

## **MBCDT – BOARD MEETING MINUTES 28.11.18**

Venue: Kirkmichael Session House

**Present:** Liz Mallinson (LM) Chair, John Manning (JM), Janet Hunter (JH), Darrel Townsend (DT), Roger Clare (RC), Miles Goodman (MG), Alex Winton (AW) Observer, Colin Reed (CR) Minutes

**Apologies:** Caroline Shiers (CS), Bob Brawn (BB)

LM welcomed those present

- Minutes from previous meeting were approved
- No conflicts of interest were declared

### **Treasurers Report – DT**

- Figures provided in the November report dated at 31.10.18 show Bank Balance £8382.90, Restricted Funds £7053.60, Unrestricted Funds £1329.30
- It is noted that the Archive Project fund stands at £130.02 following recent payment of website hosting & associated charges.

### **Matters Arising**

#### **CBOPS – RC and All**

- RC and CR provide overview of their recent meetings with Rix and Oilfast and the pros and cons of what each are offering are discussed by All in detail and at length. There is a complex choice between switching supplier with an unknown track record, (but who might be able to achieve slightly lower prices) and sticking with Rix as a trusted supplier. The possible ramifications of switching suppliers during a busy winter were discussed and it was agreed by All that on balance it was prudent to see the winter through with Rix and then review again Q1/2 2019. **CR to Action** contact with Rix and to proceed with introduction of 1ppl levy and to continue to keep exerting pressure regarding prices.
- RC/CR also discussed communications with CBOPS users so that RC can be introduced, to outline the findings of recent review work, introduction of levy and to highlight ongoing works in 2019 to review and improve service. **CR to Action** draft of email to scheme users.
- CR also discussed potential GDPR issues regarding use of CBOPS database and it was agreed by Majority to continue with current strategy, but to keep under review. Documents pertaining to the entire CBOPS procedure have been prepared and are available to all Directors via Dropbox.

#### **Dalrulzion Forest update – MG**

- MG updates on recent progress with emphasis on collection of survey questionnaires. CR reports total of 92 responses so far, representing in excess of 10% of local population, and that the overall response is extremely positive. Although an excellent start MG explains again how crucial the demonstration of community

support is with CAT applications and that the Trust should be looking to at least double the responses received so far. Various means of reaching the public are suggested including door to door activity, social events at pubs & village halls, upcoming Timebank event, etc. General discussion by All regarding key stakeholders who might be able to offer letters of support and/or practical support.

- Discussed by All was the support that all Directors can give MG in helping to drive this project forward and to help spread the workload. JH volunteers to assist wherever it might be most appropriate/required.
- Discussion by All regarding a recent visual check of the forest planting against the planting plans that FES have supplied and that it appears these plans might not represent the true picture. MG believes that any such discrepancies would be picked up at valuation stage. MG also highlights that the Dalrulzion Roundhouses are under consideration to be included in the new tranche of Cateran Eco Museum locations.

#### **Archive Website Income Generation Proposals - CR**

- CR seeks approval to commence with the first recommendations included in the recent paper prepared for the Board. First steps will look at saving money on current provision, liaising with Community Sites in order to start works on improving website visibility and exploring options to add Donation facility to website. Agreed by All. CR stresses that no major changes or works will be undertaken without first seeking further agreement.

#### **Timebank update – CR**

- CR outlines communication from Cat Mackay regarding plans to bring Timebank into Mount Blair area in 2019 via Open Evening and subsequent Drop In Session & associated activities. The Trust will be able to help support and publicise such activities and **CR to Action** follow up with Cat in order to start arrangements.

#### **HEAT Project update – CR**

- CR reports no update provided. MG believes an Energy Fair event is planned for Kirkmichael Village Hall March 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 – **CR to Action** confirmation and to seek to attend on behalf of CBOPS.

#### **Directors Roles 2019 – LM**

- LM discusses the roles of each Director present for the following year and the projects for which each are responsible. LM also reminds All of the importance of new recruitment to the Board and reinforces that it will be a collective objective for 2019 to attend to this issue.

#### **Spittal Update – All**

- DT and CR both report on recent updates. It is believed that a decision on the current Planning Application by CPA is imminent but this is not confirmed. Group discussion follows regarding lines of responsibility between PKC and CNPA Planning Enforcement Officers regarding the ongoing deterioration of the site and JH volunteers to try and seek some clarity on this issue from within CNPA.

### **Straloch School update – All**

- CR recently provided an update on the current position for use at recent MBCC meeting and that this highlighted a lack of measurable progress. Regarding the various options previously discussed LM suggests that JM is well placed to take a more active role with this project and JM agrees to make initial contact with surveyors/valuers in order to try and move things forward. **CR to Action** checking CAT guidelines on what is and isn't possible/permissible should the site come into community ownership.

### **Risk Register – CR**

- CR reports no new additions to Risk Register

### **Vice Chair – LM**

- With LM absent until early Jan 2019 it is agreed that JM will assume any Chair responsibilities.

### **2019 Board Meetings – All**

- CR seeks approval to continue to hold meetings on last Wednesday of each month and to continue to use mix of venues – Agreed by All. **CR to Action** circulation of 2019 dates including Development Session for Feb/Mar meeting TBC.

### **AOB**

- AW outlines the notion of engendering more cohesion and joint working between the various groups and bodies within the Mount Blair region – for example, MBCDT, MBCC, School & PTA, Tourist Association, Village Hall Committees, Village Shop Committee, churches, Firefighters, social groups, etc and that there exists an opportunity to bring all of these groups and interests together, along with all members of local communities. Outline ideas for such event(s) were discussed by All and Agreed that this would be a very positive initiative for the Trust to support in 2019
- LM thanks JM for the Trust update he gave at recent MBCC meeting.
- MG again reminds All of the importance of encouraging more Dalrulzion surveys and paper copies are distributed.
- CR expresses desire to move the Trust, as far as might be possible, to becoming a 'paperless' organisation in order to improve Carbon Footprint and to save on cost and waste, etc. **CR to Action** further investigation.

### **END OF MEETING 21.10**

**Next meeting WEDNESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY venue TBC**