

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting

26th September 2023

Trustees Present: Alison Bell, Sian Loftus, Nancy Davidson, Simon Lindsey, Toby Rider, Robert Dinnie.

Apologies: Liz Bracegirdle.

In Attendance: Toni Watt (Manager), Rick Paul (Secretary to the Board).

1. Introduction

1.1 AB welcomed the Trustees and team to the meeting, noted one apology and 4 items for AOB.

2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

2.1 The minutes of meeting of 29th August 2023 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Fire Safety: The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks were completed for August 2023.

4. Administration

4.1 Work Delegation: AB led a discussion about the role of the Chair to understand the position and its demands, and whether some of the tasks could be delegated. AB to contact Trustees outside of this meeting.

4.2 Patron: To be discussed at the November meeting.

5. Other Projects

5.1 Commony Mast: BCT is charged with protecting and upholding the Commony rights and to that end it has a duty to make this position known. BCT is to write to Cornerstone to advise them that BCT needs to be a signatory to any agreement regarding the mast, whilst informing the Estates that this has been done.

5.2 Commony Meeting: Trustees noted changes to the NHMA Rough Draft (14.8.23).

5.3 BCT's 25th Anniversary: The School Wood action day is November 3rd. Original planters from 50 and 25 years ago to be invited along with the school children. The suggestion of a time capsule was well received.

5.4 Doors Open 16/17 Sept: This was very successful with 78 attendees.

5.5 Foul Water: RD has spoken to the householders. The field walk is outstanding.

5.6 Soutar's Shop: Fund raising has begun. A decision is due in October regarding a grant application. Recording oral history is to be discussed with the Heritage Group. Visions Photography will be taking photographs that will be available to BCT.

5.7 Wild About Birse: The Climate Event is scheduled for the week of 23rd October.

6. Manager's Report

6.1 Volunteer work: TotalEnergy are helping with path work at Slewdrum. Goal 7 will be cutting bamboo at the sawmill. Trees and nettles require trimming at the Bucket Mill and Trustees are invited to help on the morning of Saturday 11th November.

7. Trustees' Meetings

7.1 The next board meeting is 2nd November 2023, 7:15pm Old School.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Alexander Burnett: RP to reply to recent letter noting no comment from Trustees.

8.2 Sawmill: Davie Hector to be contacted regarding repairs to the decking and handrails.

8.3 Soup Kitchen: A decision on grants is expected by the next meeting.

8.4 Annual Plan. To be discussed at next meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....