

MBCDT – BOARD MEETING MINUTES 24.04.19

Venue: Kirkmichael Session House

Present: Darrel Townsend (DT) Chair/Treasurer, John Manning (JM), Janet Hunter (JH), Roger Clare (RC), Miles Goodman (MG), Colin Reed (CR) Minutes

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

Guest: Geoffrey Thompson (GT)

DT welcomed those present

- Minutes from previous meeting were approved
- One potential conflict of interest was declared by MG who has lodged an expression of interest in undertaking the Dalrulzion Forest Business Plan

Treasurers Report – DT

- Figures provided in the March Treasurer's report dated show Bank Balance £3543.21, Restricted Funds £2860.90, Unrestricted Funds £682.31
- DT reports a partially successful grant application to SSE Drumderg regarding Dalrulzion Forest which will be held until match funding is secured.

Matters Arising

Dalrulzion Forest update – All

- DT welcomes GT and thanks him for his attendance and the detailed work he has carried out on a voluntary basis regarding Dalrulzion. GT first responded to a request for volunteers to help with the project via a Newsgroup notice and again at the 2018 AGM
- Group discussion by All in attendance regarding progress so far and preparations for submitting the Stage 1 Application to SLF. MG noted from a recent meeting that the text for the Stage 1 Application can be expanded beyond the confines of the form and **CR to Action** expanded version. MG also noted that one issue that needs a greater focus are the environmental/habitat/biodiversity issue.
- Group discussion continues regarding some of the community benefit ideas discussed including community electric bus/transport, electric charging points, Broadband infrastructure, etc. DT reports contact with electric vehicle manufacturer who has a rep that will be visiting the area in the near future.
- GT and All discussed in detail the four quotes received for the Forestry Management Plan element of the project and Agreed by All that no decision can be taken until interest parties provide equivalent detail on standing timber valuations – **GT to Action** pursuing these quotes.
- DT highlights importance of the Board being kept fully informed at all times and to this effect MG has produced a timeline of likely events which will be refined and circulated in due course.

- CR reports no further responses received to community advert requesting expressions of interest to undertake Business Plan. GT has previously lodged expression of interest in this work and there are three quotes received externally to undertake this work. Both GT and MG leave the meeting while the quotes received are discussed in detail and it is Agreed by All that the work should be offered in principle to GT, subject to agreeing terms. **DT to Action** contact with GT in order to discuss and clarify. MG re-joins meeting.

Straloch School update

- CR updates that PKC have now provided indicative value figures and various report materials for the site. Group discussion follows as to possible next steps and it is agreed that putting the opportunity to the community is the most appropriate move. This may uncover preferred uses for the site and also any particularly strong positive or negative feelings. **CR to Action** draft of materials for this purpose for circulation.

Charity Shop - All

- CR updates on stock levels which are looking excellent, and of high quality. Staffing rota is discussed and there is still a gap to fill to be with DT on Sunday. CR has also asked Cat from Timebank to put a call for volunteers.
- Issue of shop security is discussed as CR reports some very challenging conditions at several Saturday 10am shop openings recently. In order to bypass this it is discussed and agreed that the shop should open as soon as it is ready on the first morning. MG suggests asking the community for more volunteers with a view to being an extra pair of eyes for the shop and to improve security – **CR to Action**. The £100 float is discussed and **CR to Action**.

AOB

- DT reports that three bank signatories are now in place.
- CR reports that Cat Mackay from Timebank is seeking funding in order to expand the project into the Glens and that she will be looking for formal support from the Trust and it is agreed to very happily provide this.
- RC now has stocks of greatly improved Footpaths Network leaflet and DT takes a number to distribute at phone boxes, etc
- Issue of Ballintuim phone box repairs discussed – CR volunteers to help as and when the door needs removing. DT also confirms he will be undertaking Milepost painting hopefully in the next spell of good weather.
- Group discussion regarding Spittal site and there do not seem to have been more site clearance of any significance. JM and JH discuss with All the best route to enforcement and as a result JM to seek clarification from Paul Kettles PKC and JH to seek clarification at upcoming CNPA Planning meeting.

END OF MEETING 21.00

Next meeting WEDNESDAY 29th MAY venue TBC