



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST HELD AT WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE AT 6.30pm ON WEDNESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2020**

<b>Present</b>	Zoe Iliffe (ZI), Russell Bain (RB), Chris Finlay (CF), Jillian Barclay (JB), Karla Stewart (KS), Kirsty Balfour (KB), Margaret Cormack (MC), Gillian McIntyre (GM), Lorraine Lewis (LL), Olaf Olsen (OO)
<b>Apologies</b>	Frank Ellam (FE)
<b>Chair</b>	Margaret Cormack (MC)
<b>In Attendance</b>	Laura Walker-Knowles (Administrator) (LWK)
<b>Declarations of interest</b>	Karla Stewart declared an interest in student grant application

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Lorraine Lewis, Trust Community Liaison Director. Apologies had been received from FE.

The Board noted thanks received from the Hall for the donation to the raffle at the Christmas Ceilidh.

**2. MINUTES**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 January 2020**

Gillian McIntyre **PROPOSED** and Olaf Olsen **SECONDED** and the Minutes of Meeting held on 8 January 2020 were **AGREED** as a correct record without any further amendment and **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

**Matters Arising**

**Tomatin**

GM, OO and MC are scheduled to meet with SSE and view the furniture on Tuesday next week, 11 Feb.

**Alex Sutherland Grant**

The Board discussed payment of the grant and noted that receipts had been requested but not received. It was agreed the Administrator should revert to the applicant again.

*Action: Request receipts.*

**Energy Grant**

The e mail alerting the end of the grant programme has been circulated to Trust Members and posters displayed on the Community noticeboards.

**Action by**

**SW/LWK**

### **Christmas Ceilidh**

GM updated that Cask Strength band usually double up on bookings on the day for their northern performances. The Board discussed their requested alternative date on the following weekend and agreed that the original date was preferred.

*Action: Return to Cask Strength and advise 11<sup>th</sup> December is preferred date.* GM

### **Electrician**

The electrician has been booked but has not yet visited to install the flood light at Wildside.

### **Cleaner/Caretaker**

The job description has been circulated and agreed by the Board. The larger gardening provision will be circulated separately.

*Action: Expression of interest for website.* MC  
*Action: Additional tender for groundwork, all Trust property – next month's agenda.* LWK

### **Mower**

The engine is running but a new battery required.

### **Official Address**

The Trust's official address will now be The Wildside Centre, Whitebridge IV2 6UN.

*Action: Registered office – change of address.* LWK  
*Action: Amend all Trust documentation.* LWK/GM

### **News**

The team are happy with the circulated guidelines for the News.

### **Website Calendar**

The website team are still investigating an easy-to-populate-and-view calendar for the website. GM/LWK

### **Project Co-ordinator**

Four invitations to interview had been issued but, unfortunately, two candidates had withdrawn and so the Interview Panel had felt it was more appropriate that the position be re-advertised. The Board briefly discussed the structure of the interview for the position of Project Co-ordinator. The Board noted that the new closing date should allow at least a couple of weeks for response. The Board discussed GDPR and questioned why only a select few of the Directors had been informed of the applications and interview process and make a final decision for the post. The Chair agreed that in future all Directors will be informed of relevant information and the outcome of interviews before the general public were.

*Action: Draft job advert for both Trust Manager and Project Co-ordinator.* MC

### 3. FINANCE

In FE's absence the Board noted the Finance Director's Finance Report.

MC then ran the Board through the Management Accounts starting with the Profit and Loss Account and noting that the overall profit had increased. The Board also noted the balance sheet.

### 4. STRATHERRICK PUBLIC HALL – GRANT UPDATE

MC explained the background of the grant awarded to the Hall Committee in October 2019. The Hall Committee have provided an update on expenditure on their account and FE is satisfied that all is now in order for the next quarterly payment.

The Board **APPROVED** the payment of £2,000 to the Hall.

### 5. WELLBEING GROUP – GRANT UPDATE

MC explained the background to the grant awarded to the Well Being Group. There were various conditions attached to the award that needed to be met and evidenced. £560 was withheld pending the receipt of numbers for the new Sunday Yoga session over three months. Average attendance for the Sunday yoga session was 5.3, the Well Being group now has 25 members, and Sunday attendees are generally members with visitors paying £5.00 (from outside the Stratherrick area). The information provided by the Well Being Group stated that £1.00 a class has been charged for the Sunday Yoga session and not £2.00, which was a condition of the grant. The Board queried if the Sunday attendance had affected the Wednesday attendance figures and noted it had not.

The Board discussed constituted groups generally and proposed that AGM minutes of such groups should be requested when new grant applications are received.

The Board **AGREED** to release the £560 but that the group should be reminded that all advertising of classes (including the Mindfulness course and classes) must display the Trust's logo.

*Action: Update grant guidance.*

### 6. CORRIEGARTH APPRENTICE – SECOND YEAR

For the benefit of the newer Directors MC gave a brief overview of the three-Trust Apprenticeship Scheme and updated on the Corriegarth apprenticeship. The Board noted the situation and the requirement for a meeting of the Apprenticeship Panel. MC advised as this related to a second year of an existing apprenticeship it is, in effect, a continuing apprenticeship, so a meeting of the Panel may not necessarily be required. The Trust had previously agreed to pay a contribution for the second year of the apprenticeship. Unfortunately, requested meetings

with Fort Augustus to finalise the paperwork have not as yet been organised.

The Board **APPROVED** the payment of the next instalment of £5,000.

*Action: Contact Fort Augustus and copy in the chair of the Panel.*

MC

## 7. FOYERS BAY – RENT

The lease with SSE specifies a rent of £100 per annum payable in advance on the date of signing and on each anniversary thereafter whether demanded or not and SSE account details are being investigated to verify this process.

FE/00

## 8. GRANT APPLICATIONS

### C Student Grant Applications

**Applicant: Lisa Haston**  
**Amount applied for: £500**

**Purpose of grant:** Costs associated with study

The Board **APPROVED** the student grant application in the sum of £500, subject to proof of current attendance from Lisa Haston.

**Fund:** Green Energy/Knockie

**Applicant: Abigail Kirkland**  
**Amount applied for: £500**

**Purpose of grant:** Costs associated with study

The Board **APPROVED** the student grant application in the sum of £500.

**Applicant:** Karla Stewart

**Amount applied for: £500**

**Purpose of grant:** Costs associated with study.

This grant was **DEFERRED** until confirmation that the tutor is accredited.

**Fund:** Green Energy/Knockie

**Applicant:** William Frank Taylor

**Amount applied for: £250**

The Board discussed the application and training establishment accreditation. The Board agreed the application as more suited to a sporting grant award.

**Purpose of grant:** Training camp.

The Board **APPROVED** the grant application as a sporting grant in the sum of £250.

**Fund:** Green Energy/Knockie

### **Energy Saving Grant**

**Applicant:** Craig Lightbody

**Amount applied for:** £500

**Purpose of grant:** Costs associated with installation of new external door.

This Board **APPROVED** the energy saving grant in the sum of £500.

**Fund:** Green Energy/Knockie

### **Group**

The application from the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council has been deferred and will be revised after discussion between the assessors and the CC.

## **9. QUARTERLY REPORTS**

### **(a) Energy**

The Board noted the energy report and discussed the suggested options and costs for an energy efficient heating system at Wildside. Concern was expressed that a system based on air-source heat pumps may not be suitable for an older, less well-insulated building

*Action: Contact EST/Local Energy Scotland for advice on the best heating system to install.* CF

### **EV Charger**

The Board noted an installed electric car charging point will have controls to allow charging.

### **Transport**

The Board noted the suggested vision statement *“To provide a sustainable and reliable community bus service to Stratherrick and Foyers area. A service which connects small communities in our area and also provide a link with Inverness and Fort Augustus to promote social activities and connect businesses”*. The Board noted the transport team are hoping to share this tomorrow at the first community transport meeting and set out the proposal.

### **(b) Foyers Bay**

OO gave an update on the meeting with the SSE Foyers and Great Glen Area Manager of Operations and Maintenance, appraising him of the possible plans for development of the Foyers Bay site and repeating these as information to the Board.

To convey these possibilities to the community, a continuation of the open day meeting of September 2019 is now anticipated at the end of March this year with News and notice board notifications to be posted.

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## 10 GROUNDWORKS – TRUST PROJECTS

MC updated the situation in relation to the groundworks at Wildside. The Board noted that the bad weather had resulted in a postponement of works.

*Action: Riverside Field and Foyers Bay Teams – list requirements for initial development and regular outside maintenance as part of contract for ground maintenance at Trust properties.*

Riverside  
and  
Foyers  
Bay  
Teams

## 11. TRUST IT REQUIREMENTS

The Board noted three quotes for different laptops KB had obtained from PC World. The quotes were for three different specifications ranging in price from £400 to £565, with additional costs for the cloud licensing and antivirus software. The Board discussed and concluded that external advice should be sought.

*Action: Contact three IT companies for suggested systems and solutions.*

MC

## 12. ABERARDER WINDFARM – COMMUNITY BENEFIT

The Board discussed the RES 20 Megawatt windfarm at Aberarder. At a meeting with the community council, community benefit had been offered by RES in the form of a Local Electricity Discount (LED) scheme amounting to £50 per household, for approximately five hundred properties (i.e. £250 each in both the Stratherrick and Foyers and Strathnairn Community Council areas) for ten years amounting to £250,000 in total. This compares to the Scottish Government recommended Community Benefit of £5,000 per megawatt per year index linked for the lifetime of the windfarm amounting to £2.5 million (twenty-five years). Negotiations are continuing but the Board noted that RES did not have a community agenda and their basis was purely financial.

## 13. AOCB

### Membership

The Board noted Ordinary Membership applications from Katie Etherington, Ian Etherington and Scott Barclay.

The Board discussed the possible availability of electronic membership forms via the website. The Board discussed the e-signing of the membership forms and noted that it was not permissible for a legally binding document.

### **Riverside Open Day**

The Board noted the open day will be on 22 February 2020. Letters of invitation have been sent out to Riverbank and Elmbank residents. Notices will be going up on the noticeboards and Directors are invited to attend. The architect will be in attendance giving a presentation on the revised masterplan.

### **Comms Team**

A suggestion was made for a Facebook page for the Trust with no comments allowed.

*Action: Agenda item next month.*

*LWK*

### **Housing**

*Action: Agenda item next meeting.*

*LWK*

### **Glendoe Estate Open Day**

An article will be placed in the News.

### **Loch Ness 360**

The Board noted the use of Wildside carpark on the day as a water-station. There will be 500 runners taking part with porta-loos stationed in the carpark.

## **14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

6.30 p.m. Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at The Wildside Centre, Whitebridge

*The Meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.*

Signed by Chair (MC) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_