

MBCDT – BOARD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 2017

Date: 29.11.17

Venue: Kindrogan, Enochdhu

Present: Liz Mallinson (LM) - Chair, Janet Hunter (JH), John Manning (JM), Kate Hunter (KH), Janet Hunter (JH), Mike Kerby (MK), Miles Goodman (MG), Caroline Shiers (CS), Colin Reed (CR) - Minutes

Guest: Stuart Houston (SH) – Kindrogan FSC

Apologies: Darrel Townsend (DT), Roger Clare (RC), Bob Brawn (BB)

LM welcomed those present

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

Matters Arising

Treasurers Report – CR (in DT's absence)

- DT had previously circulated the November 2017 Treasurers Report which show figures at 01.11.17 of Bank Balance £13624.46, Restricted Funds £10617.04, Unrestricted Funds £3007.42.
- CR highlighted the particular concern raised in the Report that the ongoing costs for the Archive website (c.£360.00 pa) will need to be attended to as funds left in the Archive budget will be insufficient next year. Discussion by All including ideas to introduced new themed content that may attract new funding (MG) and possibility of payments/donations when the project's services are used for genealogy research (JM). CR to provide Directors with up to date statistical report for the website via Google Analytics.

Risk Register - CR

- CR reported no additions or changes to Risk Register

Community Woodland Purchase – MG & MK

- MG & MK provided an overview of issues surrounding a potential purchase of an area of community woodland, followed by a general discussion by All including the pros and cons of income stream generation via forestry operations versus the provision of leisure and community amenities, or a combination of both. MG & MK to continue to explore possibilities and potential opportunities.

CBOPS & Wood Fuel Purchase Update – KH

- KH reports that CBOPS is ongoing and functioning as expected. CR explained his discussions with Petrina Menzies regarding the continuing use of Newsgroup emails to remind members that an order is due: Petrina is battling with the fact that Newsgroup emails can be undelivered due to them being categorised as Spam and has concerns that order deadlines will be missed. Her suggestion was that the Trust take control of the operational elements of the scheme whilst Newsgroup can still be used to attract new members or to publicise news, etc. This was discussed by All - agreement that this was a sensible way forward and that CR could help coordinate and administer. KH also explained that Dawn Beaumont has stepped down from her role as a CBOPS administrator and it was agreed that the role CR would now undertake would effectively fill this gap.

- KH presented update on progress with finding a supplier(s) for potential wood fuel purchase scheme, so far with one decent prospect as per information recently circulated to Directors via email. Given the logistical requirements a supplier would need in place, and the potential demand for different several types of wood fuel products, it is felt by KH that identification of suppliers is not as straightforward as she might have hoped, although optimism is high. General discussion by All concerning these issues and agreement that the search for suppliers should go farther afield. Agreement that KH & CR should now plan to approach the community to identify interest and gauge demand for specific products – CR to Action.

Spittal of Glenshee update - LM

- No significant developments to report - JH also confirms no progress to report regarding the Planning Application via CNPA. DT's response to Bridget Trussell regarding the Trust's Expression of Interest lodged with Cairngorms LEADER funding was noted.

Tripartite Development Officer – LM & CR

- LM provides update on progress with MBCC and GSTA in regard to moving forward with a re-submission. LM & CR provide update on recent meeting with Sharon Rice-Jones for PKC LEADER funding and explain that she very much concurred with SSE Drumderg's advice that each of the three organisations involved need to clearly articulate their commitment to the management, responsibility and ownership of key elements of the proposal: this is what would make any application or re-submission more attractive to funders. LM and CR to work on options to re-shape the overall thrust of the proposal in the new year.

Kindrogan Walled Garden – Stuart Houston

- SH presented an overview of the role he plays within FSC Kindrogan and provided a summary of the plans to reinstate the Walled Garden – to redevelop the site as a resource both for the centre and for the wider community. After general discussion it was agreed by All that the Trust would be very happy to help publicise and promote community engagement and recruitment of volunteers. CR to action liaison with SH. JH also highlights that the project is still part of a Landscape Partnership Project bid, for which JH leads on behalf of the Trust, and that she will shortly report on the PKCT meeting to be held 30.11.17. JM also highlights a wealth of valuable material available to SH on the Archive website.

Archive Project update – JM

- JM provides update on recent activities and CR to liaise with JM and Pat Townsend on a more formal basis in order to publicise monthly changes to Display Board via the Trust's Facebook page. Thanks also given to Pat Townsend for her ongoing work.

AOB

- No other issues raised

REVIEW & DEVELOPMENT SESSION

LM facilitated an informal review session where progress made in 2017 was discussed, debated and mapped (lessons learned, strengths and weaknesses, etc) followed by similar discussions and thought gathering when considering priorities and projects for the year ahead. Comments and suggestions were collected by LM who will collate and circulate to all Directors in due course.

END OF MEETING 21.50

Meeting timetable 2018 – TO BE CONFIRMED

CR to propose first meeting on January 31st to All