



Minutes of the Tarland Development Group meeting held on 1st July 2014 at Cromar Court

Present: Lindsay Stewart, Jan Healey, Lizzy Shepherd, Dave Hirst, Peter Craig, Chris Redmond, Annie McKee (minutes)

Apologies: Kate Redpath, Denise Hansford, Yvonne Davidson

SCIO

A letter has been received from the bank recognising the legal change in status of TDG to a SCIO. LSh confirms that the end of the financial year is today, 1st July. Sarah Leahy to audit the accounts, and it is hoped that she will have sufficient time to complete this by the end of the school holidays. **LS** will contact Sarah with the date of the AGM and to confirm account audit.

It is also noted that all of our existing assets and liabilities have successfully been transferred from the former charity to the new SCIO.

Jan and Nigel are thanked for updating the website regarding the change of status of TDG.

Accounts

DHi explains the new, improved accounts spreadsheet on his laptop. Each project has its own sheet, with income and outgoings recorded, and linked to the overall balance of TDG. When paying in/out, please make clear which project the value is to be allocated to. DHi is thanked for his hard work in constructing the spreadsheet. There is currently £5904 of unallocated reserves.

It is agreed to shift a further £1000 from the legacy fund to the Bee Group to cover the cost of new equipment that is urgently required. The Bee Group have also applied for £8500 from Awards for All to replace hives which are currently borrowed, other equipment and mentors' expenses.

Community Garden.

The TCG plant stall made £210 at Cushnie Games on 29th June. Current reserves stand at £2784, including a payment from the Climate Challenge Fund, which is to be spent by Kate over the coming months. Frank and Geordie have sealed the shed floor.

Tarland Way.

The children's version of the Tarland Way booklet was distributed to 250 families in Aboyne through the school; CR reports that P2-3 subsequently used the booklets on a walk along the path today. PC reports that the figures crossing the bridge are showing a significant increase.

Footpath Network

DHi attended the Deeside Access Group meeting; this was most useful to find out about events. The group agree that the paths are very well mown, despite some issues with broom. There is a marker missing on the Skyline walk.

Tarland Trails.

The planning application has been submitted and there are six supporting comments so far, and no objections. The advert in the Deeside Piper should appear this week and will cost £60. The closing date for public comment is the 24th July and the Council's decision should be made by the 18th

August. It should only go to the Council Committee if the Community Council objects or if there are six public objections. **CR** will get thank you presents for William and Jane for their help with the application and map included.

The application to the Marr Area Partnership Initiative Grant was unsuccessful because it is not possible to fund aspects of projects retrospectively (e.g. planning applications). **CR** will reapply later for an element of trail construction; **MAP** were reportedly very supportive of the project.

Mountain biking groups from Banchory and Braemar are seeking advice from Chris regarding the planning application process.

The next step for the project is for **CR** to apply to Sport Scotland for half the anticipated cost of the project. An application will be made to the 'facilities' fund, rather than the Commonwealth Legacy fund. This is because of an earlier deadline (September), and there is the opportunity to reapply to the later funding deadline if unsuccessful.

Insurance for the Trails remains a key concern. Using the legacy reserves is considered as a longer term solution for covering the cost of insurance. However, funders are likely not to be supportive where there are big reserves (although it helps to show match funding). **CR** has included the costs of three years of insurance in his application to the MacRobert Trust (decision in November). It is agreed that ongoing running costs will have to be met through other fundraising options, such as a collection box in the carpark.

Community Composting

The second rota of the year will be distributed next week.

Youth Cinema.

All well

Film Club.

All well

Market.

AM to contact Peter Rawlings and Jean Henretty regarding the booking of a sound engineer for the Food and Music Day. The Food and Music Day has received £700 in support from the Marr Area Partnership's Initiative Grant scheme. Much of the programme is confirmed, but there remains a lot to organise, in terms of schedule, 'greeters', promotion, ticket sales and other logistics. It is agreed that anyone interested would form a sub-group and meet in the next week to progress plans. **AM** to email TDG members to ask for volunteer sub-group members.

Archaeology booklet.

The booklet project is on-hold until after the WW1 exhibition, to be held on 23rd and 24th August.

Marr Area Partnership.

The AGM will be held on 27th September, from 9.30 – 11.30 am in the Upper Hall. Hopefully many attending the AGM will also visit the market in the main hall, and stay for other activities within the Food and Music Day.

Beekeeping Project

The Beekeeping Project is 'buzzing'! There has been much ordering of equipment to keep up with the bees and new beekeepers. There are 24 beekeepers contributing to the Community Apiary, and a further 16 who have started to keep their own bees. It is noted that the mentors continue to do a fantastic job, and the Tarland 'model' has been recognised by Aberdeen and District Beekeepers Association, due to the new learning and number of new bee keepers.

LSh tells the group about the success Kelvin Valley Honey, which started as a community beekeeping project and now operates as a social enterprise with a turnover of over £300,000 per annum. It is agreed that **LSh** will contact Kelvin Valley Honey and ask to meet and share experiences; as well as invite them as a possible speaker for the Food and Music Day.

There will be another series of beekeeping talks in the winter months.

Tarland Tapestry

The original meeting date was found to clash with the Senior Citizen's outing and re-scheduled meeting only received three responses, therefore was cancelled. Subsequently a further 8 people have been in touch with Jan to express their interest. It was agreed that the project would be revived in the winter months, and that **JH** will put up a poster to suggest a meeting in the autumn.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the AGM, set for **Tuesday 2nd September**, to be held in the Upper Hall.

LS expressed her wish to step down as chairperson of TDG, following three years in the post.

There was a discussion regarding how best to attract new members. The SCIO status requires a membership form. The Community Garden and Bee Group should be members. It was agreed that the AGM would be widely advertised as an open meeting, and a 'cheese and wine' event, providing more information about all the projects within the TDG umbrella. The costs of the cheese and wine will be covered by the TDG reserves, and will be organised closer to the time. **LS** will book the hall for the AGM.