

Windfarm Panel

Minutes of Meeting of 7th March 2022

Location – Garden Room, Gargunock Community Centre

1. In Attendance

Trust representatives

Jill Patrick, Jon Park

Community Council representatives

Community representatives

Alison Younger, Hope Brodie,
Jackie Campbell, Fiona McCartney,
Mike Fitches, Nathan Anderton

Apologies - David Millar, David King

Alison welcomed Jon and David Millar to the panel

2. Chair of Windfarm Panel

Stuart Ogg, Secretary of Gargunock Trust joined the meeting to explain our current Terms of Reference states that the Chair is in position for 2 years and can be extended by a further 2 years if the Chair is willing to continue and it is agreed by the Trust and Windfarm Panel.

Alison agreed to stay on for a further 2 years, this was approved by both the Trust and Windfarm Panel.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved.

4. Declarations of Interest

GWF 1-22 Community Shop Project – Plunkett Foundation Membership

Interest: Jill Patrick, Jon Park – Trust are applicants, though as neither are involved in the working group dealing with this it was agreed that they could remain for the discussion but not take part in the decision.

GWF 3-22 Wildlife Pond in Glebe Park

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GWF 4-22 Beekeepers – Self-Sufficiency & School Engagement

Interest: Jon Park – Committee member

5. Current Balance of Funds available

Available Resources: £17,308.40

6. Applications

GWF 1-22 Community Shop Project – Plunkett Foundation Membership

Christine Phillips and Douglas Barr explained to the panel the benefits in becoming members of the Plunkett Foundation, how Plunkett will be able to assist with funding, information resources, advisory support, training and the latest news from the world of community business.

The panel were in agreement that Plunkett Foundation are the experts that the Community Shop Project should be working with. Trust members did not vote.

Recommendation - The application was approved in full - £240.

GWF 3-22 Wildlife Pond in Glebe Park

David Penman attended the meeting, Barbara Linklater gave her apologies.

Proposal is for a lined pond to be installed in Glebe Park, the pond will have a dipping platform and bench. A bog garden will be created on east side of the pond and the soil removed for the pond will be used to construct an earth bank on the west side which will be planted with native flowers and grasses. Native species of bushes will be planted to extend the habitat related to the pond.

This project has support from the primary school, Brownies, Guides and Toddlers group.

The panel welcome the fact that the group have also gone out to another funding body for the dipping platform, if they are unsuccessful in that grant application and can't receive funding elsewhere then they should come back to the Windfarm panel with a new grant request. Trust members did not vote.

Recommendation – The application was approved in full - £2017.42.

GWF 4-22 Beekeepers – Self Sufficiency & School Engagement

Kirsty Baird gave an overview of the Beekeepers group, their journey so far and their future plans. The group are looking for funds to expand the apiary to become self-sufficient, provide educational opportunities for the primary school and young people in the village working towards their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

As a member of the Beekeepers Association Jon left the room for the consideration of this item.

The panel appreciated the community engagement emphasis from Beekeeping group. The panel were asked to consider reserving an additional £647 to be awarded if they are unsuccessful with their Community Grant application. It was agreed if the Beekeepers are unsuccessful the panel would like the group to look for alternative funding and if that is not possible then come back to the Windfarm panel with a new application for the balance.

Recommendation – The application was approved in full - £2432.

GWF 5-22 Windfarm Administration for 2021-22

As agreed in the Windfarm Fund Panel Terms of Reference 4% of the annual fund allocation should be drawn down from the money received from Foundation Scotland.

Recommendation – The application was approved in full - £1009.

7. Review of GWF 2-22 Community Shop Project – Funding for Business Consultant

Panel and Trust approved this application prior to meeting via email correspondence due to time constraint. Application was for £4800 which equates to 8 days consultancy. The panel had noted that the Business Consultant would be looking at a variety of locations and not just the existing shop site. It was further noted that the Community Shop Project group are planning to hold a public meeting at the end of April to share information from the Business Consultant. The Panel extended their thanks to the working group for all of the work undertaken to progress this matter.

8. Monitoring/feedback

Peter Rowell provided a document with feedback on ongoing path applications. Primary school are actively working on outstanding monitoring reports. GASC monitoring reports still need to be followed up on.

Action NA

9. 2021 Windfarm Applications Overview

Panel would welcome more applications from younger people in village. Jackie to speak with Pauline Evans for some advice on best way to support our young people in applying for Windfarm grants.

Action JC

10. Draft Paths Development Strategy

Stuart gave an overview at start of meeting on Paths Strategy, this document was created at request of Windfarm Panel in March 2021 as there were a number of grant applications made at same time to improve local paths. It was felt a strategy may allow the Trust to apply to external funding sources. He noted that there would be a public meeting relating to the Gargunnock- Stirling Cycle route on 26th March. Whilst some distinct elements e.g the Beeches Path had been the subject of previous community consultation the draft strategy had not yet been circulated publicly for comment and at this point in time he was not clear as to what arrangements were for wider consultation on the Draft Strategy.

All panel members were invited to review this document and give feedback on content to Jackie before 16th March so it can be collated and fed back for Trust meeting on 17th. The panel thanks the Trust for producing the draft strategy and welcomed all the work undertaken by the Paths groups and volunteers in progressing the path works previously funded. There was discussion about how the Panel would wish future applications for funding to be brought forward and were in agreement that future path applications should be treated as individual grant requests.

Action ALL

11. AOCB

Jon asked if there was an opportunity to simplify our process when we request 3 quotes. Alison noted that under the Memorandum of Understanding and fund guidelines such changes could be made by agreement between the Panel and Trust and Jon agreed to look into this and to get feedback from Gavin and Jackie. **Action JP**

12. Date of next meeting

30th May 2022 – note this is a change from agreed meeting date 6th June as a number of panel members are unable to make 6th June, this does not impact dates already published for grant requests to be submitted.