

Tarland Development Group

Minutes of meeting held on 30th March 2010 at Cromar Court

Apologies

Mike Powell, Simon Power, Denise Hansford, Gillian Masson.

Present

Peter Craig, Kate Redpath, Jan Healey, Lindsay Stewart, Jane Palmer.

Matters arising

Community Composting Project and Insurance Cover

- The launch on 20th March at Left Bank went very well and generated a lot of interest. Forty-four members have joined the project so far, of which twenty have volunteered to either collect green bags or drive the tractor. Even more may join at the Local Market on 3rd April when TDG will have a stall and the material contributed by Tarland School pupils will be displayed.
- The site has been cleared. It will be parallel with the existing track so that the more solid, hardcore surface alongside can be used by the digger.
- Funding applications are in hand and membership has generated £500.
- Problems with insurance for the tractor are resolved. Named drivers with a clean driving license will be covered by the MRT Insurance already in place.
- There will be 'Kerbside Training' with Tony Archer for volunteers on Saturday 10th April at the Market Stance 10.00am
- Lindsay and Jan have made a start on the collection rota and hope to have a draft ready for the training day on 10th April.
- The first collection will take place on 24th April, starting at 9.00am. All volunteers are invited to walk the route or see the tractor on it's way. Details of the route to follow.
- A sieve for the compost can probably be borrowed from Aberdeen Forward when required and we may already have access to a trailer suitable for this purpose.
- It was decided to combine 'Compost' meetings and TDG meetings in the future as most of the planning is now completed.

Accounts and Charitable Status

- The constitution has been sent to OSCAR.
- GM reported that after all accounts are paid and the balance stands at £971.
- An invoice for the bags is outstanding.

Local Market

- Proceeds from the market on 3rd April will go to The Community Composting Project (CCP)
- The Hall will be available for setting up from 08.45. - helpers welcome.
- DH offered to help on the TDG/ Compost stall and manage the raffle. JH will organize the display from Tarland School pupils.

Archaeology Trail

- The preliminary walk of the proposed trail is to take place by CHG on Saturday 24th April, leaving the Square at 11.00am. This is also the date of the first

compost collection but people involved in both projects will be able to see the tractor off before starting the Archaeology Walk.

Natural Burial Site

- Nothing to report.
- Ideas for a suitable site welcome.

Paths and Cycle Trails

The group learned that the maintenance and mowing of the paths network is to be taken over by the gardeners at MRT. AC is to retire from this work. The members of TDG are very aware of the enormous contribution AC has made to the development and upkeep of the paths network and greatly appreciate his generous commitment over the years.

- At a meeting with COAT attended by PC, AC and SP the following topics were raised. Finance is available for all the projects during the next financial year:
- The Drummie Woods to Tomnaverie path, one of the Core Paths network, PC stressed the need for a deadline. The importance of appropriate fencing was raised. Murray Swapp reported that the work should be completed in the next financial year.
- The Aboyne/Tarland cycle route, linking with The Deeside Way is supported by six of the seven landowners over whose land it passes.
- New notice boards to be installed at the Drummie and Knappieround car parks. The notice boards will also direct visitors to the services and amenities in the village.
- The Mountain Bike trail in Alastrean Woods is ready to go and is awaiting funding.

PC will suggest to COAT that a Craiglich Path should be investigated.

Cromar Community Council

The B9119 is to be closed at some time during April. The CCC will post details in the noticeboard outside the MacRobert Hall.

New Ideas

- KR proposed that TDG looks into the creation of a 'Tarland Eden Project' sited in the Sand Quarry. A community project using poly tunnels to maximize the growing season for seasonal produce.
- PC in conversation with Graham Bruce, visiting from Durness, learned that funding could be available for a water /hydro scheme. The Tarland Burn would seem to be suitable for such a scheme
- KR would like the CCC to investigate the provision of an amenity skip, possibly sited at the recycling area, for community use at times during the year. This could help with the disposal of bigger items and save multiple journeys to the Crow's Nest in Banchory.

AOB

No other business

Next Meeting
Tuesday 11th May 2010
19.30 at Cromar Court