Birse Community Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting

21st July 2026

Trustees present: Nancy Davidson, Simon Lindsey, Robert Dinnie, Eleanor Craig.

Apologies: Roy Cowie

Also present: Toni Watt (Manager), Rick Paul (Secretary).

1.**Introduction**.

1.1 ND welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted one apology

2. **Minutes of previous Board Meetings**.

2.1 The minutes from the meetings of 23rd June 2026 were approved and signed.

3. **Matters arising.**

3.1 The smoke detector and emergency lighting checks were completed for June 2026.

4. **Finance**

4.1 Accounts: EC to contact HMRC to ascertain the position with regards to VAT, and to contact Richard Christie with a view to a speedy resolution of any outstanding issues.

4.2 Banking: EC met with Jackie Robertson and will complete the handover at the end of the month. She presented a paper explaining various aspects of the accounts and proposed actions, and the current position of all the bank accounts for which the trustees were extremely grateful.

5. **Administration**.

5.1 Fishing Boundary. The trustees felt that it was unhelpful for Ballogie to tie the proposed new Slewdrum boundary into the Souter's Shop grant application. EC to contact Robin Callendar to discuss. They also noted that the Estates seemed to be dragging their feet with regard to renewing the North Hill Agreement.

5.2 BTCo. RD and RC attended a positive meeting and AGM on 28th June. RP to contact BTCo to query why BTCo considers that BCT does not need insurance for Balfour mountain bikers.

5.3 Bucket Mill. Trustees were happy with the revamped AHF report – SL to confirm with Owen Bushell. There has been no progress with the sub-let of the shed.

5.4 Turning Mill: TW has applied for a grant from the DTAS for legal costs in acquiring the mill buildings.

5.5 Souter's Shop. Work is proceeding apace. The stained glass window is in place, the freezer van is currently in use, and the builders are on track. The open day concentrating on cleaning was well attended.

5.6 Annual Report. The body of the report is complete, but is waiting 2025 annual accounts figures. RP to pass to Ellie Flather to begin work.

5.7 Website: Sitecut have updated the software. SL volunteered to add board minutes to the site.

5.8 The Ord. No progress.

5.9 Fire Risk Assessments. RD offered to use AI to produce a starting point for assessments. RP to forward information to RD.

5.10 Sarah Brown invoice Trustees approved invoice # 256.

5.11 BPLG. RP to email attendees to postpone until after the AGM.

6. **Manager's Report.**
   6.1 Nothing further to report.

7. **A.O.B.**
   7.1 No items for AOB.

8. **Future Meetings.**
   8.1 Trustees agreed to meet on:

   (Note revised date and 7pm start)

   Tuesday 18th August 2026 Old School 7:00pm RC to chair.

Signed…… Date……..