

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting 26th March 2019

Trustees Present: Guy Haslam (Chair), Nancy Davidson, Alison Bell, Toby Rider, Hedge Shand, John Hector.

In Attendance: Jane Winton (Administrator), Rick Paul (Secretary to the Board).

Apologies: Pam Taylor, Jonathan Kitching, Eoghan Cameron (Manager),

1. Introduction

1.1 The agenda was confirmed and three apologies noted.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

2.1 The Minutes of Meeting on 19th February 2019 were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks for February were completed.

4. Finances

4.1 Annual Accounts 2018: JW brought a draft copy of the accounts which she will email to all Trustees.

5. Administration

5.1 AGM: The AGM will be on Sunday 26th May at 4:00 p.m. The Trustees would sit at the front of the Hall and some of the trustees (currently Guy, Alison, Nancy and Toby) would give a short presentation on the sites that they manage. This would be followed by a presentation on the "Aye, it was aabody" project involving the school children and some of the work they have been doing. Snacks and wine will be provided after the presentation.

5.2 Annual Report: Trustees reviewed the draft Annual Report, and were asked to give final comments to EC by 2nd April.

5.3 Strategy Meeting: Comments following the Strategy Meeting have been incorporated in the report.

5.4 Seminar for Charity Trustees: RP to ask PT if she wishes to attend, and reply to J and H Mitchell. There is no requirement for the Trust to be represented.

6. Properties and Projects

6.1 Old School Project: AB reported that following the meeting on 6th March, the architects are due to come back with modified plans for the Old School along with funding options.

6.2 Aye, it wis aabody: ND reported that Sir Geoff Palmer had visited and spoken to both Aboyne Academy and Finzean Primary pupils. ND reported that the book launch is on 14th June in Birse and Feughside Church and that the Heritage Group is growing. A booking system will be required if the Old School is used as a display/drop in centre in the summer. TR suggested using Facebook which met with approval.

- 6.3 Rotary Club Seat in Slewdrum: GH reported that EC had met with Doug Boyle and further tree trimming work is envisaged.
- 6.4 Balfour Forest and Footpaths: JK, JW and Doug Boyle met to review the paths in the forest. JK is at an Aboyne Paths and Tracks Group meeting this evening. The Enduro cycling event is to be held on 23rd June. Temporary warning signs are in place where walking and cycle paths cross.
- 6.5 BTCO: TR reported that forest fire insurance is in place and paid for. Planning permission for the final stretch of Balfour track, currently with RTS, is outstanding.
- 6.6 Signage: EC is investigating replacing the Corsedardar information board, and getting new signs for both Balfour and Slewdrum.
- 6.7 Birse Kirk: GH reported that the guttering has been repaired. Work to prevent water ingress and belfry maintenance is outstanding but due this year. ETBK are considering recruiting additional Trustees to their board.

7. Meetings and Visits

- 7.1 Board Meetings: The next board meeting will be on 23rd April at 7:15 p.m. in the Archive, followed by the AGM on 26th May.

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1 Communication: Trustees agreed that local communication should employ various methods from social media to paper notices.
- 8.2 Kardale: Trustees agreed to the owners of Kardale planting a roadside hedge not more than 6ft high on BCT maintained land. Neighbours have been notified and are in agreement.
- 8.3 Open Doors: Trustees agreed to open the Old School and the Sawmill for the Open Doors weekend of 14/15th September. Help from available Trustees would be appreciated.
- 8.4 Electric Car Charging: Trustees approved the installation of a charging point for electric vehicles adjacent to the Old School.
- 8.5 Scottish Archaeological Society: There is a lunchtime visit on 21st May. Once again, help from available Trustees would be appreciated.
- 8.6 Scottish Community Archives: AB reported that she had attended an Archive training course at General Register House, Edinburgh on 22nd March.

Signed.....

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