

**MINUTES OF MOUNT BLAIR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

**BOARD MEETING**

**HELD AT LOG CABIN HOTEL ON THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2013**

**Present:** Mike Purdie (MP) (Chair), John Manning (JM), Roger Clare (RC), John Duncan (JD), Martyn Jamieson (MJ), David Rennie (DR), Hannah Goodman (HG), Richard Watts (RW), Lucy Holt (LH)

**Apologies:** Simon Calvin (SC), Dennis Poole (DP), Liz Crichton (LC)

		<b>Action By</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>MP welcomed all to the meeting including Lucy Holt, prospective new Director. Following a brief summary of her 'CV' from Lucy, MP offered Lucy for appointment as a Director. This was proposed by HG, seconded by JD and unanimously endorsed by all present.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>APPLICATIONS FOR TRUST MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>DR informed the meeting that since December there have been thirteen applications for membership, a mixture of full and associate members.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</b></p> <p>With a minor editorial amendment to the wording of item 3b, the minutes of the last meeting were proposed by JM, seconded by JD and agreed by all.</p>	
	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING</b></p>	
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Forestry purchase.</b> JM outlined recent discussions regarding the possible purchase of an area of local forestry under the government-sponsored Scottish Land Fund. He said that there have been eighteen woodland projects in Scotland since 2007 and that if the Trust was to progress this idea it would require more people to get involved. MP said that the Sleat Community Trust on Skye has experience in this area and also with associated biomass systems and are happy to give advice (see further comments under Item 7).</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Archive.</b> In LC's absence JM reported that the Trust's Archive Officer, Richard Stratton is currently dealing with initial forms and permissions and is getting valuable assistance from the Perth &amp; Kinross Archive Officer and from his university tutor. JM is impressed by Richard's attitude and enthusiasm and will shortly forward a progress report to Directors. MP said it would be good to know when Richard will be in contact with folk in the community, and when and how folk can contact him. HG pointed out that part of Richard's remit is to train up interested members of the community to ensure that the project continues for many years. LH informed the meeting of a relevantly recent history of life in Strathardle. MP noted this and made mention of a similar publication of life in Glenshee.</p>	JM
	<p><b>NEW ITEMS</b></p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b></p> <p>MJ gave a break down of the current financial situation which shows that, apart from the ring-fenced funds, the account currently has a matter of a few hundred pounds. MP said that the Games Night should produce a profit (see Item 9). Some discussion took place on the relative merits of the Trust becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). Although there would be less admin, there would be no significant financial advantage and for big projects involving large sums it would probably be less suitable. DR undertook to continue to research the pros and cons.</p>	DR

		Action By
7.	<p><b>Community Enterprise (CE).</b> This organisation exists to assist not for profit community-based groups and has been contracted by Perth &amp; Kinross Council to assist other community groups by giving two days of free desk-based research. DR has met with one of their consultants and has suggested that, in line with the Action Plan, the biomass/forestry potential, and improvements in Broadband reception were two areas we could explore with assistance from CE. There was some discussion on the merits of using this expertise on the Broadband situation, given that there have been various other initiatives in the past. Nevertheless it was decided that DR request CE to continue research in these areas. MP reported that he has been in touch with DTAS who have indicated that there is funding available for community bodies to visit other community groups to gain insight and advice. He made mention of a group on Skye, Sleat Community Trust, who have purchased and managed forest land and who have indicated that they are happy to give advice. There was some discussion on the merits of such a visit but as MP pointed out the possible forestry project could provide the means for a biomass operation and could provide local employment. DR intimated that he would be happy to visit with one other person. JM and HG suggested a local resident who could be an appropriate person to be part of a visit to Sleat, and JM agreed to speak to her. JM said that the possible forestry project would be a considerable undertaking, and because of this DR suggested that a working group should be established. LH suggested that as her brother has some expertise in these areas, she would be happy to talk with him.</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>JM</p> <p>LH</p>
8.	<p><b>THEME DIRECTORS UPDATES</b></p> <p><b>Outdoor recreation and tourism.</b> No report</p> <p><b>Heritage, culture and produce.</b> See Archive report at 5.</p> <p><b>Community and recreational facilities.</b> HG reported that the Kirkmichael School PTA is currently fundraising for refurbishment of the sports court at the primary school. As this facility is available for community use, MP asked that it be known that the Trust is happy to support this venture.</p> <p><b>Infrastructure and renewable energy.</b> See JM report at Item 4.</p> <p><b>Local Services and improved transport.</b> JM and HG both reported on the local initiative to install two defibrillators and training for about twenty local residents. HG said that she has offered Trust support to Neil Ladler for this initiative, and that she has spoken with Andrew Duncan. At present there doesn't appear to be a similar initiative in Kirkmichael but the meeting decided to monitor developments with the Glenshee scheme before deciding on any further initiatives.</p> <p><b>Housing and Jobs.</b> Nothing to report at present.</p> <p><b>Roads, traffic, lay-bys and signage.</b> As DP currently away there was no report.</p>	<p>HG</p>
9.	<p><b>GAMES NIGHT (16/3).</b> MP gave an overview of the plans for the evening –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7.00 games to start with bar open. 8.30 food served followed by races</li> <li>• Music to be provided by Miles Goodman</li> <li>• Games will be table tennis, mini pool, darts, table football and bean bag</li> </ul>	

		Action By
	<p>throwing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strathardle Inn is providing soup and sandwiches and running the bar.</li> <li>• All seven races have a local sponsor. The eighth race will be in form of an auction.</li> <li>• Eight directors indicated their intention to attend. DR said he would cover 'the door'. JD will assist with the bar and food. Five would look after the games.</li> <li>• MP is to obtain projector and screen</li> <li>• HG is sourcing games equipment</li> </ul> <p>There was some discussion as to what would be an appropriate prize for the winner of each race. The consensus was that this should be something other than a cash prize. There was also some discussion as to whether directors should buy a ticket or not (for entry and food). It was decided that if all tickets were sold, then Directors may not need to purchase a ticket. MP to advise. DR enquired about the need for a lottery licence. MP replied that such a licence is not required for an event such as this.</p>	<p>JD</p> <p>MP</p> <p>HG</p> <p>MP</p>
10.	<p><b>Long term funding and support.</b> MP outlined the oil buying scheme operated by the Stanley Development Trust, which brings in annual income in the region of £1500. He explained that the oil company give only a small discount and individuals deal direct with the oil company making a commitment for 1 – 3 years. JM suggested that our Trust area being widespread could be of more interest to a potential oil supplier giving a bigger discount. MP outlined a scheme operating in Aberdeenshire where the Community Trust coordinates the scheme, which provides a worthwhile benefit for the community.</p> <p><b>Trust Admin Assistant / Development Officer.</b> MP had contacted DTAS for advice and been advised that funding for this type of appointment could be difficult. There was a suggestion to approach Drumderg or Perth &amp; Kinross Council. JM suggested contacting Drumderg Development Officer for advice. MP said he would draft a paper and circulate it to directors, having taken further advice.</p>	<p>MP</p>
10.	<p><b>AOCB.</b> MJ left some information leaflets produced by the Field Studies Council (FSC).</p>	
11.	<p><b>Date and venue of next meeting</b></p> <p>7.30 pm Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at <u>Compass Christian Centre</u> (Please note change of venue from that set at the last meeting)</p>	