



## **Directors/Trustees Meeting Wednesday 30 November 2022**

### ***Present***

Jill Patrick, Gavin Fleming, Stuart Ogg, Mari Jackson, Geoff Peart, Steve Barnet, Gill Bell, Crawford Gordon, Douglas Johnston, John Steele

### ***Apologies***

No apologies

### ***1. Appointment of new trustee/director***

After discussion GP proposed and JP seconded the appointment of John Steele as a new director/trustee to fill one of the three vacancies.

### ***2. Declarations of interest***

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

### ***3. Minutes of Previous Meeting***

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 25 August 2022 were adopted as a true record of the meeting having been circulated immediately after the meeting for comment.

### ***4. Follow up actions (Ongoing actions)***

All actions from previous meetings completed other than the following ones which are ongoing. Some actions have been updated following discussion at this meeting:

- SB and JP will continue to review GDPR statement. SB has now accessed other statements to see how these relate to GCT version.

### ***5. Roles and Responsibilities***

Following discussion, it was agreed:

- 1) The Chair would rotate amongst the trustees/directors

- 2) GF and DJ - Treasurer's role to be split (GF to focus on transactional processes and DJ the preparation of the annual accounts)
- 3) JB - Company Secretary
- 4) SO - Meetings Secretary
- 5) JP - Membership Secretary
- 6) MJ - communication liaison
- 7) SB and JS - Trust members on Windfarm Panel
- 8) GP, GF and SO - Paths group
- 9) CG - community centre management and Glebe Park
- 10) DJ – capital investment zero carbon programme for community centre and Village Shop Subgroup
- 11) JP, GB, SB and SO - support Bite and Blether.

Efforts to be made to attract two additional trustees/directors and to see whether other volunteers can be attracted to help with Trust projects/activities without necessarily becoming trustees/directors.

It was noted that Julie Cole will be the link between the Community Council and Trust on path development matters.

**Actions:**

**SO to circulate list of names to chair future meetings**

**MJ to put note on Facebook page**

## **6. *Company Secretary Report***

GB reported that all emails dealt with, a number having been forwarded to trustees. Changes to Companies House and OSCR re: JP have been made. JS details will now be added.

**Action: MJ to check school raffle and use of trust lottery licence.**

GB noted the Trust now has responsibility for the two defibrillators; £500 from Windfarm Panel to be used to update software, renew pads, and continue to ensure units are maintained.

## **7. *Treasurers Report***

GF handed out copy of new reporting format from Xero finance software, noting that cash balance was still positive but trending downwards albeit several invoices still had to be paid.

## **8. *Village Shop update***

Little known about current state of shop sale other than it has been on the market for around 6 months. Two grants applied for to allow trust to take ownership and upgrade building if market fails to find a buyer. One grant has been declined so far due to high risk. The UK Government's Leveling Up Fund still being processed, likely to hear mid-December 2022 to January 2023. Two other options possible Community Fund Scotland and CARES Fund. It was reiterated that the trust does not intend to run a shop instead create a building which will find a viable and sustainable use run by another entity.

## **9. Community Centre**

DJ updated the meeting regarding progress with energy efficiency/zero carbon projects. Most actions now completed, other than the solar panels which now have planning permission and will be installed with battery on 16 January 2023. Once installed

The new pricing structure set out following the work by Jon Park and Debbie Mason now applicable.

**Action: Check to be made to see if new pricing structure is on website.**

## **10. Projects Update**

### **Gargunnock to Stirling path**

GP explained that following various abortive attempts to arrange a meeting with relevant Stirling Council officials, it required Councilor McGarvey to set up the meeting. The initial meeting had been positive and although a follow up meeting had been problematic it has been agreed with the Council's Active Travel Manager that there will now be monthly meetings. GP felt that there was still some way to go before the Council are fully behind the project despite all the commitments made about active travel in all its policy documents.

The project will only progress with the commitment of a Council team to assist with landowner negotiations, agree how the maintenance of the path will be managed once in situ, arrange any legal agreements with landowners and arrange compensation.

The concerns about the Council's commitment have been raised with Sustrans.

### **Paths Group**

GF reported on the recent Paths Group meeting which also included SO/Julie Cole representing the Community Council and Gordon Weber from Cycling Scotland who will look at taking forward various cycling promotion initiatives in much the same way as Edmond Mansion has developed the activities of the Walking Group.

### **Beeches Path**

SO explained that he had recently met a contractor to discuss the best way of improving this path. He had received a quote which now need further discussion and two further quotes will be required.

### **Hill Path**

GF explained a detailed design report for the Hill path was now complete and had been shared with the two estates involved. Leckie Estate had already taken on board the report's recommendations and in some cases started to install some of the recommended infrastructure. The trust welcomed this commitment from the Leckie Estate. The report has also been shared with the Gargunnock Estate (meeting of Trust not yet happened), its representatives and Mr Watts, (farmer) following approval from Galbraiths.

## **Pond and Glebe Park**

Additional trees planted, plastic protective tubes now removed and taken away to be reused by TreeLink. Path edges also cleaned up.

Bees now all closed-up for winter. In future there will be no more than 4 hives in the Glebe Park. These will be the more docile ones; the more active ones will be located up on the hill.

## **Community bus service research**

Following discussion, it was agreed that before a demand survey is undertaken a detailed assessment of existing services should be undertaken. This would allow the community survey to help identify how far these services meet demand and if there are any gaps. It was also noted that existing service providers were currently upgrading their vehicles. Finally, it was felt that if a community bus service was researched and taken forward it might be better to pursue it based on a wider area by including adjacent villages in the survey and any actions taken as a result. This would help make it more viable and have a larger catchment to attract volunteer drivers etc.

**Action: SO to go back to Jane Bain with the outcome of the Trust's discussions.**

### **11. Newsletter**

Currently being compiled by the new editor, Louise Crawford.

### **12. AOB**

GP set out the background to Local Place Plans and their role in the statutory planning system. It was agreed that this should be a joint project between the Trust and Community Council. GP explained that some work had been undertaken previously, following a request by Alison Younger, Chair of the Windfarm Panel, to pull together a local strategy for Gargunnoch which reflected the priorities defined by the community. The previous attempt to access a resource to take this forward failed however recent communications suggest that this now may be more feasible. To take this forward will require others to become involved. Jon Park's previous interest in this project was noted.

**Action: GP to contact Community Council to start dialogue and report back to next meeting.**

### **West Area Locality Action Plan**

This is part of the Community Planning process, and it was felt that it was something the Community Council should be involved with but will also be of interest to the Trust.

**Action: GP to note this in the communication with Community Council.**

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

### **13. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 19 January – (Chair - Geoff Peart)

#### **14. *Future Trust meeting dates***

Thursday 16 March – (Chair - Douglas Johnston)

Thursday 18 May – (Chair - Jill Patrick)

Thursday 24 August – (Chair – Steve Barnett)

Thursday 26 October – (Chair – Gavin Fleming)

Thursday 7 December – (Chair – Crawford Gordon)