# BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

## Minutes of Board Meeting

## 28th May 2024

*Trustees Present*: Nancy Davidson (Chair), Simon Lindsey, Toby Rider, Alison Bell, Robert Dinnie, Liz Bracegirdle.

*Apologies*: Toni Watt (Manager).

*In Attendance*: Jackie Robertson (Book keeper), Rick Paul (Secretary to the Board).

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Acting chair ND welcomed the Trustees and team to the meeting and noted one apology.

**2. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of 23rd April were agreed and signed. The minutes of the meeting on 19th March were also signed.

**3. Matters Arising**

3.1 Fire Safety: The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks were completed for April 2024.

**4. Finance**

4.1 Finance Meeting: JR to create a structure of coding to enable the generation of project specific reports. JR to send template to TR/SL for feedback prior to the June board meeting with a view to implement for Q3.

4.2 Annual Accounts: On target. The AGM must be within 15 months of the previous AGM, i.e. by 25th September 2024.

**5. Bucket Mill**

At this point Own Bushell joined the meeting. He explained his vision for involvement in producing buckets at the Bucket Mill.

1. Immediate action: Obtain grants for skills transfer.
2. Short term: Organize a lease and strategy for progress.
3. Medium term: Obtain grants for repairs.
4. Long term: Turn the mill into a semi commercial concern.

Trustees agreed that this aligned with BCT's 5 year vision and thanked Owen for his presentation. At this point Owen left the meeting.

TR to reply to asking for more details. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

**6. Administration**

6.1 MTB Insurance: RP is progressing this with Konsileo.

6.2 Expiring Leases: Trustees decided to renew the leases for Corsedardar and the School Wood. They agreed to wait until the outcome of the FCC Place Plan meeting on 4th June before deciding on the Community Wood lease.

**7. Projects**

7.1 Inspiring Aberdeenshire Awards: Trustees agreed to ask TW for more information in order to determine who would be best to drive this forward.

7.2 NHMA: No progress.

7.3 Aboyne Games: RD has secured a plot f.o.c. and can supply equipment. A5 handout required, plus spurtles and a QR code for donations. Stall to be manned 10:30-16:00 by SL, LB, TR, possibly AB. ND to liaise with TW re the arrangements.

7.4 Place Plan for Finzean: A/w result of June 4th FCC meeting.

7.5 Souter's Shop: Trustees approved the latest update dated 28/5/2024. Will Napier to produce a conservation report for funders. TW and ND to meet with Abby and Jenny re the lease.

7.6 Water running on Old School car park: the Tenant and the Estate have dug out a drain and the water is now running. Now waiting to see if the water table drops as a result.

7.7 Fund raising: LB proposed a charity eBay account, and agreed to progress the idea.

**8. Visit Requests**

8.1 Mid Decide Young Farmers: RP to reply offering 11th June, 19:00 at the Bucket Mill with AB/ND.

8.2 Crathie Seniors: AB/ND to liaise and propose a date.

8.3 Lynn Stewart: TW to guide on 8th June.

**9. A.O.B.**

9.1 School Wood: TR's family offered to sponsor a plaque for the apple tree they planted on 5th November. AB/TW to organize. RD offered lay a stone to identify the location of the time capsule. The Trustees expressed their gratitude to both.

**10. Trustees and Meetings**

10.1 New Trustees:

10.2 Board Meetings: The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday 25th June at 19:15 at the Old School.

10.3 Chair: LB to chair this meeting.

Signed..... Date…….....