

Birse Community Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting 28th August 2017

Trustees Present: Guy Haslam (Chair), Doug Boyle, John Hector, Allan (Hedge) Shand;

Apologies: Jonathan Kitching, Jean McLeod (Patron), Jane Winton (Administrator);

In Attendance: Sian Loftus (part time); Rick Paul (Secretary to Board);

1. Introduction

1.1 The Agenda was confirmed and three apologies noted. Five items were noted for AOB.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

2.1 The Minutes of Meeting on 27th June 2017 were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Responsibilities Matrix: the revised matrix dated July 2017 was approved.

3.2 Health and Safety Handbook: the revised handbook issue 6 was approved.

4. Finances

4.1 Management Accounts: GH presented the accounts for Qtr 2 along with predictions for the year end position. GH to check with JW ref the Community grant. Current estimate is that BCT will only require a small donation from BTco this year due to the phasing of the Community grants.

5. Administration

5.1 F.O.B Community:

DB informed the Trustees that the planting is to be inspected in September with the grant hopefully being paid by year end. A regeneration grant will be applied for but we would not expect any payment until around 2020.

Negotiations continue with Stuart Young on re-routing the Fungle around Birse Castle.

5.2 Slewdrum: DB informed the Trustees that the mast has been erected, initial payments made, and the wayleave for the electricity is in progress.

5.3 Balfour Forest: DB informed the Trustees that the orienteering event went well, that a £250 donation had been made to BCT, and that thinning is now in progress.

5.4 Finzean Mills:

The environmental report has been approved, and the plan for a fish pass in the central section has been agreed with both SEPA and the Fisheries Board. It is hoped that the central section will be completed this year.

The HSE have come back to BCT and stated that it would be possible to operate the sawmill subject to certain conditions being met.

The sawmill bridge over the Feugh has been replaced and the garden modified to make for easier tractor access.

There have been reports of children playing on BCT property in and around the saw mill. GH to see if more can be done to prevent this.

It was suggested that information signs should be erected at the sawmill and bucket mill. Further discussion and investigation is required (GH).

5.5 Soutar's Shop: It has been confirmed that the Soutar's Shop is now listed as Grade A.

5.6 School Wood: RP to source and buy a bench.

5.7 Birse Kirk/Hall: The ETBK/BACA/BCT meeting is on 31st August. DB and JK to attend.

5.8 Archive: Sian Loftus presented a prioritized analysis of tasks requiring action. The Trustees requested that she proceed up to Stage 1 of the Priory 1 list at an estimated cost £800.

5.9 Creative Writing Course: Alison Bell is planning to run a Creative Writing course in the Archive building starting in October.

6. Administration

6.1 Manager: Trustees discussed the need for a manager/project manager and whether it should be on a contract or volunteer basis. They concluded that a project should first be identified.

6.2 General Principles: Trustees discussed GH's paper dated 21st August and agreed all points with further discussion needed to clarify the detail in certain areas. GH planned to meet all the key stakeholders over the next few months.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Website: It was brought to Trustees' attention that the 1511 Rental of Lands in Birse Parish had been added to the website.

7.2 Photos: Trustees were reminded of the need for photographs for the Annual Report.

7.3 Glen Dye Windfarm: This has been delayed for 6 months. GH to attend meeting on 5th Sept.

7.4 Glamping: A request has been made to possibly rent land at the Ord for glamping. Trustees were concerned that this may restrict any future use by BCT. GH to reply.

7.5 BPLG: GH to meet with CC/CAs and to see if a meeting is necessary this year or could it be rescheduled for February 2018.

8. Board Meetings

8.1 Board Meetings: The next meeting will be Tuesday 26th September at 7.15 pm in the Old School Archive.

After Meeting note: Next 2 dates suggested are 31st Oct and 28th Nov



Signed.....

25/09/2017

Date.....