

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2013 at Cromar Court

Present

Lindsay Stewart, Jan Healey, Kate Redpath, Peter Craig, David Hirst, Annie McKee, Jane Palmer, Lizzy Shepherd,

Apologies

Mike Powell

Accounts

- TDG funds are now organized according to projects, to allow for the management of some restricted funds within the accounts.

Community Garden

- The groundwork is underway.
- A broken field drain is causing a boggy area and needs attention.
- Fencing can begin at this stage.
- Some funding has been received.
- Almost half the raised beds in the polytunnel are already taken and it is still possible to apply for an outside bed. People from CCC area or members of community groups are eligible to apply.
- The composting toilet is to be installed in May.
- In the short term the project will be run by the existing steering committee. Once the garden is established a committee will be formed from members of the project. This sub-committee will benefit from the charitable status and existing constitution of TDG.
- There will be a 'Community Garden' stall at the Tarland Local Market on 27th April to advertise/display/ explain the project. AMcK will organise articles/press releases in the Piper and P&J.

Paths Network

- Some progress has been made on the database. The path surveys are complete but tasks remain to be apportioned.
- There is enthusiasm for a path network to be developed in Logie Coldstone. The path linking Tarland and Logie Coldstone is particularly attractive as it links two communities. MRT and COAT are involved.
- Plans to extend the off road section of the Tarland Way are proceeding with the possibility of surveying by the end of April.
- MRT favour the development of a path from Old Town to the Jubilee wood.

Tarland Way

- The young person's guide 'Along the Tarland Way' has gone to the printer. Its distribution will be 'tacked on' to the distribution of the other Tarland booklets. Members are happy to help with the transporting of copies to outlets. Marjory Craig's help is much appreciated.
- The additional information for the internet is in progress.
- JH will write a piece for the Piper and P&J when it is launched.

- PC is keen to tackle the reluctance of the Tourist Information Centres to stock any of our publications.
- PC is trying to resolve the delayed installation of Albert's Seat. There is another offer of help that might be taken up if the original plan proves to be impossible.

Mountain Biking

- DH reported that it is doubtful that a mountain bike trail can be developed on Pressendye but is more likely on Pittenderrich. Issues with land use and ownership would have to be resolved should the project go ahead.
- If a junior mountain bike skills course were to be developed, proof of demand would be needed. LSh has evidence from the Youth Project consultations that there is enthusiasm for a mountain biking course among young people locally.
- It was decided that it would be wise to wait and see what can be learned from the development of The Aboyne Wheelers' cycle trail in the Bell Wood before proceeding.

Youth Cinema

- Nothing specific to report.
- Ideas from the young people themselves are needed. A "Bus Meeting", as the young people are together on the school bus might be useful or voting 'buttons' on Face book is another idea. AMcK offered to approach a colleague who may be able to provide some film making expertise.

Film Club

- Nothing to report, going well.

Community Composting Project

- Forty members have signed up but some latecomers are to be expected. The first collection is 20th April. JH is preparing the rota.
- Thanks to PC who has made a temperature probe to determine the temperature of the compost heaps and an earthing rod for the generator.
- KR will ask John Hansford to update the map.
- There is concern that sometimes the bags are very heavy. KR has addressed the problem by offering an extra bag for the joining fee and issuing guidelines as to the acceptable weight, i.e it should be possible to lift a bag with one hand. KR will produce laminated clip on notices to leave on overweight bags and they will not be collected.
- A date for sieving to be arranged soon – weather dependent.
- The purchase of a new trailer is imminent.

Marr Area Partnership

- The next Ward Forum is on 16th May – venue to be confirmed.

Jubilee Wood

- Tree planting from 10.00am 13th April – everyone welcome, bring a flask.

Craft and Produce Fair

- Date is 27th April 10.00am to 12.00.
- Fifteen stallholders have signed up and the variety is excellent – more produce than crafts.

- The teas are organised.
 - AMcK is preparing press releases for the Piper and the P&J.
- Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)**
- LS brought up the possibility of TDG applying for SCIO status. This is an option open to any existing charities, under the auspices of OSCR, to change their status to that of a legal entity, allowing it to enter into contracts, employ staff, incur debts, own property, sue or be sued. Prior to the next meeting LS will meet with Mike Powell to look into the pros and cons of TDG applying for SCIO status.

AOCB

Morna Stewart enquired as to the possibility of the provision of a squirrel bridge across the road from Kirklands. As there is nothing opposite to fix it to, it would not seem possible. Morna would also like to make changes to her entry on the noticeboard but this could prove difficult as it is in a sealed unit. PC will look into this.

Peter Craig would like it to be minuted that the playpark has been much appreciated recently by his grandchildren and other families using the new equipment.

JH asked if members would look at other local websites before the next meeting for ideas towards a revamp of the Tarland Community Website.

Next Meeting
14th May at 7.30 – Cromar Court.

Subsequent meeting

25th June