



The work of the directors supports the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of the community of Alyth

Minutes for Meeting of Directors: 1.3.2021 7:00 pm via Zoom

1. **Standing items/compliance** *DW chaired the meeting*
 - a. Attendees/guests *We were joined by Dot McKenzie, Steven Both, Emily Hutchinson, Clare Cooper, Jennifer and Martin Devaney, Bruce Houston, Ryan Mollison, Clare Cooper, Clare Damodaran*
 - b. Minutes from last meeting *approved*
 - c. Financial reports *received and noted* DW
 - d. Comms report: *noted with thanks, uptick in traffic for February* KC

2. **For discussion/decision/brief updates**
 - a. ACSG update: mental health. F4T, flooding, other? DM, ASH
DM reported that the mental health team for the resilience plan is now gathering pace and the programme will be named Building Bridges. There are several professional counsellors and experienced practitioners who are involved with this effort and who are currently seeking approval for their involvement from their employers and for indemnity reasons. Progress is good and the next meeting is on 3rd March. Food for Thought is very pleased with the recent SSEN award and has bought a freezer named Elsa. ASH reported that although he is stepping down as flood team leader he will continue to support and be involved, and that the flood portion of the resilience plan and the phone tree will be in good shape when he departs, and he will help with handover to the next leader. Riverkeepers recruitment paused for Covid but all preparation done to restart without delay when allowed.
 - b. Community Orchard: EH
Exciting work continues on this project under EH leadership. Article in the Voice this month, and EH will work with KC to do regular features on the various strands of this work. EH working with Forests and Land Scotland and their community engagement officer as well as with AHUG. CS suggested that the bug hunt work at the Bamff Estate might expand to this project as well as Riverkeepers, a suggestion that was enthusiastically received by CC and by EH. CS to speak with Bamff about use of equipment.
 - c. Jubilee Park Project state of play SB
Significant progress has been made on the plans and consultation, with donation of time and expertise for developing plans and budgets from Martin Devaney. SB reported that MD has liaised with developers and will do so again; circular path is the end goal but may have to be phase 2; CS offered that some support for this could come from the Landfill Tax fund; ASH and Martin D. to discuss contacts at the developer. Great survey responses thus far – 90 responses with 87% support for improving the paths for far greater use, additional community interest for skate park and upgraded play areas. ADT will support with grant writing and when budget is known a proposal may come to ADT for financial support at some level.
 - d. Neighbourhoods SM
Agreed that this is an important new service for local food growers and customers alike and hope that it will continue.
 - e. Cateran Ecomuseum latest developments CC
CC gave update on progress of Ecomuseum, regenerative tourism, Museum of Rapid Transition. All agreed that the work thus far has been outstanding and the benefits to our area of this nationally recognised project are increasing with each phase.
 - f. Survey Monkey CS
Agreed to purchase a license which will be helpful in aggregating results from Jubilee Park survey and will be useful for Community Action Planning work. DW and SB to liaise and sort.

- g. Zoom account: security and views on adding to the plan we have DW
Agreed that for now we can use the account we have without upgrading.
- h. Climate Challenge: Keeping it Local; Citizen Science (update on Met Office information and how we might use it) RYWT, CS
CS and RYWT proposed a frame for our work in this area that is collaborative with all the other work going on (Riverkeepers, Community Orchard, Ecomuseum, AYP, micromastery work, AiB et al) and that helps local people take action to improve biodiversity and mitigate negative impacts of climate change to our town. We want to take a highly proactive approach and publicise that for the benefit of the town – positioning Alyth as a place that nurtures regenerative and active tourism and offers engaging learning experiences about nature and climate challenges for all ages. CS and RYWT will continue to work on a strategy for this and bring it back to the Trust in a few weeks. Recent £1k grant from SSE will help work with AYP on this. Jennifer Devaney kindly offered to work on small films for upcycling and creative eco-friendly ideas. RYWT and CS will pursue with her.
- i. CAP planning: next actions (community connector) RYWT
Laura Jayne Rodger has been appointed from a very competitive field of applicants. Next actions are for her to receive her training, she and RYWT will develop a work plan, and the steering committee will be added to and convened within a few weeks. DM from ACSG kindly assisted with the interviews.
- j. Cycle Path update DW
Progress continues
- k. Gift Aid publicity CS
This has been publicised but further promotion to encourage use to benefit F4T coming
- l. Grants Cycles 2021: Confirm dates DW, all
Current community grant application deadline is 21 March, all at meeting encouraged to spread the word and direct people to our website, DW reported that independent panel will meet and at our April meeting we will receive their recommendations.
- m. grants writer recruitment update RYWT
Strong interest in this and a competitive field, SM and RYWT interviewed a number of candidates and Colin Reed from Mt. Blair has been offered the contract and has accepted. This will enable the Trust to add to the resources available for our town, position us strongly as a community with funders and government, and will help groups such as ACSG and the Jubilee Park project.
- n. Community news

3. Details Next Meeting: 5 April 2021 on Zoom at 7 pm

RYWT
1 March 2021