

Crieff Community Trust Board Meeting

Thursday 17 March 2016, 19:30, at Morven, Ferntower Road, Crieff

Present Jim Anderson (JA), Roger Brickell (RB), Ailsa Campbell (AC) (Chair), Ian Christie (IC), Charles Crookshank (CC), Mirela MacInnes (MM), Mhairi Rolin (MR) (Minute Taker), Ann Ross (AR)

Apologies Dawn Griesbach (DG)

In Attendance John Bray, BID

1 Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by all, after agreed amendments

2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3 Admission of New Members

There were two new applications for associate membership, which were duly approved.

4 Treasurer's Report

MM had circulated the updated accounts in advance of the meeting. The grants for Acorn Dell had been received from SSE and PKC and a cheque for £21,717.96 would be sent to PKCT the next day.

5 BID Update (JB)

Stephen Leckie has stood down as Chair of BID and Graham Donaldson has been elected to replace him. The BID Marketing group's community consultation, "What is Crieff About?" is complete and the next stage will be the creation of a panel of local businesses.

6 Ownership of Acorn Dell

DG's draft letter to Brian Souter regarding the ownership of the railway abutment was approved.

7 AGM Planning

AC to confirm that the AGM can be held in the Primary School Refectory on 21 May 2016 at 11:30, followed by a Board meeting at 13:00.

8 Group Reports

Paths (DG & JA) – Acorn Dell: The group would like to invite the funders to see the work done now that the Phase 1 path refurbishment is complete and have suggested that this will take place towards

the end of April. DG & JA met with Kevin Fairclough from Paths for All. His role is to provide free support to local paths groups in designing path routes and specifying paths projects. He is keen to work with us. DG is in the process of submitting an expression of interest to Paths for All for a small grant (maximum £1,500) for equipment and consumables for the volunteer paths team (work gloves, strimmer cord and fuel) and a sign and bollard for the entrance to Lady Mary's Walk at Turretbank Road. Planning consent and drawings will be required so a funding request to cover these costs will also be submitted.

Crieff Paths Group: The volunteer Paths Group held their first work party of the year on 27 February, focussing on tidying up the area around the newly refurbished path through Acorn Dell.

Crieff to Comrie: A site visit will be held at Invermilton Farm on 21 March to consider possible alternative routes across this land (rather than along the railway line). Negotiations are still underway with the landowners between Trowan and Comrie.

Transport (RB) – Strathallan Community Rail Partnership: The SCRCP was formally created at a meeting on 29 February. RB was appointed Chair and Neil Gaunt from Blackford was appointed Treasurer. Other officers will be appointed at the first Board Meeting in April. In addition to representatives of the different communities served by the railway, business representatives will sit on the Board. These will include Gleneagles Hotel and Highland Spring.

Hourly Service to Gleneagles: Transport Scotland announced this week that there would be a new regional Glasgow to Dundee service providing an hourly service to Gleneagles.

Town Centre (AC) - Crieff Primary School: As PKC does not hold the title to the old school building, the only option would be a licence to occupy, which is too restrictive. PKC holds the full title to the refectory and is willing to lease it or sell it to the Trust.

Refectory - Plans & Funding: AC is liaising with Mearns McCaskie, PKC Estates Surveyor. He is working on the costs associated with taking on the refectory and permission to alter it. MM & AC are working on an application to Big Lottery's Medium Grants for Community Activity for funds for 1) the lease and running costs for 5 years, 2) a development worker for CCT projects and 3) adapting the refectory for use as a community hub and a business hub. Fergus Purdie will visit the refectory to look at how it can be converted into office space and provide related costs which are needed for the application. AC is also working on an expression of interest to LEADER for funding of a business hub pilot project.

Options Appraisal: It was decided not to go ahead with the Options Appraisal.

Can Do Places: AC, Iain Scott, Director of Can Do, and representatives from Peebles and Falkirk met with Deputy First Minister, John Swinney, on 03 March to discuss the struggles faced by our towns and how Can Do Places can help. He fully understands our aims and frustrations and has given Can Do his full backing. James Muldoon, Policy Manager for Entrepreneurship at the Scottish Government, who was also present, is progressing the requests from the meeting.

AC announced that, sadly, Barry Hargrave had left the TCG. Barry has done a huge amount of work for the TCG and would be greatly missed.

Community & Recreation (AR) – no further updates.

9 Any Other Business

There was no other business.