



Minutes of the Tarland Development Group meeting held on 29th Oct 2013 at Cromar Court

Present

Lindsay Stewart, Jan Healey, Chris Redmond, Kathy Dale, Lizzy Shepherd, Kate Redpath, Jamie Price, Peter Craig, Mike Powell

Apologies

Dave Hirst, Simon Power, Annie McKee, Jane Booth, Denise Hansford

Accounts

A payment of £7486.69 was made to the account by the Climate Challenge Fund on the 4th Oct. The account stands at £16,240.38

The account is being audited by Sarah Leahy, who will also complete the OSCR return.

Community Garden

The steering group will meet on 30th Oct.

The outdoor raised beds are finished, and the wheelchair beds are under construction. A link worker from Friends of Inch Hospital visited the project with a view to a similar scheme in Inch.

Tarland Way.

Simon Power reported that work on fencing/footpath along the Tarland Burn will start this winter.

The data loggers for recording path use have been checked and new batteries installed.

Screening planting will go ahead for Albert's seat, to ensure privacy for Mr and Mrs Nisbitt. A signpost to the seat was also suggested. Booklets are still being sold; the children's leaflet could have a relaunch in the spring.

Paths Network.

Kathy reported that Dave had met with Simon Power and Chris Yorke to discuss allocation of paths maintenance tasks. The paths database is up and running and tasks agreed. The system needs testing before being made more widely available to use. A workparty will be organised on Sat 9th Nov. for non-COAT/MacRobert Trust tasks. MRT will supply paint, and COAT will supply the roundels. Kathy will email out details for wider distribution.

Mountain Bike Trails.

Chris and Lizzy conducted a community consultation at the September Tarland Market, which went very well. Eight people offered to help with the project. No outright negative comments were received. There was a 50/50 split between Alastrean and Drummy Woods re. site preference. Chris and Lizzy spoke to councillor Geva Blackett about the proposal. They were advised to speak to the Bellwood

residents, and Malcolm White from the Planning Dept. Chris and Jamie met with Cromar Community Council, and chair, Simon Welfare expressed some concerns regarding Drummy Woods as a location.

Chris spoke to Malcolm White who noted that a walkover habitat survey and a tree survey would be required, plus info from the proposed construction company.

Planning have no concerns regarding either Drummy Woods or Alastrean. If more than 5 objections were to be received, then the decision regarding planning permission would go to committee.

Simon Power has said that The Mac Robert Trust supports the principle of a mountain bike area, and that there is potential to extend the carpark in Drummy, if necessary.

TDG members present at this meeting supported Drummy Woods as a location.

Chris will meet with Simon Power to discuss the project further.

TDG has received a £20K bequest, some of which will help fund the project. A previous donation from the same source was linked to the youth project, which included an option for a mountain bike trail, so it was felt appropriate that a proportion of the bequest could be used towards the current mountain bike trail project.

Community Composting

Kate reported that for the first time in nearly 4 years, the tractor was unavailable, and a collection had to be cancelled. An extra collection will be added on Nov.30th, to compensate.

Youth Cinema.

The volunteers went on their award trip, which was enjoyed by all.

Film Club

It was felt that more marketing is needed, and **Lindsay** will contact Alistair re. this.

Market

The market went very well, and £155 was made from the stalls. Plenty of interest was shown in the bee group proposal, and TDG made money from sales of honey, apples, carrots, leaflets and calendars.

Archaeology booklet

This will be a joint History Group/TDG project, with **Peter, Jan** and Lizzie Bacon. Philip Astor, and Simon and Adam Welfare may also have an involvement.

One aim is to encourage access to sites, and Simon Power has spoken about signage.

Marr Area Partnership

The next MAP Forum will be on 21st Nov in Logie Coldstone, 6.45pm Topic - Mens' Sheds, and discussing priorities for forums.

SCIO

TDG will meet with MAP to discuss TDG becoming a SCIO. 13th Nov, 2pm at **Mike Powell's**.

AOCB

The "Be part of the Picture" project caravan will be in Tarland next Wednesday. The project aims to find out what people value about living in Aberdeenshire.

Beekeeper, Yvonne Davidson will progress the bee project along with 3 other keepers. A series of talks will be held over the winter, starting Monday 11th Nov.

Date of next meeting. 3rd Dec, 7.30pm Cromar Court.