

Minutes of the Tarland Development Group Trustees Meeting Wednesday 27th February 2019

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Kate Redpath (KR) – Chair, Kathy Dale (KD), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Denise Hansford (DHa), David Hirst (DHi), Simon Power (SP), Ana Peña del Valle (APV), Lizzy Shepherd (LS) and Guy Haslam (GH).

Apologies: Jo Fraser (JF), Annie McKee (AMcK), Chris Redmond (CR).

2. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

3. Decisions Between Meetings

There were no decisions between meetings.

4. Membership

There were no new applications for membership.

5. Cromar Community Council

There had been no new minutes since the last meeting. CCC are planning to hold a meeting on the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan (LDP) on 11th March.

6. Tarland Community Housing

SP gave an update on the Housing Group. SP, JF and GH had met with Community Housing Scotland (CHS). CHS had agreed to provide a proposal to complete a feasibility study which would be funded by the MacRobert Trust. It was estimated that this study would take around three months after which the Housing Group would present the proposed way ahead to the Trustees.

7. Tarland Trails

GH provided an update on the Project. The application to the Rural Infrastructure Fund for the Smallburn car park was currently being reviewed with the announcement due on 4th April. The Trustees were concerned that there was a possible scenario where the car park application was successful, but the group had not got sufficient funding to complete the trails. It was agreed to review this if the car park application was approved and it was suggested that the car park could be delayed for a year while the project applied for funding for the trails.

The group would continue to apply for funds, particularly for WREN funding.



8. **Tarland Bee Group**

YD gave an update on the Bee Group's activities. Work is due to start at the new apiary site around 20th March and should take around five days. The group are in the process of getting the Building Warrant for the Bee Hive Shelter and hope to have the shelter in place in April. The lease is in the final stages of agreement (LS and SP).

The Bee Group has received a grant from the MacRobert Trust and will start fund raising for Phase 2 (the teaching shed) when Phase 1 is in place.

YD and SP will agree the lease for the Strathweltie Steading and Bothy when it is required.

The Beginners' Beekeeping Course started in late February.

9. **Seed Swap and Potato Day**

The Seed Swap and Potato Day took place on Saturday 23rd February and was a great success with over 250 people attending (a 25% increase on the previous year). The event raised £1,600, which will fund next year's event.

10. **Wetlands**

The Dee Catchment Partnership has agreed to fund a study to pull together all the available data and identify any gaps.

11. **Composting Group**

The Composting Group will celebrate its 10th Anniversary on 28th March with a party for members and volunteers at The Commercial Hotel between 5.30 and 7.30. The first collection in 2019 will be on 27th April.

12. **Local Development Plan (LDP) Consultation**

GH agreed to update TDG's response to the LDP consultation incorporating the comments he has received.

13. **Accounts / Funding**

KR provided an update on DTAS funding. DTAS have stated that they are planning to provide three months of funding for the three TDG staff positions. As GH is stepping down due to other commitments, KR suggested approaching another potential candidate. She agreed to contact DTAS to confirm that the Group could recruit a new Development Officer for three months.

GH agreed to update the TDG Inventory, as opposed to having an Asset Register.



14. **Development Morning**

The meeting reviewed the notes and actions from the Development Morning, in particular:

- The thank-you letter to the MacRobert Trust had been well received.
- There is a need to consolidate the projects where possible and to highlight that they were completed by TDG.
- The Trustees liked the project flow diagrams that had been added to the Trustees' Guidance Document.
- GH to add in a section on how sub-committees operate to the Trustee Guidance Document.
- Groups would encourage their members to apply to become members of TDG.

15. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th April in the MacRobert Hall.