



Tarland Development Group Trustees Meeting

**Tuesday 10th May 2016 at 7.30pm
Cromar Court, Tarland**

MINUTES

1. Welcome and apologies

Present: Lindsay Stewart (LSt) (Chair), Lizzy Shepherd (LSh), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Denise Hansford (DH_a), Jan Healey (JH), Chris Redmond (CR), Peter Craig (PC), Simon Power (SP), Annie McKee (AMcK), Kate Redpath (KR), Kathy Dale (KD) (Minutes)

Apologies: David Hirst (DH_i)

2. Matters arising

Seed Swap Initiative – this now has a committee and events are kicking off soon.

Spring Market – this was very successful and probably the busiest ever, which shows that the additional advertising paid off.

3. Open Day

The publicity material was tabled and looks great – cost £613. The tables and the layout are all organized and names have been printed for each table. Road signs are up and an advert has been placed in the Piper.

4. Future Group

DH_i (via e-mail) summarised the first year. The final financial position will be about £300 in credit, although this is what was received in sponsorship, so without this the group would have been around break-even. The talks were all reasonably well attended and well received. This first year should be considered a success. Next year Lesley Ellis wants to carry on with a similar programme, but also to start a science club at Tarland School (who are enthusiastic) and Aboyne School (who haven't replied). These would probably be programming clubs. There are some financial implications - the schools already have iPads and laptops but might need

some of the programmable units called data bits (the cost of these should be low). The main problem is getting enough volunteers but Dave Harper is apparently interested which would be a good start. There is also the possibility of starting up amateur radio and astronomy clubs. Lesley would like the Future Group to continue as part of TDG, at least for another year. This is mainly because it means there is no need to set up as a separate organisation with a constitution, bank account and accounts etc. but also because it will be easier to apply for money if this becomes necessary and also she feels less isolated as part of a bigger group. DHi feels that this should be allowed. He doesn't see any financial risk for TDG and he knows that Lesley is well aware of the issues with working with children. The Future Group certainly fits in with the aims of TDG and it is doing something positive for the community.

LSh stated that the Future Group committee should organize meetings for when the TDG Trustee can make it. DHi reports to TDG Trustee meetings therefore he needs to be fully aware of the workings of the group. DHa thinks that the talks are excellent and CR thinks that the workshops are good too. Funding would have to be channeled through us unless they were a charity. Accountability is important. CR is still happy to be on the committee (and therefore also needs to be able to attend meetings). It was agreed that the Future Group can be part of TDG for another year with the following specifications that must be met:

1. Appropriate advice should be obtained from Community Learning and Development (CLD) (Susan McGregor in Aboyne) on working with children.
2. Committee meetings should be arranged so that DHi and CR can attend.

ACTION: DHi to contact Lesley Ellis with the above decision and specifications.

TDG can provide advice on how to get set up as a charity, which is not difficult. The way the Future Group has been set up could set a precedent for other groups or projects not directly generated by the TDG Trustees, so that they could be under TDG for the first year. It was agreed that discussion on this topic should be deferred until the next meeting.

5. Food and Music Festival

Plans for this are coming along nicely, with lots of participants booked and most of the infrastructure arranged. SP can contact the tenant farmers to let them know about it and to encourage them to come along. Advertising is planned on 'Out for the Weekend' on the radio. Also the TV programme 'Landward' may be interested in doing a feature – SP has the director's contact details. **ACTION: SP to pass on contact details to AMcK.** Nick Nairn might also be interested. CR suggested that he could organize something at Tarland Trails on the same weekend to bring in more people and this will be considered. Tarland Community Garden (TCG) will be open as part of the Open Gardens scheme. The field by Drummy Wood has been

offered for parking again by SP. Other suggestions were the Ice cream lady and the Decidedly Tasty people, who could be in TCG?

6. Tarland Trails

A maintenance day has been held. The donations post has taken much more in the last month as there is now a minimum donation of £1. Brown tourist signs have been agreed for the bridge – cost £288. **ACTION: CR to write a thank-you letter to all those who have helped over the past year.** Grass seed for the car park is needed and wheelbarrows are to be purchased. Grants have been applied for. The first ideas for Tarland Trails 2 (TT2) were put forward at the spring market in April and this will be repeated at the Open Day. There will be a TT2 public consultation, which Marr Area Partnership (MAP) will facilitate and Katrina Farquhar has been invited to chair the meeting. The preliminary date for this is 27 June 2016, 7.30 in the MacRobert Hall. A 'Special Landscape Area' designation may be placed on the Howe of Cromar so there could be planning restrictions. Tarland has been invited by Cycle Scotland to be a Cycling and Sustainable Community – we would have to apply and the deadline is next week. There could be £20,000 of funding available if we were successful. It was suggested that this could be applied for next year due to the short deadline. Graeme Ross is keen to have a MTB club in Tarland and TDG might be able to help. There was a meeting of Drummy Wood Users last night and the minutes will be circulated in due course. Ian Ross wants a committee for Drummy Wood – CR would be the TDG Trustee on the committee.

7. Bee Group

Ian Ross is now in the Bee Group and he is proving to be a real asset. There is now a Steering Group. There are 34 members split into three member groups. Events are planned for the next few months. The group will lease hives for people to have in their own gardens. There are probably 35+ hives in the Howe now.

8. Community Garden

Membership fees are being collected for this year. There should be another committee meeting soon. The irrigation will be put on soon.

9. Composting

Two rounds have now been done. Gary Coutts will do the turning again. The MacRobert Trust will bring the finished compost down to the garden. It may be possible to use the Community Payback people to weed and bag the compost.

10. Path network and Tarland Way

The people counters need new batteries. SP to find out how the strip along the Tarland Burn is managed so that it continues to support a range of wildflowers. Ideally it should be cut twice a year, with the second cut after the seed has set.

11. Website

Sandy Cooper is taking over the website from DF Communications. The copyright is currently with DF Communications so we need to discuss this with Sandy. At the moment we should send items for the website to Sandy or to JH. The new website is live now with logins. For the Open Day there will be a projector and screen running the home page of the website all the time and a laptop will be used to show people how to search etc.

12. Tapestry

The group went to Dundee to see the Great Tapestry of Scotland again for further ideas and inspiration. The design is partly drawn up by LSt.

13. Information board

PC has completed and submitted a Paths For All grant application for the main board and two smaller satellite boards plus leaflets. The maximum grant is £1,500 but there is also an application in to the MacRobert Trust for £1,000. We have to match fund the £2,500 estimated cost with in kind contributions. PC will paint the main board frame. The board on the Pharmacy wall has been painted – thanks to Kathleen McFarlane.

14. Membership

No new applications.

15. Accounts

Looking healthy. CR has suggested to DHi that the allocation of funds is clearly labelled so future grant applications don't need to justify the money we have in the account.

16. AOCB

1. Lots of bands have been in touch with AMcK and she suggests that TDG does something with the Tarland Welfare Trust to put these music events on. Shooglenifty want to come back and others are keen to play in Tarland in the autumn. Could we put on a winter concert series?
2. Inspiring Aberdeenshire Awards. LSt has been interviewed on camera around the village for our promotional video, which we can have. LSt and KD to attend the event on 17 June 2016.
3. The Marr Area Committee have grants of up to £10,000 available with a deadline of 15 July 2016.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 22 June 2016.