



# CRIEFFCOMMUNITYTRUST

## Crieff Community Trust Board Meeting 7pm, 18 April 2024 on Zoom

**Present:** Jane White (JW), Jim Anderson (JA), Brian McVey (BM), Andrew McLean (AM), Ann Ross (AR)

**Apologies:** Ian Christie (IC), Ailsa Campbell (AC),

**Invited:** Joy Flett (JF), David McCann (DM)

### 1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

### 2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the March board meeting had been previously circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record.

### 3. Matters Arising

**Standing matter - path inspection:** being checked by BMcV in April, over to David in May

April	BMcV	w/c 8/22 Apr	
May	DMcC	w/c 6/20 May	
June	IC	w/c 3/17 June	Photos
July	IC	w/c 1/15/29 July	
August	BMcV	w/c 5/19 Aug	
September	BMcV	w/c 2/16/ 30 Sep	Photos

Action	By
Contact DTAS to request legal help with director's insurance prior to looking for new board members.	DMC = in hand through DTAS arranging an hour's free support from a legal firm
Ongoing search for funders for new path	AR/ JW/DMC/JA
Next path group outing?	JA/JW

### 4. Operational Report - DM submitted a report prior to the meeting

The completion of the Crieff Capital Project Alignment Plan is imminent, and we will meet with Scottish Government representatives, and thereafter Perth & Kinross Council representatives, in the near future to discuss further. Also, on the agenda will be wider town centre regeneration issues and the potential of more robust support both financial and through increased resources.

#### 1. Can Do Crieff

1.1 March was the strongest month, in terms of usage of the co-working space since opening. It is of course important that we continue to not only source new members but also to continue to look at ways to improve the ongoing experience for our current members and incentivise increased and importantly continued usage. **Leafleting - all**

#### 2. Funding

2.1 We have submitted our 23/24 CLLD C.E.O funding report and EOI for the 24/25 application. Also an EOI for 24/25 support with linked path.

2.2 We have submitted our 23/24 report to Garfield Weston and made the 24/27 application **on 11.3.24, up to 4 months to hear.**

2.3 We have submitted our 23/24 Gannochy Trust funding and the 24/27 application. Answer early July . Also submitted first stage capital funding for link path to Gannochy.

**Various other applications sent or prepared re. link path funding, especially Postcode Lottery Trust.**

**Disappointment vs IFPF/ Aviva/ King Charles 3 Fund**

2.4 We are preparing a 24/25 application to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

### **3 Town Team**

3.1 A meeting of the group will take place w/b 29th April to finalise and sign off the Capital Project Alignment Plan.

3.2 Thereafter it is proposed that the Town Team will have a role to play in the overall strategy to deliver the vision for Crieff as outlined in the Community Action Plan and with specific issues such as vacant properties and the closure of the public toilets.

### **4. Murray Fountain**

4.1 Work is scheduled to begin on May 1st. We are however awaiting permission from Heritage Environment Scotland to start work which is a condition for the release of funding.

4.2 Work is scheduled to be complete by July 2024. It is proposed that there is an opening event and that Crieff & Strathearn Museum group be approached to discuss the possibility of mounting an exhibition to look at the history of the Fountain and the project journey and legacy. **DM to speak to museum group**

### **5. Public Toilets**

5.1 We met with Blairgowrie development Trust which has taken on a lease of their public toilets with a view to purchase through a Community Asset Transfer. This has given us an opportunity to prepare a report to discuss with partners on this model and the risks and benefits. **Establish firstly whether there is public support for keeping the toilets open with CCT as partner support.**

### **6. Banking Hub**

6.1 Crieff Connexions in Church Street will be the location of the temporary Banking Hub for at least 6 months to 1 year.

6.2 Thereafter the Hub will be based permanently on the High Street in the former Semi-Chem unit.

### **7. Regeneration Project**

7.1 As reported at the last meeting of the Board, CCT will receive £40,000.00 per annum for the next three years to support regeneration projects in Crieff. Detail around the funding criteria is expected within the next few weeks from Perth & Kinross Council and thereafter a strategy, in collaboration with our partners, will be developed. Potential actions and outcomes could be:

- That the fund creates a legacy by being used to develop a shared Regeneration Plan for Crieff which the community and businesses will commit to and continue to progress after 2027 when this funding finishes. The regeneration plan will develop Crieff as a destination which builds on the town's unique strengths creating additional opportunities for all.
- Create an agreed strategy to deliver the Regeneration Plan.
- Create an inclusive plan to encourage all the community to take ownership of their town.
- Development of a number of unique events in the town.
- Coordinate the development of a range of cultural/heritage offers around the town.
- Developing the process for the town to approve a new vehicle to continue to deliver this work (For example a Business Improvement District or a Community Improvement District.)
- Negotiate with partners to improve the public realm to enhance the town.
- Reduce the number of vacant shops in the town.
- Generate additional income/funding for the project.

## **8. Drummond Arms (Report prepared by SO and IC)**

### **8.1. Building update**

As a result of the Eradakil visit it is confirmed that the majority of the roof is now past saving, replacement being the only option.

A site visit took place with representatives from the local council, Community Enterprise, CCT and DARL on 11th April.

### **8.2. Grant Applications**

Further to being informed that the National Lottery Heritage Grant did not approve our Expression of Interest bid, made in Jan 2024, a feedback session was held by Teams on the 9th April with Diane Gray from National Lottery. Very informative and contained good guidance that will help in the next round of applications.

An expression of interest was accepted by the Community Ownership Fund, and a separate request was discussed re a grant of £150K to demolish the outbuildings as a stand-alone project. It is doubtful if this will be successful.

No news yet from the Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) who encouraged us to make an application for £20,000 to fund bid writing support. Also await news from the Pilgrims Trust, an application has been made for a further £20,000 to support the DARL Development Coordinator role.

A bid for £5000 to the Perth and Kinross Council's Vacant Property Fund has been successful. This represents 50% of the cost of a Project Execution Plan (PEP) and a Cost Estimate update for the works required to redevelop the project. This will be delivered by property consultancy CBRE and is a critical part of DARL's major grant bid process. DARL is required to fund the remaining 50%.

### **8.3. DARL Board Strategy**

DARL waiting on the final details of the updated Project Execution Plan, but early indications are yet another not insignificant increase in costs for all elements of the work.

Community Enterprise were contacted with a view to providing help with bid writing for the major funding organisations. After a review of their draft proposals and a site meeting it was agreed by the board to pursue this approach, with the final agreement dependant on the success of the aforementioned funding applications.

Anna Day from PKC joined the call from the Lottery and subsequently she has confirmed that PKC will appoint a project coordinator specific to the DA to act as a conduit into the council, (unfortunately Anna is leaving the council).

DTAS were approached regarding how best DARL can ensure that the board members are not exposed to undue risk whilst acting as directors. DTAS have arranged a one-hour session FOC with their solicitors to advise further.

Progress needed to develop the Crowdfunding process.

The development Coordinator continuing to develop grant strategy to identify and apply for funding.

### **8.4. Financial Position**

8.4.1 An invoice for the emergency callout and repair to scaffolding (£3600 +vat) has been received 13/2/2024 and immediately submitted to be claimed against the driver's insurance. City Scaffolding have been advised payment will only be made to the value of the money received from the claims broker.

4.2 DARL remains solvent at present with sufficient funds to carry on with the inspections of the scaffolding and to pay the project officer.

## **9. Paths Update (Report by JA)**

### **9.1 Oakbank to MacRosty Park Link Path**

Awaiting PKC Planning Department's decision on our revised Link Path Application.

Expected on or before 7 May 2024. Planning permission will be essential for award of funding for construction of a new link path. If funding is successful from IFPF then it could be as high as 70% of construction cost up to a max of £100k. CCT to fund the rest of the

Project for Construction. Note the cost estimate is now significantly higher utilising Ultitrec (circa £250k). ACTION – Fund Raising.

TP&E have now claimed 100% of their contract and are continuing production of the Tender Documentation in anticipation of Planning Approval. Final documentation will need to account for any comments/aspects on planning decision (if any).

TP&E Update via Zoom Meeting scheduled for 10am Tuesday 23 April 2024

## **9.2 Turretbank Wood [TBW]**

Fortnightly insurance walks have continued.

Successful first phase of thinning TBW Meadow 2 carried out 17 Jan. Further thinning to be carried out (Crieff in Leaf assisting.). ACTION - Date to be arranged

Coop funded Bench – Bench to be purchased for siting in Meadow 2

Miraculously the fallen tree bridging the Turret Burn has vanished! It is suspected that IC's chainsaw was at work whilst JA was on holiday last week but not heard anything...but it has gone. Thank you someone.

## **9.3 Crieff Paths Group**

Countryside Ranger and I arranged an exploratory walk along Laggan Hill where Andy Clegg (PKC) had reported there is a problem area on that path. Athol and I cleared mud from a small patch [20 sqm] to see if cleared zone would dry out. The area is near top of Laggan Hill and it is odd that it has a drainage issue. Area is say 100m x full path width and is very very muddy – possibly decades of leaf mould. If test is successful a Paths Group Activity will be scheduled to try to resolve..

## **9.4 Crieff to Comrie Core Path CMRI/126.**

Nothing to report since last Update..

## **10.Events**

10.1 We have submitted an application for funding for a community event to launch the proposal for a permanent sculpture trail in Crieff. This would take place in August and be in partnership with local artists led by David Campbell.

10.2 The project would see a consultation event that will serve as a platform for community members to actively participate and to provide input and feedback. The event would include a willow sculpture workshop, a chainsaw sculpture demonstration and live music.

10.3 The primary objective of this event is to gather essential information and additional support to enable us to formulate a detailed plan for the trails. It is envisaged that the sculpture trail becomes integral to Crieff's identity, fostering a sense of belonging and pride for the community and establishing Crieff as a beacon of creativity and a destination for visitors.

## **11.Meetings**

DM has recently had meetings with representatives of Blairgowrie Development Trust, Creative Crieff, Strathearn Arts, Heartland FM, Remake, Crieff Community Council, Perth & Kinross Council, Cash Access, and Crieff Town Team, amongst others.

5. **Treasurer's Report** - JW submitted 23/24 summary prior to the meeting. Cash flow work in progress

### **6. Leadership team / Governance of CCT**

Continue to meet every fortnight. Discussing in particular dealing with empty sites around Crieff.

Annual report underway.

### **7. AOB**

3 new members approved

Year end 31 March. AGM 13.6.24.

**Next board meeting - Thursday 16 May 2024**

<b>Action</b>	<b>By</b>
CDC leafeting in May	All
Publicity for fountain refurb in summer 2024 - joint event with museum?	DM
Establish whether there is public support for keeping toilets open.	DM