

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Board Meeting Notes

31st March 2020

Due to Covid 19 restrictions, this meeting took place via e-mail exchanges with the Board of Trustees, namely Guy Haslam, Alison Bell, Nancy Davidson, John Hector, Hedge Shand, Toby Rider and Jonathan Kitching. Also included in the correspondence were Manager Eoghan Cameron, Book-keeper Jane Winton and Office Manager Rick Paul.

1. Introduction

1.1 The agenda was taken as confirmed.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

2.1 The minutes of meeting on 25th February 2020 were agreed with the comments sent in. RP to arrange with GH to get latest version signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks for March 2020 were completed.

4. Finances

4.1 Annual Accounts: GH reported that these are still on track but see below.

4.2 Interest bearing accounts. JW is working on getting interest on our accounts. It is not as simple as originally hoped, and the interest rate has dived, however Trustees are still keen to get some interest.

5. Administration

5.1 AGM: GH's draft report written and attached for comment. The AGM may need to be delayed and the Annual Report may have to be sent out by e-mail. To be discussed in April when things are clearer.

6. Properties and Projects

6.1 Commonly:

a) Scottish Woodlands: EC has emailed Neil Crookston (SW Regional Manager North) 16th March asking for an update following Luke Wilson's departure. He has not yet received a response - probably due to COVID-19 situation. EC to continue to chase.

b) Removal of Tubes: Week commencing 23rd March is the final week of tube removal. Agricycle contacted again to confirm collection - awaiting response (note that there are no other alternatives to Agricycle at present).

c) Swiping: Peter Littlejohn requested on 23rd March to estimate a timeframe for swiping the hill tracks on the North Hill. He will be busy with muirburn at present and as of 22nd March, no swiping has yet been completed.

6.2 E-bikes: EC has spoken to Malcolm Nicol. eBikes will not be progressed until such time as the new managers have established themselves at Potarch. This is likely to be in hold for about 6 months, especially in the current situation. Ballogie needs to be on board if this is going to progress, so we need to wait.

- 6.3 Corsedardar: Euan Christie and Donald Redpath will collect stones locally and place at Corsedardar. These will be of sufficient size to deter drivers of all vehicle sizes from driving over the grass next to the Dardanus stone.
- 6.4 Old School Project: GH has asked Sian Loftus for an update and is waiting for a reply.
- 6.5 Website: EC has sent out a link to the draft web site. Trustees were asked to supply EC with any comments by the end of the month so it can go live.
- 6.6 BCT Manager: Put on hold as EC has delayed his plan.
- 6.7 New Trustees: JH and JK have decided to step down at this year's AGM. JK to investigate possible candidates from Birse.
- 6.8 Paths Day: Event cancelled
- 6.9 Deeside Catchment: Event cancelled
- 6.10 Yours Aye Project: Signs on the path down from the School – Sian Loftus has found out that we need planning permission for the 2 signs as a condition of the grant. She is investigating further.

7. Trustees Meetings

- 7.1 Board Meetings: Next Meeting pencilled in as 7:15 pm on April 28th with the AGM planned for June. To be confirmed.

8. Any Other Business

- 8.1 None

Signed.....

Date.....