

Tarland Development Group General Meeting

Tues 30th June 7.30pm Cromar Court

Minutes

Present: Lindsay Stewart, Chris Redmond, Kathy Dale, Yvonne Davidson, Simon Power, Jan Healey, Peter Craig, Denise Hansford, Annie McKee, Dave Hirst.

Apologies: Lizzy Shepherd, Kate Redpath, Geoff Jarvis.

SCIO Constitution Amendments

Members of the Tarland Development Group (SCIO) resolve that the following amendments be made to the Constitution:

Clause 11: Qualification for membership – clarification that there will be no discrimination.

Clause 15: Application for membership – inclusion of appeals procedure.

Clause 25: Clarification on procedure to be followed and appeals procedure.

All members present at the meeting were in agreement and two absent members, KR and LSh, notified LS of their agreement in advance of the meeting.

Tarland Trails

Fifteen people helped with broom clearance and there was a photo shoot for the leaflet before the trails were opened. CR also gave a safety talk to Tarland Primary School. The leaflets are nearly all distributed. The trails were finished on the 12 June and all signage is now installed. All the walking paths are open. Opening day (Saturday 27 June) was really busy. Jamie and Patrick Price have agreed to build three picnic benches free of charge. Aerial videos using drones by Fennel Media will be done for free in July to be used for promotion. The Facebook page has gone wild already with over 760 likes. There has been over £44 in donations.

In terms of following safety guidance there is nothing we can do to enforce this and we are not liable as it is explained on the signage and in the leaflet. Mountain Rescue Braemar may come and visit and do some accident procedure training. All ambulance crews know about the trails too.

There are some negatives – litter (bottles); people driving up the track (we could put a gate in but emergency access would be required); and horse rider comments about the use of the Tarland Way for the approach as they think it is for them, especially the new bit (**ACTION: SP has offered to speak to the individuals concerned**). Unfortunately two sections of the trails are now closed due to damage but diversions are in place. The trail builders will remedy the situation this week.

There have been some constructive comments about the directions to the trails. Brown tourist signs can be applied for. Chantal Wood has offered to investigate and will be invited to TDG at some point.

The official opening is still scheduled for the 12 September. Sport Scotland will attend and others – Commonwealth Games MTB athletes may open it but they would probably require expenses. **ACTION: CR will invite the press, including MTB magazines etc.**

Match funding from Google has not been received yet – **ACTION: LS to chase.** £1900 should remain after all money comes in. CR still looking for funding for the counter which will cost £2800. Tarland Welfare Trust gives money for youth and could be approached for help. **ACTION: CR to go ahead and buy the counter anyway as TDG has sufficient money to cover it.** As it is an expensive item it will need to be specified on the insurance.

Bee Group

This has been the biggest swarm year on record. The group has sold the prime swarms. They know how to capture swarms now! There are many more hives in the area and out with the area now. The group will have a few overwintered swarms to sell in the spring. This has all been fantastic for building up confidence. There is lots of oilseed rape honey to sell. Some bees will be moved to a site close to heather soon. This honey will be ready for the market in September. All in all the group is doing really well.

Community Garden

The Beechgrove Garden filming has been done and it will be shown in the programme to be aired on the 30 July. The garden will open for charity on the Food and Music Day as part of Scotland's Garden Scheme. The funders' board is work in progress.

Community Composting

Instructions for tractor drivers have been provided by email. Other information has also been provided on contacts while KR is on holiday.

Paths and Tarland Way

SP met Murray Swapp to talk about the path extension to Logie Coldstone through Knockargety. PC asked whether TDG will fund the sign installation at Albert's Seat – CR said we could do it ourselves (no concrete). Is another finger post required at Coull for the new Tarland Way section at the gabions? It should be obvious as it is mowed.

Film Club

We are now into the summer holidays so there is no demand. Instead of the £400 from the Youth Cinema going to the Film Club the Youth Club have asked if they can have it as they are keen to run the Youth Cinema. How does this work under the licence? If this is OK then TDG are happy with this arrangement. The money should be ring-fenced and if it folds then any remaining money should be returned to TDG. **ACTION for LS to talk to LSh and bring back to next meeting.**

Website

Ian met with JH as an interim meeting. The website group will reconvene when Ian is further on. JH showed an example of the new home page with more obvious buttons for the six main headings. Tomnaverie is used as a new logo for Tarland. There will be slider pictures on the home page. Tourist interest will be addressed. Calendar pictures can be used. This will be the main umbrella website for the community and all other websites would be embedded into this one. There will be better links, video clips, and better publicity for events e.g. Tarland Show. Individual groups will be able to add bits for their own pages in terms of introductions etc. The Facebook pages will continue to be managed as they are now with links (and feeds?) on the website. We will be able to send items to Ian or Donna to upload as it

happens very quickly. JH could still be the moderator. It is unlikely that maintenance charges for the website will rise significantly. Ian is producing a demo that can be viewed by an email link to be circulated and hopes to have this ready before August. After that we will call another meeting of the steering committee. When the time comes for the transition from the old to the new website it is estimated that this will take about a month. We can start raising the profile of the website now and advertise that these changes will be taking place. The website will be more suitable for mobile devices.

Food and Music Day

Arrangements are well underway. The teaser poster is ready so the day will be advertised on the 1 July. Unfortunately Paul Anderson is not now available on the Saturday but he can do his music walk on the Friday before the concert. A support band may be arranged for the Old Blind Dogs on the Saturday. We have to fit in the Open Garden, which is usually four hours. Booklets will be available sooner than last year. The finance looks OK at the moment, although we may need another £200. It is proposed to merge the finances with the market as the latter just goes into general funds. Do we need insurance for Sera's house for the tapas? Do we need a food and hygiene certificate? **ACTION: LS to check insurance.** We need to reduce the risks this year. Do we need an occasional alcohol licence for one or more locations? An alternative would be to not charge for alcohol? **ACTION: AMcK to check licensing.** The next sub-group meeting is planned for Monday 6 July.

Tapestry

Nothing much to report. JH has done some drawings.

Apple Press

Everyone in TDG is very keen on this, including Simon Spoor and Claire Fraser. DH needs to know the likely crop of apples in order to purchase the right size of equipment. Again, we need to look into food hygiene for this venture (we would need a pasteurizer). **ACTION: DHi to purchase all equipment using TDG funds.** The equipment is to be stored in the Strathweltie garage for the moment.

Market Stance

No update.

Oil Group

This concerns bulk delivery of heating oil to customers by Johnson's Oils. Cashback (1p per litre) can be used by the local community. **ACTION: LS to speak to the Community Council as they have to recommend us.**

Accounts

DHi supplied the accounts broken down by project before the meeting. Last year's food and music day now shows a loss as the honey sales from the market have now been moved to the bee group.

AOCB

The Game and Wildlife Trust (Dr Dave Parish) is doing a complete ecological survey of the estate. The results can be made available.

KD has made progress with the RSPB about the wetland. A meeting with Scottish Water, RSPB, SP and KD is to be arranged on site soon to discuss future management and responsibilities.

Date of next meeting, Tuesday 4 August, 7.30 Cromar Court.

AGM 15 September.