



TARLAND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Charity No.SCO41598. Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Tarland Development Group Trustees Meeting

**Tuesday 6th September 2016 at 7.30pm
Cromar Court, Tarland**

MINUTES

1. Welcome and apologies

Welcome to Aileen Longino and David Souter.

Present: Kate Redpath (KR) (Chair), Kathy Dale (KD) (Minutes), Lindsay Stewart (LSt), Dave Hirst (DH), Chris Redmond (CR), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Denise Hansford (DHa), Jan Healey (JH), Annie McKee (AmcK).

Apologies: Simon Power (SP), Lizzy Shepherd (LSh).

2. Matters arising

See items below.

3. Bowling Green

David Souter presented his case for retaining the Bowling Green in the village. A questionnaire is being sent out and Cromar Chronicles has an item in it. Both will go to every household in the village. Closing date 20 September. An artificial green that would last 10-12 years is an alternative to mown grass. A

Management Group needs to be set up but the Green would be open to everyone.

The previous Bowling Club became unsustainable due to lack of members. Some old bowlers are disappointed that the Green is closing but maintenance was an

issue as it needed to be mown three times a week. Could it be multi-use –

croquet, petanque etc? Artificial turf would be on top of the earth base with the grass stripped off. Bowlers would have to have their own bowls although there

could be Green bowls available. Dave has contacted Councilor Katrina Farquhar

and she is supportive. Lesley Ellis is also interested in supporting the project and the Cromar Community Council (CCC) are pleased that someone is taking it forward. Depending on who is in the Management Group the project may not need TDG help to apply for grant funding. Steve Roberts and Frank Yule are on board already. It was suggested that Dave waits for the results of the questionnaire and comes back to TDG with a group of people who are committed and a costing for the work, the turf and the Green bowls. The project has to be self-sustaining. Aberdeen Voluntary Action (AVA) may be able to help.

4. Tarland Trails expansion

Chris Redmond tabled a paper on progress to date. Funding has now been secured for the Feasibility Study and a consultant has been appointed. Pre-application discussions have been held with Aberdeenshire Council. Archaeology and ecology studies are required. The biggest problem is the lease as there is a shooting tenant that pays £5k a year. Advice needs to be sought on the leasing arrangements for the trails – this could be from the MacRobert Trust (MRT) or the Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust (COAT). The income from car parking will have to pay for maintenance and a ranger as well as rent so it will be tight. However, the landowner does not want the project to fail so negotiations are ongoing. It is likely that a solicitor will be needed. Further funding is being sought from Awards For All, SportScotland and crowd funding. Crowd funding is positive and by people that want to see the project happen – it's not investing. There may also be sponsorship from Cycle Highlands or other appropriate body. It would need to be discussed how any sponsors are advertised. It would likely be a disc on each waypost and on the main signage to keep it discreet. It was agreed that the Sport Scotland Facilities Fund outline application could be made.

5. Food and Music Festival

The full programme is now available and the publicity is out. Ticket sales have started. There is a volunteers meeting on 19 September at 7.30 in the Upper Hall. Homebakes will be required. A banner for the 'Tasty Tarland Tent' is being prepared by LSt. TDG will have a small stall at the market.

6. Future Group

There is a Management Group meeting on 7 September. The talks start on Wednesday 21 September and the first one is about bees. An after school science

club will start in Tarland – this is a Tarland School project with help from the Future Group and will be free of charge.

7. Seed Swap Group

LSh (via email). There will be a Seed Saving Workshop in Tarland Community Garden (TCG) on Saturday 15th October, from 10-12, free, lunch provided. There will also be a talk on the Millennium Seed Bank on Saturday 22nd October at the MacRobert Hall, probably 2.30 (tbc), free. The group might need to pay a small amount for the travel costs of the speaker plus the hall hire. LSh has asked the Horticultural Society and the Garden Club for their £50 donations to cover this. The next Steering Group meeting will be held in October some time and a February event will be planned. Once the cost for the event has been estimated LSh will do a funding application to cover it.

8. Bee Group

The party last Saturday was well attended. They are about to extract honey which will be ready for the market. It has been a really good heather year. Members of the group have been on a queen rearing day, followed up with a talk on how to queen rear within the group. Some investment would be required but the group would sell queens to be self-funding. YD is to study for a nationally recognized bee certificate and it was agreed that this would be funded by TDG – the first five modules would cost £200. This is consistent with Clause 6 in the Constitution, which states that money may be paid to Members if it *is done in direct furtherance of the organisation's charitable purposes*, which are stated in Clause 4: *the advancement of community development etc.*

9. Community Garden

There is a meeting on Thursday 8 September for the Open Garden on 24 September. Bakers are required. Apples will be available for pressing and from other sources. DHi is hoping to have a big apple press on Friday 16 September at Strathweltie to be ready for the market. TCG members might want to have some apples for eating so not all will be used. Orders for juice can also be taken at the market.

10. Composting

TDG thanked SP for taking the finished compost down to TCG. DHa is now in charge of composting but JH will continue to do the rota (DHa will do the first check). Small karibiners need to be purchased for the trailer tailgate.

11. Path network and Tarland Way

DHi and Peter Craig are still in the process of getting the leaflets and boards done but they should have the finished images this week. Two signs are required for the Tarland Way. Peter, although he has resigned from TDG, will continue to do the counters for the Tarland Way. It was agreed that an open day for paths maintenance should be organized after the Food and Music Festival.

12. Website

The handover from DF Communications to Sandy Cooper is now complete. Sandy will be charging TDG £500 per annum. Could this be 50/50 with the Tarland Welfare Trust? Could there be other contributions, such as from CCC? We are paid up with DF Communications until February if we need further support. The long term plan is for others to be able to make changes.

13. Tapestry

At the pencil stage.

14. Accounts

All healthy.

[David Souter left the meeting.]

15. Registering TDG with HMRC

In order to receive donations TDG must register with Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). There appear to be no consequences for TDG apart from the possible requirement to complete a tax return. Charities don't pay tax anyway. TDG could benefit by not having to pay VAT but again, charities don't pay VAT. The overall benefits could be high if we can ask for donations and receive Gift Aid. DHi can provide more information if required. This was approved.

16. Film Club

There are currently 27 members and more are expected to join. There is also guest membership. Nobody is in charge. The films will be in the hall calendar. The Club is not allowed to advertise or say which film is showing. SurveyMonkey is used to decide the film, which is shown on the first Thursday of every month.

17. AOCB

CR is compiling a list of grants applied for and won for future reference. **ACTION: CR to email trustees individually to add what funding bodies they have applied to.**

Aileen Longino is currently working with the Curling Club and they are looking for funding for the clubhouse but can't apply to MRT as they are not a charity. MRT suggested they do it through TDG but this might compromise TDG's applications under the time bar. It was suggested that the Curling Club should become a charity.

Aberdeenshire Youth Volunteer Awards – CR to nominate Jamie Price for his work on Tarland Trails.

Green Butterfly Awards – YD to nominate the Bee Group.

[Aileen Longino left the meeting.]

Bulb planting plans for this year – snowdrops and narcissi.

Does the constitution need to be amended in order to clarify the procedure for the election of office bearers? What is the procedure for taking decisions between meetings via email? It was agreed that the office bearers would meet and compile a memo for the procedures rather than amending the Constitution.

ACTION: KD to arrange a suitable date in the near future.

What is the future of TDG? It was suggested that a separate meeting with an external facilitator should be arranged over the winter for a brain-storming session. **ACTION: AMcK offered to find someone to facilitate.**

Guests at Trustees meetings - a protocol is required. The office bearers will discuss this in their meeting above.

18. Membership

David Souter – proposed CR, seconded LS.

Aileen Longino – proposed KR, seconded AMcK.

Alexander Fyfe – proposed JH, seconded YD.

All accepted.

ACTION: KD to email all three. ACTION: KD to draft a standard membership acceptance email for the future.

Date of next meeting: 25 October 2016.