

MBCDT – BOARD MEETING MINUTES 30.01.19

Venue: Kirkmichael Session House

Present: Liz Mallinson (LM) Chair, John Manning (JM), Darrel Townsend (DT), Roger Clare (RC), Miles Goodman (MG), Colin Reed (CR) Minutes, Bob Brawn (BB)

Apologies: Caroline Shiers (CS), Janet Hunter (JH),

LM welcomed those present

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

Treasurers Report – DT

- Figures provided in the January report dated at 08.01.19 show Bank Balance £6135.22, Restricted Funds £4939.90, Unrestricted Funds £1195.32
- No other changes from the December report are noted
- Reminder from DT that with the financial year end approaching that any outstanding invoices should be presented in a timely manner.

Matters Arising

Spittal Update – All

- Group discussion following the announcement from CNPA of approving in principle the planning application submitted for the site. Regarding the accompanying Amenity Order to tidy the site it is confirmed that CNPA have their own Enforcement Officer but there is uncertainty as to the reach of their authority. It was Agreed by All that the Board are pleased to see the application approved and have always been supportive of any positive outcome for the site. LM commented that this is a good example of the Trust fulfilling its role as a catalyst for development: with particular regard to the Amenity Order, there was a tremendous amount of hard work to push for improvements to the site's appearance and safety. Agreed by All that the Spittal should remain a standing agenda point for the foreseeable future.

CBOPS – RC/CR

- RC provides overview of the December and January orders now that the new levy system is in place with Rix and starting to accrue income. There are some loose ends to tie up with Rix regarding the levy scheme, particularly regarding payment, and **RC/CR to Action** progress with this. RC reported issues with the recent power cut affecting peoples' ability to place orders and that Rix were very helpful.
- Group discussion regarding the positive direction that the scheme is now taking and reminder from LM that issues regarding suppliers, price and service will be under constant review. The Board are grateful to all CBOPS customers for helping build and maintain the scheme and it is hoped that by signing up more users it will become even stronger with more buying power and leverage.
- CR to attend HEAT project Energy Fair March 1st on behalf of CBOPS.

Dalrulzion Forest update – MG

- MG updates on recent developments and reports that progress is on track to meet the April deadline for Phase 1 application and August deadline for Phase 2. MG and Geoffrey Thompson recently attended a Community Woodland Association meeting which was very helpful and MG pleased to report that his explanations of the plans for Dalrulzion were well received. MG raises point of concern about the total pot of funds for such transfers, overseen by HIE, and that with a few very large projects currently in progress across Scotland that this pot might quickly disappear.
- MG also updates on progress and vision behind the Phase 2 requirement for a full Business Plan and positive group discussion follows on several aspects of this. MG comments that SLF tend to look positively on Business Plans that are produced 'in house' rather than by external consultants and therefore suggests the project should follow this direction. **CR to Action** further investigation of Community Investment Fund now that the issue of external consultants might be off the table.
- MG also outlines a very positive site visit with Glen Hydro which suggests some exciting potential for power generation for the benefit of local residents which could also provide an important income stream.
- Now that the project is reaching a very exciting stage MG also suggests that this could encourage recruitment to the Trust and the Board of Directors. **MG/CR to Action**. The importance of overall stakeholder engagement is also discussed. The notion of a community engagement event at the Blackwater Hall is discussed and agreed for action with a target date late March/early April.

Straloch School update – JM

- JM explains contact has been made with a number of property agents in order to secure valuations for the site. Once received this should give a clearer steer when next liaising with PKC on this issue.

HEAT Project

- CR confirms space is booked at the HEAT Project Energy Fair event at Kirkmichael Village Hall March 1st 2019 and that he will attend on behalf of CBOPS. There is also potential for further public engagement re: Dalrulzion and this is discussed with MG.

Cateran Eco Museum update – LM

- LM provides a valuable overview of the development of this project to date and outlines the expected next steps. The launch of the pilot project, comprising 15 sites and 9 itineraries, is due c. April 2019 and there is the intention to apply for a second round of funding if successful. LM confirms that the Trust are seen as a key contact for the Mount Blair region and that Claire Cooper will attend the 27th February Board Meeting

Archive Website issues – DT/All

- DT outlines several technical issues that are making it progressively harder for volunteer Pat Townsend to add valuable content in a sensible and practical way. CR

has now met with Pat and is awaiting a response from the Community Sites in order to try and fix the most pressing issues.

- Group discussion follows concerning the viability of the site as it stands and that it may not prove to be fit for purpose for very much longer. LM suggests that a brief be prepared for a replacement/improvement and **CR to Action** preparation of an outline for this.
- It is Agreed by All that Pat Townsend should purchase c.£20 worth of credit tokens in order to be able to use the research facilities on the Scotland's People website archive.

Events Study update – CR

- CR provides an overview of the income generation/feasibility study papers that he is working on with a view to completion end February 2019. He explains that it is a large piece of work that will tackle many issues regarding event development and will then provide a number of different models of progression for the Board to consider.

Risk Register – LM/All

- LM leads group discussion on the use of the risk register and the types of issues that might be included – they may be practical or reputation as well as financial. **CR to Action** draft of updated register for circulation.

AOB

- RC informs that Andy Barrie PKCT has been in touch regarding the footpaths network and that they are planning an updated leaflet with much improved maps and information – proofs are circulated to all present.
- BB reminds all that the Community Investment Fund is still open for applications and is currently undersubscribed. BB also explains some of the upcoming issues regarding the expected Perth & Kinross Council budget deficit and to expect further cuts in services unless solutions can be found.
- LM gives formal notice of her intentions to retire as Chair in the near future. DT on behalf of all present says she will be sorely missed as she has achieved so much for the Trust. Group discussion follows regarding seeking a new Chair and to also address headcount of Board Directors, to be continued at February 27th meeting.

END OF MEETING 21.10

Next meeting WEDNESDAY 27th FEBRUARY venue TBC