

Mount Blair Community Development Trust

Board Meeting

22/2/17

Present Liz Mallinson (LM) Chair, Miles Goodman(MG), Ian Hamilton(IH), Janet Hunter(JH), Kate Hunter(KH), John Manning(JM), Ali Petrie (AP) MBCC, Caroline Sheirs (SH)Councillor, David Stewart (DS), Darrel Townsend (DT)

Apologies Roger Clare, Colin Murdoch

Minutes from previous meeting were approved

Matters Arising

- Development Officer; 2 applicants are being interviewed on Friday by LM and DT.
- Long Term Full Time Development Officer. LM has discussed route for funding for this objective with Phil Smith. Approach being developed is to seek funding for officer who can work with Trust, Community Council and GS Tourist Association. LM to create brief and seek agreement to proceed on this basis with other organisations. LM working with Phil to construct application for Drumderg and Leader by May.
LM to meet Rory Dutton Regional officer to discuss how we might make better use of DTAS membership and to discuss funding sources for full time development officer. DTAS control Scottish Government Funding associated with capacity building for community organisation.
- Insurance Policy now in place DT removed computer cover reduced premium also changed Risk and policy address to his
- Dullater Farm – Ecotricity contacted the Trust re interest in participation in income sharing. A community meeting on this being held in Birnam on 28th Feb AP encouraged all to attend. MG may be able to attend. Reply to correspondence will be made after feedback from that meeting.
- Forestry Commission contacted the Trust re interest in Community Forest Woodland Purchase of wood at Drimmie. CS confirmed Blairgowrie and Rattray CC was interested. It was decided to register our interest by 7th March and discuss joint action . LM to action
- LM to fix new date/venue for August meeting

- DTAS membership fees were not paid for this year. Action by DS and RC

Treasurer update DS

- Completed change to signatories
- Bank balance £16070 with 3 cheques pending £15380
- General fund £1355
- DS has been pursuing one or two final items required to complete annual accounts for some time with Phil and Sue Smith. DS to send detail to LM in order that a meeting can be convened to reach closure.
- DT asked for clarification on progress to Village Disabled Loo following our payment of £750 to the Shop. This was part funding Shop was raising funds from others on which there appears to have been little progress. DT to check original agreement in Dropbox LM to write to shop with input from DT seeking clarification and potential for return of funds if appropriate.

Risk register LM

- Website MG; David Atiyah has stopped auto renewal on hosting site for web site. Dream hosting cost £170 p.a. is v expensive and this will stop 15 May. MG has written to get it transferred to the Board, the web site also only allows limited posting so he is going to look into combining the MBCDT site with the Archive site which works well. This is managed by Community services for £400 p.a. and could piggy back onto it at no or very limited cost. If we were to change the archive site to put MBCDT to the front it would cost from £500 to £1000. AP suggested Across the Glens could host us. MG recommended expand Across the Glens and implement approach above closing down Dream Hosts. All in Agreement and MG will action. Risk scoring will be reduced.
- Paths Network maintenance; JH investigated arrangement of Lascelle's trust with PKCT. Our only obligation is to PKCT to help with fund raising if necessary and to provide willing volunteers. Lucy Holt will ask PKCT to inform the Lascelle's Trust on how the maintenance money has been used. AP suggested using Castle Huntly are keen to find opportunities for inmates as volunteers on community projects. AP will send details RC to follow up. Risk will be removed from register.

- Archive Project Plan; IH sent out detail of agreed actions to complete project and to report to funders. Closure date agreed as end of May with report to funders. Board agreed the plan. IH contacting funders accordingly and to seek agreement to drawdown the final £2800 which along with the £1600 in the bank to cover costs of the display/interpretation panels proposed at the shop. JM and IH to ensure funds are sufficient to cover identified costs prior to commitments to contractors. Still looking for archive volunteers all to encourage and stimulate interest to have a minimum of two in place by May. JM has secured interest from Pat Townsend. Risk scoring will be reduced on register.
- Public Liability Insurance DT has drawn up a contract to be issued alongside any request for quotation from contractors and to be signed and returned prior to any agreement to works. All agreed to text and implementation. Risk will be removed from the register.

Discussion on Communication and Stakeholder and Community engagement

- Key focus for new administrator
- Seek opportunities for Fun events e.g. Call my Bluff Wine Tasting to find alternative methods for engagement
- Increase use of visual and graphic in digital comms consider annual hard copy
- Other suggestions included Director's surgeries. Info session on the No71 bus, Wee shop, Kirkmichael shop. AP encouraged the Trust to ensure all the sub communities and locations therein were considered when thinking about events and engagement opportunities.
- Last news went out on Across the Glens in December. LM to coordinate input from all to an update of last communication and to release via News Group and direct mail to members.

Project Updates

- Climate Fund Heat project led by Ericht Trust has had funding approved. We have agreed to partner and this will require joining the Project Management Committee. CS is attending first meeting on 23/2/17. KH offered to pick up the role on behalf of the Trust providing timing works with her other commitments. LM to discuss with Len Seal.

- CBOPS (KH) 11800 litres at 39p.p. ordered this week. No progress on log or pellet scheme but will consider this once ski season has completed.
- Broadband. 3 options joint community investment with BT via its Community Fbre Partnership, Community Broadband Scotland public procurement or wait for new Scottish Government procurement to reach 100%. AP highlighted development in next six months for some residents in Kirkmichael within 1.2 Kms under current Digital Scotland programme. She has identified areas which may get fibre provision and then areas at present in which the prospect is currently very remote. She will be issuing communication in the next few weeks with a call to action seeking permission under data protection act to use premise level data in discussion with potential solutions above. Community Council will be hosting public meetings in March across the Glens with speakers covering solutions above . She asked us to encourage all to engage to respond to any communication.
- Telephone Libraries. KH will tell the current possible contractor that we cannot accept his quote as he has no Public liability Insurance. She will look in dropbox for original specs for boxes and will ask for new quotes from a range of providers issuing new standard terms and conditions and seeking completion of works by May. Directors to provide suggestions on potential contractors to KH.
Spittal project. DS - A meeting was held with Nick Mardell and it was decided to put in application for funds to cover Architect £3000, Planning £2183, and legal fees £2750 on top of original £6000. Cairngorm leader funding have expressed an interest a meeting to discuss funding for clearing the site. This is arranged on 25th March. MBDCT may need to put up 10% of the funding. There is a need to refresh the Steering Group given individuals who have stood down or left the area, this will need to covnene within the next 2 – 3 months following outcome of the first stage of the funding application. JM stated that if Community Council put in planning application the fee will be halved. Agreed to have Spittal as key item on next meeting agenda – to consider Steering Group and to consider information update on what is happening with wider community which is overdue.
- Landscape Partnership JH . Liaison has been made with PKCT on project requirements, all they want at this time is a paragraph on up to approx. two proposed projects. JH expressed a worry about proposing a project

in which a Trust Director has a direct personal interest and when no other work has been done to seek other possible projects proposals from the wider community left the Trust exposed. . JH confirmed that seeking project ideas was a key role for the MBCD. . IH commented that the situation regarding personal interests illustrated the need for a decision making framework for all potential Trust projects IH and LM to provide draft for discussion. JM will obtain evidence of community benefit from other examples of Designed Landscape projects from Mr Dingwall Scottish Gardens expert. JM will obtain written confirmation that the Dirnanean Estate partnership has agreed to the proposed project. JH will draft a letter about Landscape Partnership project to all agencies around the community seeking ideas and potential projects.

AOCB

- AP reported that the CCouncil is putting together a Community Resilience database. There is funding of up to >£20000 for essential equipment eg emergency generators for key community locations through the Glens to provide facilities and equipment in emergency situations. This will include a list of qualified and practical personnel (eg with chain saw licences) who can be called upon for support. She requested our support in spreading the need for responses and providing key information.