

## **MBCDT – BOARD MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 2017**

Date: 23.08.17

Venue: Altchroskie, Enochdhu

**Present:** Liz Mallinson (LM) Acting Chair, Janet Hunter (JH), John Manning (JM), Darrel Townsend (DT), Roger Clare (RC), Miles Goodman (MG), Caroline Shiers (CS), Colin Reed (CR)

**Apologies:** Kate Hunter, Bob Brawn

LM welcomed those present

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

### **Matters Arising**

- Village Shop Toilet: DT confirmed that funding has now been secured to complete works. CR to update Risk Register accordingly.
- Website & Hosting Update: CR – no progress to report, but hopeful of solution before next Board Meeting

Spittal of Glenshee update: DT provided overview of recent developments regarding the planning application submitted by YORSIPP to PKC, and it has been confirmed that this will be called in for consideration by CNPA. DT has also included a number of relevant documents in the Spittal Dropbox folder including the recent press article, MBCDT statement and content from the planning application. General discussion followed regarding the status of the site and the Trust's position. DT also highlighted the fact that there will be a need to contact potential funders The Big Lottery and SLF and that the Trust would await their responses. DT confirmed that the Spittal Steering Committee had been made aware of recent developments. JH suggested that she would step down from her role within the Spittal Sub-Committee and this was agreed by all.

### **AGM Planning & Preparation – RC**

- Discussion around potential dates and agreement that 25<sup>th</sup> October would be first preference and that venue would be Blackwater Hall. CR to contact Hall as a matter of urgency and confirm availability so that publicity/awareness to Trust members and wider public can begin. LM suggest that if 25<sup>th</sup> October can be secured that the date of the November Board Meeting be bought forward.
- Discussion by all regarding making the AGM a wider engagement event – ideas include presentations by MBCDT/MBCC/GSTA on partnership working (subject to successful Tripartite Development Officer funding award), update on Snow Road by CNPA, presentation on work undertaken by Pat Townsend and JM regarding Archive Project, HEAT project presentation. Agreed that provision of food and drink for attendees is always a successful tactic.

- RC explains that himself and Kate Hunter are obliged to “retire” at the AGM in order for them to be put up for re-election.
- RC and CR to work through Trust membership list in advance of any communication to members in order to check it is as up to date as possible. CR to Action

#### **Development Officer Application - LM**

- Group discussion led by LM regarding the recent application submitted to SSE. A response is expected towards the end of September or beginning of October. If successful LM proposes to contact Philip at the Ericht Trust to assist with recruitment strategy with a view to employment commencing January 2018. There is an election process underway for MBCC which is expected to complete by the first week of September. DT proposes thanks to both LM and CR for the work undertaken in bringing the application to fruition.

#### **Treasurers Report - DT**

- Figures provided show Bank Balance £14720.46, Restricted Funds £11878.04, Unrestricted Funds £2842.42. DT explains that although the Unrestricted Funds figure looks healthy it should be remembered that the Accountant’s bill has yet to be paid. DT highlights the explanatory notes regarding the August Report, as previously circulated to all Directors.
- DT leads general discussion regarding possible leftover funds once the invoice for the Enochdhu and Blacklunans phone boxes has been received and paid. Agreement that there is good potential for converting the Ballintuim phone box and working in partnership once again with MBCC.

#### **Telephone Libraries - ALL**

- Now that works have been completed PR and awareness ideas were discussed by all. LM has an author friend that she could contact that would provide a good level of PR. CS explained that the Blairgowrie Book Festival at the beginning of October would provide some great opportunities to invite author(s) to help whilst they are already in the area. CS to action and identify possibilities.
- General discussion that informal feedback regarding the libraries had been very positive indeed and that both boxes seemed to be used frequently.

#### **Fundraising – ALL**

- Group discussion regarding several fundraising ideas, including kind offer from JM to use Dirnanean Gardens as a venue (subject to it taking place before June 1<sup>st</sup>). Agreement that ceilidhs held at Straloch in the past were always very popular indeed and that a similar event held at Kindrogan with raffle, food & drink, etc held great potential. Discussion and agreement that performances from local schoolchildren was always a popular aspect, and with this in mind MG to put feelers out regarding the School PTA and the possibility of a joint fundraising venture. JH agreed to lead and LM to approach Kindrogan.

- CR confirmed that the Howes Charity Shop is booked week commencing May 25<sup>th</sup> 2018

#### **HEAT Project – MG**

- MG provided update on project progress including staffing change: Noeleen Chapman is now looking after book-keeping alongside her other duties. MG reports that 12 surveys have been undertaken and that the project requires more of these home visits. Hopeful of good response when they attend the Strathardle Gathering alongside the Trust. There is an application in process for a further two years funding that would allow the project to expand into Blairgowrie and also tackle other green issues (food miles, food packaging, etc).

#### **Straloch School – LM & All**

- LM outlined recent communications from John Corrigan PKC regarding the way being clear for the Trust to consider a Stage Two Application with regard to the site. General discussion by all regarding the potential uses for the site, the benefits it could bring to individuals, families and businesses. Agreement that this represented a potential flagship project for the Trust with significant community benefit, and that the Trust would be well placed to position themselves as the conduit through which a package of developments could take place. CS highlighted David Stokoe as a key contact within PKC.
- CR to action contact with John Corrigan regarding gaining group access to the buildings, and to confirm/clarify any deadlines or other potential obstacles.

#### **Cateran Ecomuseum - LM**

- LM outlined recent approach previously circulated to Directors from Claire at Alyth Trust and their proposals for the Cateran Ecomuseum project. LM proposes that any developments surrounding the promotion of the Cateran Trail as a destination is of benefit to the whole area, and agreement was given for LM to submit a formal letter of support on behalf of the Trust.

#### **Strathardle Gathering - ALL**

- Group discussion regarding arrangements, logistics and staffing for this weekend's event. Also discussed was the agreed position Directors should take when discussing recent developments regarding the Spittal, and the associated materials that should be displayed. JM also outlined the preparation that he and Pat Townsend have undertaken regarding the Archive Project display. DT reminded All to donate raffle prizes.

## **Risk Register**

- CR to update Risk Register: removal of Kirkmichael Shop Disabled Toilet issue.

## **AOB**

- DT explained that a website solution would have to be sought soon in order that Trust accounts be available in the public domain.
- DT expressed wish to pursue Timebank idea and that he would contact Stanley Trust project officer (CR to provide contact name).
- JH explained that the Landscape Partnership project was due to re-start and it was agreed that she should continue to be the lead contact for any developments.
- LM outlined a potential future project opportunity regarding the repair and future use of the old walled garden at Kindrogan. Group discussion regarding the potential for community role and associated benefits, and the role the Trust might play. Agreed that this would be an interesting and potentially beneficial project.
- JM outlined the old Blairgowrie Printworks machinery, of national significance, currently housed in the Hill Primary School building. JM has an interest in pursuing the re-housing of this equipment and will continue to explore potential outcomes, most likely in partnership with the Ericht Trust.

## **END OF MEETING 09.00**

### **Meeting timetable (subject to change at reasonable notice)**

- **27<sup>th</sup> September**
- **25<sup>th</sup> October (Possible Date For AGM)**
- **29<sup>th</sup> November (Likely to be moved forward closer to AGM date)**

**AGM to be confirmed**