**Minutes**

**Gargunnock Trust**

**Gargunnock Windfarm Fund Panel**

**15th January 2018, 7.30pm, Gargunnock Community Centre**

**Present:**

Interim Chair - Geoff Peart

Panel Members - Julie Cole, Kirsty Baird, Mark Evans, Stuart Ogg, Kimberley Hay, Charles Fitches

Administrator - Carol MacGregor

Invited Applicants in attendance

Douglas Johnston – Gargunnock Trust / Community Centre Stage Extension - £1563.45

Kirsty Baird – 1st Gargunnock Guides / Residential Trip - £1100

Stuart Campbell – Gargunnock Gala Committee / Community Centre Sound System - £5000

Gill Bell – Gargunnock Old Peoples Welfare Committee / Christmas Vouchers - £1500

Pete Rowell – Independent / Gargunnock Footbridge Maintenance Project - £300

Tracy and Archie Peddie – Parent Council Association / Outdoor Learning Zone update

1. **Introduction**

Interim Chair, Geoff Peart, welcomed Panel members and the previous minutes were referred to with regards to Marks amendment - consideration that there should be an expectation that all applicants strive to fundraise out-with and in addition to any windfarm funding.

The timescale for telling the applicants of the outcome of the decision-making process will be 2 weeks so that the minutes can be circulated and agreed and in line with the Trust meeting due at that time.

Geoff welcomed the invited applicants and thanked them for the applications. It was explained that the procedure would be for each applicant to make a short presentation, followed by questions from the Panel, after which applicants would withdraw. Applicants would be asked to wait in an adjoining room and be called in when required.

1. **Apologies**

None

1. **Arising**

The Interim Chair reviewed the School feedback form regarding the book award and how the funds were utilised and benefited the school.

There is also a need to add in Mark and Stuart's additions to the last minute.

1. **Submitted Applications**

 **Reference: GWF 6/17 Outdoor Learning Zone – update**

Archie and Tracy Peddie circulated a power point containing information to all panel

 members prior the meeting.

Actions considered are:

Location of building – not too far away from school building

Timeline and financial plans made available to the panel. The OLZ are having a further meeting

 tomorrow evening. Current funding standing at £15569, £5569 from match funding and

 £10000 from windfarm. Projecting a further £2xxx in match funding.

2 quotes received, waiting for a further 2 quotes. Expecting a shortfall of £4-£5k.

Building timeline – Easter or Summer, there is a question over this.

VAT – Parent Council not a charitable trust so is there a way of using the Gargunnock Trust

charity status to be able to waive the VAT.

Ownership – community has a choice. It could be owned by the Parent Council or the

Gargunnock Trust. Recommendation is the Trust so that it maintains within the realms of the

community.

Regarding ongoing maintenance, it was stated that GPC expected to have £4000 available from

other sources which should cover any eventuality over the lifetime of the building.

Insurance – depends on who’s ownership it sits under. These issues can be easily addressed.

Power supply – this would require planning permission, so not part of the plan and not deemed

necessary. Solar lighting can be utilised.

Looking for a commitment for the remaining £9k to be released plus the further £5k by Easter

so that the project can be completed. Some or all of the £5k could be underwritten and

therefore repaid.

Health & safety – encompassed within the drawings and recommendations from builders.

Archie and Tracy will be ready with agreed quotes for the Trust meeting in 2 weeks.

Actions - Tracy will send out Financial forecast, drawings and business plan.

**Recommendations:**

Trust to review insurance ownership and procurement regarding VAT claim and consider the release of the outstanding £9k. The Trust to also consider underwriting a possible further funding gap of £5000 in the event that other funds cannot be secured prior to April as some applications may not be known until after proposed start date. Any additional funding will be returned to the fund.

**Reference: GWF 1/18 Community Centre Stage Extension**

Initial request from Songsters for additional safe staging following an accident which occurred when a member fell off the erected pallets they used to extend the stage themselves. The current staging gets used for all types of groups and is also hired out. Extended staging requested would be much larger and with safety rails. A variety of groups utilise the staging. Wheelchair access queried and while this would be desirable there is a question over space for the ramp that would be required.

**Recommendations:**

Application for £1563.45 approved in full.

**Reference: GWF 2/18 Community Centre Sound System**

Companies will charge approx. £300 to come out and do a survey and this has not been actioned yet so quotes are just an approximation.

The sound system would benefit many user groups. The existing sound system is portable and can only be heard clearly in the blue room. The integrated system would have speakers fitted in every room and be operated from a control wall panel.

As it would become part of the Community Centre this would be another facility to offer and enhance the attractiveness of the CC to users.

It was pointed out that the existing sound system is quite sophisticated and that it would be useful to have expert technical advice on what enhancements might be necessary to improve the overall performance of the system.

**Recommendations:**

The proposal to allocate £300 for a technical assessment of sound system requirements should be referred to the next meeting of the Trust for consideration

 **Reference: GWF 3/18 Old Peoples Welfare Vouchers**

120 vouchers were given out Christmas 2017 and this is the average each year. £10 per

person. Would like to increase the amount to £20 per person but could look at increasing it in

increments each year. Vouchers are given out to all residents at the age of 65 and over. The

money would require to be released from the fund in November 2018.

Concern was expressed about the sustainability of the proposal to double the amount of the

 voucher given the financial implications in future years, which may not be supported by the

 Windfarm Fund. It was also felt to be important to retain the incentive of fundraising for the

 group. There was, however considerable support for providing some assistance for this age

 group within the village.

**Recommendations:**

he Panel did not agree to award the full amount of the application but were prepared to recommend a Grant of £1000 to encourage further fundraising by the OPW.

**Reference: GWF 4/18 Guides Residential Trip**

It is a fantastic achievement that the Guides have been running in the village since [1972.This](https://www.dropbox.com/referrer_cleansing_redirect?hmac=3U4j6ZIcHVwPQ7NHbYCnZEadxJEu2Blu4odF910qFXk%3D&url=http%3A%2F%2F1972.This) proposal provides challenging opportunities for teenage girls. The residential trip would allow the group to experience a more dynamic and exiting experience akin to what the Scouts experience. The group has girls from Kippen, Thornhill and Blair Drummond with the vast majority being from Gargunnock. The group cost would be similar which ever centre is used. The trip would be over a weekend. The proposal is for a residential weekend, but while the venue has not yet been finalised, the costs for accommodation and activities are similar to those submitted. Parents would cover the residential element and the Fund would pay for the activities. If costs were lower than estimated the balance of grant would be returned.

**Recommendations:**

The application for £1100 was approved in full.

**Reference: GWF 5/18 Footbridge Maintenance**

The proposal was to carry out maintenance work on the footbridge over the Gargunnock Burn at the bottom of Main Street. This would be carried out by voluntary labour and the application was only requesting the cost of materials. The Panel was very happy to support this subject to the Health and Safety insurance issues being resolved.

**Recommendations:**

The application for £300 supported in full subject to the resolution of insurance issues.

1. **Any Other Business**

Glebe land feasibility study – has been carried out but not yet discussed at Trust meeting.

1. **Date of next meeting**

Monday 16th April 2018, 7.30pm – Gargunnock Community Centre

The Panel also agreed to a diet of 3 meetings per year to give applicants greater certainty regarding timing. Consequently, further meetings would be arranged in September 2018 and January 2019 at dates yet to be determined.