

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting 23rd October 2018

Trustees Present: Guy Haslam (Chair), Hedge Shand, Pam Taylor, Alison Bell, Jonathan Kitching, Toby Rider.

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

Apologies: John Hector, Nancy Davidson, Jane Winton (Administrator).

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Nestor Vercher from The James Hutton Institute gave a brief introduction to research he is doing into social innovation in rural areas, and asked for input from Trustees.
- 1.2 The agenda was confirmed and apologies noted.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

- 2.1 The Minutes of Meeting on 18th September 2018 were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks for September were completed.
- 3.2 The Old School drains need clearing. RP to action.

4. Finances

- 4.1 GH explained the figures in the Q3 Management Accounts including the estimates for Q4.
- 4.2 GH said that he was preparing a draft 2019 budget for discussion at the next meeting with a view to firming it up in January.
- 4.3 Trustees gave approval for JW to purchase a laptop and an accounts package.
- 4.4 Trustees discussed whether to commit to the endowment fund for another year. EC volunteered to investigate the possibility of a managed account with a higher yield.

5. Properties and Projects

- 5.1 Old School AHF Bid: The tendering process has completed with only one contender. Trustees gave approval to re-tender with a higher budget ending 30th Oct. AB to forward paperwork to EC. Trustees discussed the acceptance criteria for artefacts for the archive. AB volunteered to be the BCT point of contact.
Trustees agreed that the archive database should be held centrally. EC to action.
- 5.2 History and Heritage: Sian Loftus was successful in her bid for the heritage project into the history of the Old School. SL will form a steering group including AB and ND.
- 5.3 Turning and Sawmills: SL is putting a bid together to the HLF Resilience Fund regarding the way forward for the mills complex.
- 5.4 Balfour Thinnings: The felling is complete, but there is still timber in stacks waiting to be collected.
- 5.5 Birse Kirk: ETBK are happy for the Communion Cups to be held at Birse and Feughside Kirk. The gutters are being repaired. A new bench has been supplied by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. ETBK have taken advice on repairs from SL. JK to follow up.
- 5.6 Commonly: The Fire Plan was approved with one change - to ring 999 before contacting Finzean Estate Office.
- 5.7 Remembrance: All three Councillors will attend. Jean Haslam DL, will lay the wreath on behalf of the community.

6. Meetings and Visits

- 6.1 Reforestation Scotland: GH and AB gave a presentation for the Annual Gathering.
- 6.2 Birse Parish Liaison Group: RP to book Finzean Hall and send a further email to the Chairs of each group. GH, AB, EC and RP to attend for BCT.
- 6.3 Board Meetings: Tuesday 20th November 2018, 7:15 p.m., Archive Building. GH suggested a January Sunday morning strategy meeting, to be arranged.

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 GH suggested that tours of BCT sites should be accompanied by a request for donations.
- 7.2 TR noted that Ballogie now has fibre broadband.
- 7.3 Trustees noted that EC is dividing his time between BCT and BASC.
- 7.4. GH to invite SL to present at the next meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....