



**TARLAND DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

Charity No.SCO41598. Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

## **Minutes of the Tarland Development Group Trustees Meeting**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019 at 7.30pm  
The MacRobert Trust Office, Tarland**

### **1. Attendees and apologies**

Present (7 Trustees): Kate Redpath (KR) (Chair), Dave Hirst (DH<sub>i</sub>), Simon Power (SP), Lizzy Shepherd, (LS), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Ana Pena del Valle (APV), Annie McKee (AMK), Megan Albon (MA) (Development Officer)

Apologies (3 Trustees): Kathy Dale (KD), Denise Hansford (DH<sub>a</sub>), Chris Redmond (CR)

### **2. Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising.

### **3. Decisions Between Meetings**

There were no decisions between meetings.

### **4. Membership**

There were no new membership applications.

### **5. Cromar Community Council**

There were no points raised in relation to the Cromar Community Council (CCC).

### **6. Tarland Community Housing**

SP reported back on a meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June with Joe Gribbens (JG) of Community Housing Scotland (CHS), who has been commissioned by the MacRobert Trust (MRT) to produce a business plan for the housing project. JG reported that his work showed signs that the housing project would be financially viable, and that he is currently putting together a number of scenarios based on mixes of various tenancy types.

Two main grant funds have been identified to subsidise the housing: the Scottish Land Fund (SLF) and the Rural Housing Fund (RHF). The next meeting of the SLF is in September, with submissions required by mid-August.

TDG will arrange a meeting for those interested in being part of a new community housing organisation, which has yet to be formally constituted. JG will be invited, progress on the business plan will be reviewed, and the SLF question will be considered in greater detail. This meeting is planned for the beginning of August. TDG Trustees will then meet to discuss the implications of



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what has been presented at the meeting, especially in relation to whether an application to SLF should be submitted under the TDG banner.

**ACTION: MA to arrange a meeting with Joe Gribbens of CHS to discuss the draft business plan and SLF funding, at which the follow-up meeting for TDG Trustees will be arranged.**

AMK reported that she and Joanna Fraser were putting together an application to the Nationwide Foundation to fund a project manager post for the housing project.

### 7. Tarland Trails

There was no update on Tarland Trails.

### 8. Tarland Bee Group

YD gave an update on the Tarland Bee Group's (TBG) activities.

TBG were awarded a grant of £15,000 to build a new Education Facility (formerly known as the 'Bee Shed') at the new apiary site. This brings the fundraising to nearly 50%.

Several members of TBG volunteered in the Scottish Beekeepers' Association (SBA) tent at the Royal Highland Show last month, giving TBG a presence at this national event.

Due to increasing demand, several new hives have been purchased to lease to new members.

Six TBG-reared queens were given to TBG members, showing how the queen-rearing programme is beginning to improve the self-sufficiency of the group.

TBG are working with the Scottish Native Honey Bee Society (SNHBS) in reintroducing the native British black bee *Apis mellifera mellifera* (Amm) to more areas in Scotland. DNA testing results from the SNHBS showed that the queens reared in northeast bee groups, which are being released at the Cabrach, are from extremely good stock.

Aberdeen and District Beekeepers' Association (ADBKA) made a visit to the new TBG apiary and were very impressed.

Martin Leahy is currently in Slovakia, having been selected to represent TBG, SBA and Scotland at the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB).

YD recently passed her SBA Module 2 – Honeybee Forage and Products. YD has now passed five modules and will be presented with her Intermediate Certificate in Beekeeping at the SBA AGM. TBG's oldest member Michael Zappert also passed his SBA Basic Beemaster Certificate.



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### **9. Wetlands**

KD sent an update via email. She has received detailed comments on the draft data collation report back from Susan Cooksley at the Dee Catchment Partnership (DCP) and will discuss these comments with her in due course. SP has responded initially to the draft report and Steve Redpath has acknowledged receipt. The Wetland Sub-group has a meeting on Monday 8 July, at which the draft report will be discussed in detail. The MRT have contributed an additional £500 to the study.

### **10. Food and Music Festival**

The Food and Music Festival Sub-group (FMF) were successful in their grant application to Marr Area Partnership (MAP) for £750 towards the new Community Kitchen project, which will be launched at this year's festival.

A date for the volunteers' meeting for the festival has been set for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Willing volunteers are encouraged to attend this meeting. The festival dates are 20-22 September.

### **11. Apple Pressing**

There was nothing to report on apple pressing.

### **12. Sub-group Policy**

LS provided useful amendments to MA's latest draft of the TDG sub-group policy. These included a better definition of which TDG projects qualify as sub-groups – those with their own membership; streamlining the complaints procedure; and reinforcing the need for sub-groups to adhere to TDG procedures and policies.

**ACTION: MA to redraft the sub-group policy and circulate.**

### **13. Tarland Climate Crisis Group (TCCG) – report on the People's Assembly**

MA reported on the TCCG People's Assembly event at which she presented on behalf of TDG. The event drew to light new plans for a Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP), the feasibility of which is currently being explored between TCCG, Tarland Future Group (TFG) and MRT.

AMK suggested that it may be well matched for funding from the Macaulay Development Trust, which is themed this year to focus on land use and climate change.



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### **14. Accounts, grants, awards and funding**

TDG submitted an application to the Scottish Government's Investing in Communities Fund (ICF) for a continuation of staff funding.

**ACTION: MA to follow up with Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS) on when the results of the application to the ICF will be known.**

### **15. Governance**

No further issues of governance were discussed.

### **16. AOB**

There was no further business.

### **17. Date of next meeting**

Aside from the housing-specific meetings planned for the beginning of August, the next meeting will be the AGM, which will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. It was decided that alongside the routine programme of the AGM, several TDG projects would be presented to make the event more interesting and attractive to members and to the community. All members of the sub-groups will be invited, and the event will be publicised to the community online and through postering.