BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting

26th August 2025

Trustees Present: Nancy Davidson, Simon Lindsey, Robert Dinnie, Alison Bell

Apologies: Liz Bracegirdle

In Attendance: Owen Bushell, Toni Watt (Manager)

1. Introduction

1.1 Bucket Mill: Owen Bushell updated the trustees on Bucket Mill related matters.
- Bucket Mill Lease progress – need to add 5 yearly review clause and clause to allow BCT to buy equipment and lease to Bucket Mill CIC
- Partnership agreement between BCT and the Bucket Mill CIC
- Mill Manager Role, grant funded, to be advertised depending on funding.
- Grants applied for
- Tenders in progress, conservation architect, H&S advisor and Listed Building Consent application

1.2 Introduction. RD welcomed the Trustees and team to the meeting noting one apology.

2. Follow up from item 1.1

2.1. Trustees discussed all Owen's proposals and need to get further advice on some matters, i.e. partnership agreement, CIC and charitable status, cash flow is also a problem for BCT managing grant payments. Trustees to write to Owen to confirm next steps.

3. Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

3.1 The minutes of meeting of 22nd July 2025 were approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Fire Safety: The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks were carried out for July 2025.

5. Administration

5.1 Director Identification: Ongoing
5.2 AGM: Format agreed, AGM to take place 7pm at the Old School 11th September 2025 with formal business first followed by a talk from SL
5.3 The Ord: Now on the market with Burnett and Reid, RD reported 2000 plus views and three live enquiries.
5.4 Souter's Shop: Although full funding has been achieved, we are still awaiting signing off and release of funds to allow us to start the project. Hopefully within the next week or so.
5.5 New Trustees: RD has spoken to a potential new trustee. Ongoing.

5.6 Doors Open: Owen will lead tours on Saturday, TW on Sunday, bookings going well.
5.7 Tree Maintenance: Concern has been expressed by residents after a tree was blown down by the Sawmill damaging a fence. This also has implications for the A listed Sawmill buildings complex. Trustees to seek advice from a professional forester.
5.8 Sawmill Abstraction: Licencing laws to water abstraction are changing in November prompting a discussion with SEPA to see if BCT has a licence for the mills. SEPA to report back as believe one was obtained in the past.

7. Manager's Report

7.1 TW reported that DTAS have offered advice on facilities management at BCT's properties. TW to find out if this is relevant to BCT.

8. A.O.B.

9. Meetings

9.1 Trustees agreed to meet on:-

Tuesday 7th October 2025, Old School, 7:15pm, ND to chair.
Tuesday 4th November, Old School, 7:15pm, LB to chair.

Signed..... Date…….....