

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting

18th June 2019

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

In Attendance: Eoghan Cameron (Manager), Rick Paul (Secretary to the Board).

Apologies: Toby Rider, Jane Winton (Administrator).

1. Introduction

1.1 The Chair welcomed Alison Bell as an elected Trustee, confirmed the agenda, and noted the apologies.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

2.1 The previously approved minutes of meeting on 26th March 2019 were signed and the minutes of the meeting on 23rd April 2019 were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks for April and May 2019 were completed.

4. AGM 2019

4.1 Minutes: The draft AGM minutes were approved.

4.2 Review: The Trustees agreed that the AGM was well received, and set a provisional date of May for the 2020 AGM.

4.3 Feedback: A number of attendees had raised points on local flora and fauna and it was agreed that BCT should look to should establish a 'Birse Natural History Group' and gauge the response. EC to set up in collaboration with Paul Chapman.

5. Administration

5.1 Policies: Trustees approved the various policies which are available to view on the website.

6. Properties and Projects

6.1 Old School AHF Bid: Trustees agreed to fund Sian Loftus to complete a 4-5 day scoping exercise, including informal talks with funders in order to get a sense of which organisations might fund the project and under what conditions. In particular, the Trustees were concerned about the cost of the project and also any impact on potential future funding for the Water Mills as they would be targeting similar funders

The Trustees agreed to meet at the Old School on Tuesday 9th July between 5 and 7 pm for a clear up.

6.2 Rotary Club Seat in Slewdrum: EC reported that Doug Boyle would complete the trimming work in the Autumn.

6.3 Balfour Forest and Paths: JK reported that signs are in place and that the quarterly risk assessment is due.

6.4 BTCO: EC reported that BTCO is considering two quotes for Forest Agent, with meetings due in the coming weeks.

7. Projects

- 7.1 History and Heritage: The Bible from the archives is to be moved to a secure location after it has been photographed. The schoolchildren had a fun day with Hilary Duncan making clay tiles.
- 7.2 e-bikes: AB to contact the focal point for the Aboyne e-bike scheme (particularly on maintaining the bikes) and investigate grant funding from The Energy Savings Trust.
- 7.3 Meeting on Wood Ants AB was arranging for a presentation on Wood Ants at 14.30 on 21st July.

8. Meetings and Visits

- 8.1 Scottish Archaeological Society: BCT hosted a visit from 72 members on 21st May.
- 8.2 Board Meetings: The next board meeting will be on 20th August at 7:15 p.m. in the Archive, followed by one on the 17th September.

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1 Signs: Trustees approved the Corsedardar sign with minor modifications.
- 9.2 Funding Applications: Trustees discussed giving donations to local groups (having checked the Trust's Memoranda and Articles) and decided that despite certain Trustees being involved in these groups, no Trustee would gain personally from any input and therefore BCT would be able to donate to local groups, as long as their objectives aligned with BCT's. EC to check the legal status of such donations and if acceptable, BCT to give £250 to the Ballogie Hub Project, and £250 to the POOT Play.
- 9.3 BCT in 100 Objects: Sian Loftus has raised the potential of creating "BCT in 100 objects". Trustees agreed to encourage the project.
- 9.4 School Path: Trustees agreed to support the extension to the school path for safety reasons so that it leads directly onto school property.
- 9.5 Website: EC was tasked with investigating the design of a new website.
- 9.6 Broadband: Trustees questioned whether the Old School should have broadband provision. RP to obtain quote of costs.

Signed.....

Date.....