



**TARLAND DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

Charity No.SCO41598. Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

## **Tarland Development Group Trustees Meeting**

**Tuesday 25th October 2016 at 7.30pm  
Cromar Court, Tarland**

### **MINUTES**

1. Welcome and apologies

Present: Kate Redpath (KR) (Chair), Kathy Dale (KD) (Minutes), Lizzy Shepherd (LSh), Denise Hansford (DHa), Chris Redmond (CR), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Jan Healey (JH), Simon Power (SP), Annie McKee (AMcK), Lindsay Stewart (LSt), Dave Souter and Steve Roberts.

Apologies: Dave Hirst (DH).

2. Matters arising

None.

3. Bowling Green

Dave Souter and Steve Roberts gave an update on the situation following the questionnaire exercise. The questionnaire was delivered to all households in the village. The questionnaire only had two questions whereas the Council questionnaire had more. There has been a positive response from the community. There were 50 returns with only one person saying no to the bowling green but she is now on board if there are other options. A Steering Group is to be invited to form and a presentation will be given to the Council soon. It will cost approximately £50k for artificial turf. Are other uses possible such as ice skating in the winter? This would need flood lighting. Is it viable? The Council will want to know. At the moment it is just a stay of execution and there will be a voluntary group to maintain it in the meantime. A management plan

will be set up and it will be advertised that it can be used. This will provide evidence that it is viable. It is very well constructed so it is worth saving – the pavilion could be re-vamped etc. Maybe there could be a new shed for the mothers and toddlers group or the playgroup? There is no expectation that the Council will provide any maintenance, apart from around the perimeter, such as maintaining the rose garden. Is there a need for a formal agreement with the Council? They still own it. Dave and Steve will report back to the Trustees with an update in due course. At the moment they are just looking for our support.

[Dave Souter and Steve Roberts left the meeting.]

LSh said that the Bowling Green may become a community asset transfer. There is currently contradictory evidence from two questionnaires and previous initiatives have come to nothing. The proposal could go to Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (AVA) or the Marr Area Partnership (MAP). More work is required on the proposal. **ACTION: KD to write to Dave and Steve. *In principle it's a good idea; please come back to TDG when you have a tighter proposal. AVA can help with a more detailed questionnaire. Give them contact details for AVA and MAP.***

#### 4. Food and Music Festival

A 'wash-up' meeting was held on 29 September. It was agreed by all that the event this year was a great success and we will do it again next year, hopefully with some funding for an organiser. We need to look at the results of the Survey Monkey feedback questionnaire, take into account all the other feedback and investigate other, cheaper marquee options. AMcK and DHi will be meeting with Chris Hockley, Chair of the MacRobert Trust (MRT), to investigate how the Trust may help financially.

#### 5. Seed Swap Group

The workshop on 15 October held at the Community Garden went well, with approximately 40 people attending and quite a few additional people signed up to the email list. There is good evidence that there is interest in the seed swap project as people are travelling from quite a long way away to attend. The talk on 22 October at the MacRobert Hall, by Professor Hugh Pritchard from Kew Gardens on "Seeds a Global Perspective", was less well attended (25 people). The Cromar Horticultural Society (CHS) and Aboyne Gardening Club (AGC) have

donated £50 each towards the project costs, and £50 has been invested in it from TDG; this is to pay for the hall hire for the talk and Hugh's travel costs. As the event ran at a bit of a loss it was agreed that TDG would put in an additional £100 to help with travel expenses.

The next steps are as follows:

1. Planning a seed swap and potato day on 25 February 2017 at the MacRobert Hall. This will involve some upfront funding so LSh will need to apply for a grant.
2. Gathering costs to run the above event (hall hire, printing seed labels and advertising, purchase of bulk seed potatoes plus other bits of equipment we might need). It is currently estimated that up to £2k will be required. Printed envelopes will be available for people to put in saved seeds for free. Lots of varieties of potatoes are required, including heritage varieties, and these may not all be sold. YD suggested that these could be planted and then sold. AMcK said that the James Hutton Institute (JHI) could also have a role. **ACTION: SP to send potato dealer information to LSh.**
3. Planning to apply to Foundation Scotland and Tesco Bags of Help for funding within the next couple of weeks.
4. LSh will schedule the next Steering Group meeting in late November to start planning the event in earnest. This includes Megan (CHS), KR, Eilidh Scobbie (AGC) and Gill Butler-Orli from Glen Tanar.
6. Apple pressing  
The apple juice is going to be sold at local markets. In order to sell it locally in Tarland, it will be advertised by delivering flyers and with a poster on the noticeboard. The Pharmacy could also be approached to sell it as previously the Spar has not been interested. DHi will try and work out a way of hiring out the press next year but it may need premises.
7. Bee Group  
A Green Butterfly Award has been awarded to the group. Martin Leahy and YD have both passed their Scottish Bee Keepers Association (SBKA) Basic Bee Master Assessment with distinction. SBKA have asked if the Tarland Bee Group would like to be Associate Members and this was agreed. The subscription is a small outlay for the group's low number of members. Membership would allow access to SBKA speakers and honey judges etc. TDG would need to align the

constitution with their constitution. In principle this is OK, however, LSh suggested that we wait until the Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS) membership is decided as other changes to the constitution will be required. The Bee Group is looking for facilities and Coull Hall has been suggested. This building could also be suitable for the apple press as it has power and water.

#### 8. Future Group

The bee talk was well attended but the last talk wasn't so well attended. After school science club is going on. The group is in the process of setting up as a separate entity and will become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). There are five Trustees already.

#### 9. Composting

The current level of insurance should be fine for the driver of the estate tractor. Volunteers are OK and are covered to drive it. All drivers need to have a valid driver's licence. There is no upper age limit so long as the person has a licence. 25 is the lowest age limit (**ACTION: SP to check**). Are children covered for general volunteering? Is this the same for all groups? **ACTION: DHi to check all these details**. All groups need to be able to tell people what and who is or is not covered by TDG insurance. There needs to be a Risk Assessment update for the composting (**ACTION: DHa**). The last collection this year will be on 5 November and then a decision will be made as to whether another collection is need two weeks later.

#### 10. Bulb planting

YD has 3000 narcissi, 3000 crocus and 600 snowdrop bulbs. These are to be planted at the market stance and the last gap on the approach to the village. This will be the last planting. The date has been arranged and will be 6 November. Tubs could also be planted up for the square in the community garden.

#### 11. TDG facilitated brainstorming meeting

It was agreed that this is still a good idea. It would be a separate event outside the next TDG Trustees meeting. We need a facilitator. **ACTION: LSh to ask Mike Powell and AVA**. There is also an opportunity to do Trustee evaluations at the event using the charities methods. Late January was suggested. **ACTION: All to think of suggestions for what we want help with – small medium and long term plans, how to take on projects etc.**

## 12. Path network and Tarland Way

**ACTION: DHi to send sign text to SP for checking.** It was agreed that a Paths Day will be organised in the spring for voluntary maintenance. SP told the meeting that the costing deadline for MRT is soon so we need to send work items to SP asap. KD has been made aware of an app created by the Ramblers Association that may be useful in reporting path damage etc. (**ACTION: DHi to investigate at [ramblers.org.uk/advice/pathwatch-report-path-features-and-problems.aspx](http://ramblers.org.uk/advice/pathwatch-report-path-features-and-problems.aspx)**).

## 13. Tarland Trails expansion

An update was tabled from CR. There is £311 in the budget still to spend (Foundation Scotland - Flood Recovery Fund) so he is going to purchase a notice board to display the local facilities e.g. toilet, The Commercial etc. The MRT, the Steering Group and Sandy Dalgarno met with Paul Masson on 26 September. There has been no progress on the lease for shooting yet. There will still be some roe shooting possible at dawn and dusk to avoid the mountain bikers. The Feasibility Study will be starting in earnest after the October school holidays and will be completed by the end of November/first week in December. The River Dee Trust (RDT) has been informally consulted about the trail river crossings. DHi attended the Aberdeen/shire cluster meeting regarding mountain bike trail development. Funding is being pursued from the Aviva Community Fund, Awards For All and SportScotland. Crowdfunding is still an option.

## 14. Community Garden

All fine. Nothing to report.

## 15. Website

All fine. Tarland Welfare Trust (TWT) and the Cromar Community Council (CCC) are willing to make an appropriate contribution, amount to be decided, towards Sandy Cooper's fee.

## 16. Tapestry

No news. Another group is interested in our ideas.

## 17. Film Club

All fine. A projector and screen for the main hall is planned; Nigel Healey of TWT needs to consult the Film Club.

## 18. Membership

No applications.

19. Accounts, grants, awards and funding

The list of grants and awards etc. is still in progress; CR is waiting for it to be returned to him by Peter Craig. This will be set up like the SportScotland system and will be used as a database. The accounts are all looking OK.

20. AOCB

Three memos were agreed as follows with only one minor amendment (**ACTION: KD**):

- Election of Trustees;
- Guests at Trustees Meetings; and
- Decisions Taken Between Trustees Meetings.

SP reminded KD that we need to look at the wetland management again.

KD suggested looking at the graveyard for biodiversity enhancement.

LSt suggested the Green Graveyard option could be looked at again.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 8 December.