

Minutes of the meeting held on 31st May 2011 at Cromar Court

Present

Lindsay Stewart, Jan Healey, Lizzy Shepherd, Denise Hansford, Simon Power, Kate Redpath, Bill Harvie.

Apologies

Peter Craig, Gillian Masson.

Youth Project

ES reported that:

- The equipment has been bought and has been delivered. There will be a trial run this week.
- The first showing will be Friday 17th June. One film will be shown on this occasion, suitable for all age groups. Normally two will be shown, one for younger children, fortnightly on a Friday.
- Communication between members is via a closed, dedicated Facebook Page and email.
- Children of eight years and under must be accompanied.
- More adult volunteers are needed, Disclosure Scotland is necessary and is applied for.

Assault Course and zip-wire:

- More consultation with the young people is required and will take place after the Summer Holidays.
- The zip-wire appears to be the most popular element.
- Funding is not potentially an obstacle.

Community Composting Project

- Currently fifty nine households have joined the scheme, more would be preferable.
- More publicity may recruit more.

Action KR

- SP will look into the possibility of using the more powerful shredder belonging to MRT.

Action SP

- Arrangements for the compost to be turned are in hand.
- KR will email NH re the financial position with Aberdeenshire Council regarding the project.
- The project is financially secure this year from grant money.
- PC reported that the cable for safely connecting the generator to the electric sieve has been ordered and will be assembled to our specification at a cost of £40.

Community Garden / Allotments

- The project had a positive reception at 'Tarland -have your say 2' event.

- As the project would be of mutual benefit to both, links with the Horticultural Society are to be explored.
- It is envisaged that the project would start in a small way and increase over time with the land allocated.
- Planning information from MRT is awaited.
- Visits to other Community Gardens are under discussion, in particular the scheme at Huntly would be of interest. It is organized for the community by many agencies with Mental Health playing an important part.

Community Energy Project

SP presented a proposal by the MRT to install one or more medium sized wind turbines for the Estate. The possibility of local groups and Trust farm tenants investing in the turbines and forming a legal body to do so, is to be explored.

It is proposed that there should be an initial meeting with Community Energy Scotland for the Trust, farm tenants, TDG and TWT to find out more about how such a scheme might be brought to fruition.

- If there appears to be sufficient interest, the next stage is likely to be a questionnaire, produced by an independent agency, which will go to all households in the parish in order to gauge support.
- Should there be insufficient support for other turbines then the MRT may still wish to proceed with their proposal for a single turbine for the Estate.

Cycle Route and paths

PC reported by email:

- Agreement has been reached for COAT to manage all aspects of claiming payments from the Climate Challenge Fund for contracts to complete the Tarland / Aboyne cycle route.
- PC has received assurances that TDG is not at risk from any problems arising from these contracts.
- Tender bids have been invited and on-site visits from potential contractors will take place this week.
- John Hansford and PC will be presenting COAT and MRT with details of all remedial works that are required on the paths network and recommending that these be undertaken by contractors and/or MRT employees.

Marr Area Partnership

- Nothing to report

'Tarland - Have your say' Event – feedback

- Results are not yet collated.
- There was enthusiasm expressed among members of TDG for a coffee shop in the village and a garden centre and complementary businesses on the MRT Estate Yard site.

Cards / Calendars

- The time has come to look out photographs for the 2012 Calendar. Please bring to the next meeting.
- JH to ask PC if he would be willing to collate the photographs for the calendar.

- It was suggested that TDG should have a stall at Tarland Show on which the calendar could feature. We would have to provide our own tent, table etc.

Squirrel Bridge

- The rope is with MRT and will be installed in the Autumn when the tree work is carried out.

Local Market

- The next market will be in September
- Cards and calendars for 2012 will be ready for the market.
- Bags of sieved compost may be ready for sale.

Website updates

- Lindsay brought a draft of the changes to The TDG meeting.

Accounts

- After all amounts to be paid out are deducted the balance stands close to £2000.
- GM will send a summary of the accounts to LS .
- The accounts will be signed off by GM and LS before being audited by W McLean prior to the AGM in August.

AOCB

KR asked if the dead / damaged Beech trees on the approach to the village from the Aboyne direction, could be replaced. SP agreed to look into the matter.

Next meeting 28th June 2011 at Cromar Court 19.30