: article in the news re derelicts.

Comms

OO

OO

10. LIAISON DIRECTOR UPDATE

IB will be resigning from the Board at the end of the month because of work commitments. The Board thanked Ian for his work and stated that they would welcome him back when he was available.

11. SUMMER EVENT

The event is a sell out and all tickets have been dispatched. Additional requests for tickets are being recorded on a "Reserve List", with a request that anyone not using their ticket/s to return them to the Hall.

Camping has been offered for attendees at the site if required. The team requested help on the Friday and Saturday to set up and Sunday for a breakdown and clean up. Staging and tables will need to be transported. A trailer with a low ramp is available. The food order has been increased following the all ticket sell out. Any additional raffle prizes would be welcomed.

12. PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR'S UPDATE

SW gave a brief update. SW will now work from home on Mondays and on Tuesdays at Wildside.

13. FIREWORKS

The Board **APPROVED** the cost of this year's event in the sum of £2,696.

14. AOCB

Procurement Strategy

The Board decided to review the draft Policy and make amendments if required.

Action: Review draft policy.

All

Knockie Trust

The Concordat has expired. Knockie Trust would like to renew the agreement. The Board **APPROVED** the Concordat be renewed via correspondence for a further two years.

Registered Office

Once a name is chosen for the Wildside property, the Registered Office of the Trust will be relocated to the building.

Editorial Team

The Comms Team will be putting together an editorial team to aid the production of the Stratherrick and Foyers News in the future. Directors are asked to look for volunteers from the Community to assist.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7,00pm. Wednesday, 4 September 2019
Venue: Wildside, Whitebridge

The Meeting closed at 10.46 p.m.

Signed by Chair (PJF) _____

Date _____

