BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting

25th June 2024

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

Apologies: Robert Dinnie.

In Attendance: Guy Haslam(FCC) for item 1.1 only, Toni Watt (Manager), Rick Paul (Secretary to the Board).

1. Introduction

1.1 Place Plan: Guy Haslam presented the results from the Finzean Place Plan meeting noting that the two most popular concerns for residents were the Community Path and the primary school numbers. GH offered to help in any way he could to achieve an extension of the path to Dubston and Tom's Cairn. This will need commitment from the community and to that end FCA will need to be consulted. GH then left the meeting.

1.2 Welcome: Acting chair LB welcomed the Trustees and team to the meeting and noted one apology.

2. Administration

2.1 Place Plan: Trustees agreed to support the Finzean paths initiative despite the increase in maintenance costs to BCT. TW to inform GH and begin the process of renewing the leases with Finzean Estate.

2.2 MTB Insurance: Konsileo have placed our details to the market and are awaiting quotes.

3. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

3.1 The minutes of the meeting of 28th May 2024 were agreed and signed by ND.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Fire Safety: The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks were completed for May 2024, as were the annual PAT tests.

5. Finance

5.1 Financials: Trustees to review and reply to Jackie Robertson's proposals. Once agreed, they can be integrated with Xero enabling straightforward reporting analysis. TW to circulate the proposed new structure to Trustees.

5.2 Annual Accounts: Trustees decided on Thursday 12th September at 7pm for the AGM, to be held in The Old School. TW to contact JR to ensure accounts are progressing. Trustees to produce reports for their own areas of responsibility. TW to co-ordinate. It was suggested that the mailshot includes a leaflet which would lead people onto an online annual report. RP to produce a timeline.

6. Projects

6.1 Bucket Mill: Trustees agreed to a Zoom meeting on July 2nd at 7pm in order to drive this forward. AB to set up the meeting. LB to send out a list of outcomes.

6.2 Visit Reports: The two recent visits to the Bucket Mill were very successful. Trustees agreed to promote future visits via 'Doors Open', the AGM and possibly 'The Rabbit'.

6.3 Inspiring Aberdeenshire Award: Filming will take place on 8th July, meeting at The Old School at 11 am.
6.4 NHMA: A meeting is scheduled for 1st July at 2pm.
6.5 Souter's Shop: ND informed Trustees that the group were producing a timeline of both the building and the family which will be used to support a grant application. They are also looking at the main picture window and lease arrangements.
6.6 Water running on Old School car park: no new information.
6.7 eBay Fundraiser: LB to investigate creating a new email address linked to a Pay-Pal account.
6.8 Aboyne Games:
TR to set up Just Giving page with QR code.
TW to create A5 leaflet, using the banner as a guide.
SL/TR to download Souter's Shop video to a flash drive, and source a tv/laptop.
TW – A'body books, RP – spurtles, LB – keyrings
TW – draw up rota.
A final meeting will be held at the end of the Zoom meeting on 2nd July.
6.9 School Disco: This was a great success.
6.10 Feughside Garden Services: problem resolved by TW.
6.11 Cairngorms Capercaillie Project: TW to circulate the CCP report.

7. Manager's Report

7.1 Soup Kitchen: Trustees agreed to hold open the successful grant application for 6 months. TW to have a conversation with the 'Bothy Project' to get their views on the proposed 2 x 1 week residencies next year.

8. A.O.B.

8.1 Coffin Road: It was reported that this track is becoming overgrown, and should be a contender for voluntary clearing. RP to send a map to AB.

9. Trustees and Meetings

9.1 New Trustees: One person has shown interest and has been sent information.
9.2 Board Meetings: The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday 30th July at 19:15 at the Old School.
9.3 Chair: TR to chair this meeting.

Signed..... Date…….....