**Minutes**

**Gargunnock Trust**

**Gargunnock Windfarm Fund Panel**

**18th February, 7.30pm, Gargunnock Community Centre**

**Present:**

Interim Chair - Geoff Peart

Panel Members – Stuart Ogg, Kimberley Hay, Charles Fitches, Kirsty Baird, Julie Cole, Chloe Bruce

Administrator - Carol MacGregor

Applications on the agenda

**Continued Applications:**

*GWF 6/18: Forth Valley Orienteers - Gargunnock Map*

**New Applications:**

*GWF 17/19: Core Income Assistance – GASC*

*GWF 18/19: Digital Hub – GPS Parent Council*

*GWF 19/19: Club Promotion & Trophies – G. Curling Club*

*GWF 20/19: G. Comm. Council – Noticeboard*

*GWF 21/19: G. Comm Trust – Comm. Sound System*

*GWF 12/19: Gargunnock Tai Chi - Rental Support Costs*

*GWF 13/19: Aston Goundry – Dinosaur Themed Children Events*

*GWF 14/19: Helen Rowell – Gargunnock Old Kirkyard Info Leaflet*

*GWF 15/19: Gargunnock Brownies – New Badges Resources*

*GWF 16/19: Glamis Castle Trip – Gargunnock SWI*

Invited attendees

Jon Cross – Forth Valley Orienteers

Libby McPhee - GASC

Tracy Peddie – Gargunnock Parent Council

Gavin Fleming & Graham Dingley – Gargunnock Curling Club

Jeremy Wilkinson – Gargunnock Community Council

Douglas Johnston & Gavin Fleming – Gargunnock Community Trus

1. **Apologies**

Mark Evans

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

Approved

1. **Matters Arising**

Fund balance stands at approximately £26k with further £22.5k due in May 2019

1. **Continued Applications**

GWF 6/18: Forth Valley Orienteers

Benefit to communities - Active Stirling involved with the club and school children also involved and welcome. Map of the school can be made as part of it so school could use it in partnership with Active Schools / Stirling. The map would encompass greater Gargunnock and help involve the community to access the club. Therefore, local groups would be worked with and events run for them. The Trust could have access to the map. Map is physical A3 and can be accessed digitally and downloaded. Copyright sits with Orienteering Club so that changes to the map can be updated.

Numbers are 50-100 people on a Saturday morning and about 1/3 are beginners. 3 people from the village involved.

**Recommendation**

**Panel is happy to support this project as it is thought to be a good project for the community and previous questions have been clarified regarding the benefit to the village.**

1. **New Applications**

GWF 17/19: Core Income Assistance – GASC

There is an imbalance in the revenue and outgoing costs, despite increasing the fees by £2 per hour at the start of the year. Change in circumstances for families within the village have seen a reduction in usage which is out with the control of GASC. Exploring avenues for getting children from other villages as GASC is a unique service in the wider area. There is also more fundraising planned for this year with a target of £4000, £1500 more than last year. Match funding also being sought. Would also like to invest in equipment with any surplus funds as have not been able to invest in this for a couple of years. £2000 requested and the remainder would be made up of fundraising and increase in fees.

**Recommendation**

Given that the service is vital for families in the village the Panel approves the application towards staff costs and equipment.

*GWF 18/19: Digital Hub – GPS Parent Council*

Looking for assistance with setting up a digital hub for the school to promote digital learning for pupils. Current hardware is seven years old and is becoming not fit for purpose. This would also enable the older children to have up to date digital skills as they move onto High School. The digital equipment (ipads and chrome books) would also support the core curriculum. It could also be used to encourage the acquisition of digital skills in the wider community. Three quotes were provided and range from £6472 (from the school procurement) to £8689 and funding has been confirmed from RBS and other sources (ie. Rocket Fund) are being actively pursued. Taking into account projected funding from other sources, the Parent Council are looking for support of £4k from the wind farm fund (62% of the project cost), which represents a £1000 reduction from the original application.

The school would own the technology and be responsible for the insurance.

**Recommendation**

The panel are happy to support the request for £4k on the basis that this will support key and core digital learning to equip the children for their future education.

*GWF 19/19: Club Promotion & Trophies – G. Curling Club*

Geoff Peart declared an interest. The Club has newly re-formed and has a long history in the village. The Club wish to increase the membership so that families can come along and try and enjoy curling. Its current membership spans a wide range of age groups. The grant application for £2750 is specifically to fund 5 opens sessions for people in Gargunnock to come along and try curling with professional coaching and to pay for 4 new trophies. The Panel felt that the cost of the trophies was excessive and something more modest would be more appropriate.

**Recommendation**

The Panel agreed to support the open sessions and coaching to the amount of £1000 and recommend a contribution of £750 towards trophies.

*GWF 20/19: G. Comm. Council – Noticeboard*

Charles Fitches and Julie Cole declared an interest. The proposal was for a new noticeboard dedicated to Community Council business which would be located adjacent to the existing noticeboard and a grant of £1157 was being sought. It was unclear whether planning permission was required and there had not been consultation with the residents of George Place. There was a majority view that while there are merits in the application, there are other media which exist to inform residents including the website and the Bugle. It was felt that the existing noticeboard could also be better managed with a dedicated section for Community Council business and the removal of adverts more timeously.

**Recommendation**

The Panel feel was unable to support the application.

*GWF 21/19: G. Comm Trust – Comm. Sound System*

Geoff Peart and Stuart Ogg declared an interest. Following applications from the Gala and the Agricultural Show, Caledonian University were commissioned to research the design and specification of an up to date system to meet various community needs. Local community groups have been canvassed to ascertain their requirements. The proposal is for hard wired speakers to be installed in the Community Centre which is wi-fi enabled and which would enable operation via Bluetooth technology. The system can also be hearing loop enabled to ensure inclusivity for all the needs of the community and in this context the project could be a pilot for Forth Valley Hearing Support. Lapel microphones would also be part of the system. Mobile speakers would be utilised externally and at other events such as the Farmers Show. The specification would provide a complete sound system for the whole community. Training would be given to users. A great deal of research has been carried out to ensure that the design of the system is fit for purpose. Further funding will also be investigated from Awards for all, which might provide up to 50% of the cost.

**Recommendation**

The Panel recommended the application be awarded the full amount of £12,671, subject to the usual requirement that if other funding was secured the excess grant would be repaid to the Fund.

*GWF 12/19: Gargunnock Tai Chi - Rental Support Costs*

The application was for £300 towards the rental of the Community Centre. There were concerns that support for rental costs would set a dangerous precedent and that the Guidelines need to be strengthened to make clear that such costs would not be eligible for support.

**Recommendation**

The Panel did not support the application and recommended that the Trust look at clarifying the guidelines with regards to funding rental costs.

*GWF 13/19: Aston Goundry – Dinosaur Themed Children Events*

The application was from an individual seeking £500 for materials to make dinosaurs for various children’s events. Payments to individuals are not permitted within the guidelines of the fund and concerns were raised over health & safety, risk assessment and PVG.

**Recommendation**

Not eligible for Fund assistance.

*GWF 14/19: Helen Rowell – Gargunnock Old Kirkyard Info Leaflet*

The application sought £175 to cover the printing of leaflets of local and historical interest for newcomers to the village. The Panel thought this provided a useful service.

**Recommendation**

The Panel recommend the full funds for this project

*GWF 15/19: Gargunnock Brownies – New Badges Resources*

The application sought £242.25 to cover the cost of a new badge scheme. Badges are important to recognise achievements in education, group work and motivation. The Panel thought that it was important to encourage the development of these characteristics.

**Recommendation**

The Panel recommended the full funds for this project

*GWF 16/19: Glamis Castle Trip – Gargunnock SWI*

The application was for £300 to cover the cost of transport for a trip to Glamis Castle. The Fund had supported a similar trip in2018 and there were some concerns that this could become an annual request and the Fund was not primarily set up to support this type of activity. It was agreed to support the application this year but to make clear that it could not be supported in future years.

**Recommendation**

The Panel agreed to support the trip for this year only.

1. **Monitoring/Feedback Reports**

SWI Dumfries House trip feedback to be made available on the website. The Chairperson pointed out that the Annual Report to Foundation Scotland would become due at the end of March and that monitoring reports would be needed from all completed projects over the past financial year.

1. **Election of Chairperson**

Current chair needs to stand down as per the initial agreement, and it was agreed that a new chair is required who is not a Trust member. It was agreed that the Panel would appoint a chairperson for one meeting at a time. Julie Cole agreed to take over for the next meeting in April when another panel member will take over. The existing chairperson agreed to offer any support which might be required.

1. **Proposed Dates of Meetings in 2019**

15th April, 17th June, 21st October, 9th December

1. **Other Business**

Members are coming up to two years’ service on the panel. New members will be required as existing Panel members step down on a rotation basis. The Trust needs to consider how this rotation will be managed and the appointment process of new members. Further vacancies are likely to arise in the course of the year so these need to be advertised in the next edition of The Bugle.