



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

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm  
Online**

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

Present (12): K Redpath (KR) (Chair), D Hirst (DH), K Dale (KD), E Shepherd (ES), Y Davidson (YD), Annie McKee (AM), Liz Cooper (LzC), Linda Cunningham (LC), Julian Davies (JD), C Redmond (CR), Ana Pena del Vale (APV), Megan Albon (MA)

Apologies (1): Simon Power

### **2. Matters arising**

None.

### **3. Decisions between meetings**

There were no decisions between meetings.

### **4. Membership**

There were no new applications for membership.

### **5. Cromar Community Council and Cromar Community Helpline**

The helpline is now looking for new volunteers as with the latest lock-down they anticipate a surge in demand.

### **6. Cromar Food Waste Project**

The Food Waste Project was due to have an event on the 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> January but this has been impeded by lock-down. Waste food will be bagged up and available to collect from the Bowling Pavilion, and it is hoped that those who formerly accessed the service will do so in this way.

The group is buying a fridge for the kitchen and a chest freezer for the basement in the MacRobert Hall. Tarland Welfare Trust (TWT) may apply for more money from the Aberdeenshire Community Food Fund to replace the cooker in the hall. LC has undergone a Food Hygiene Course.

The Food Waste Project may collaborate with the Cromar Community Helpline to enable food to be delivered to those shielding or unable to get out in the winter weather, and as a means for people to contact the group. They are also setting up a gmail account for the project.

### **7. Tarland Community Housing**

The TCH Project has drafted the constitution of the new body and this has been sent to the Scottish Land Fund (SLF) to make sure that it is in line with their funding criteria. Sam Foster, Housing Development Worker, is now working to incorporate their feedback into the final





document, particularly to emphasise the wider community benefits brought about through access to low cost housing. Sam is also working on setting up a bank account for the group, which will eventually become a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation).

AM proposed that TCH apply through TDG for further funding to keep Sam in post after May. The Trustees approved this proposal, provided that it was included in the application that once TCH is set up as a SCIO the funding is transferred to them and they become Sam's employers/clients. This means that Sam cannot be a Trustee of the TCH SCIO.

### **8. Tarland Wetlands**

The Wetlands Group is due to meet later this week. Work is continuing on the Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) bird hide and wetland, the possible locations for water storage bunds, and management of other wetland areas on the MacRobert Trust estate. Outreach includes sharing trail-cam videos on Facebook and YouTube.

### **9. Tarland Trails**

Work is to start on the bell mouth for the car park of Tarland Trails 2. The winning tender was less expensive than anticipated. CR is now chasing up the planning department to allow work to begin.

### **10. Paths and access**

LzC reported that a Facebook page has been set up for the Tarland Paths Group. No group maintenance sessions are planned until the threat of Covid-19 to the area has eased.

### **11. Seed Swap**

Sixty-five people have placed orders for seed potatoes through Gone to Seed. They are due to arrive in late February or early March. The plan is for pick up to take place at the Community Garden. Whether or not this will be feasible given Covid-19 will be decided nearer the time.

### **12. Tarland Bee Group**

YD has joined a sub-committee for the Moir Library in Edinburgh, as well as continuing to work with the Roslin Institute on their study of the antimicrobial properties of honey. This latter study aims to produce teaching packs for schools and community groups. Lindsay Stewart continues to work on paintings of butterflies on slates which will be put up around the Community Apiary as identification guides. The Tapestry Group have also been working on some botanical studies for the new Education Facility.

The Scottish Beekeeping Association (SBA) exams are to take place in April. The SBA has awarded YD a teaching certificate, in recognition of receiving both her Intermediate Beekeeping Certificate and the National Diploma in Beekeeping (NDB) Teaching Certificate.

YD plans to create podcasts for TBG and enquired what online storage space was available given that the Dropbox folder is full. JD has offered to look in to larger storage solutions.





MA is currently working with building contractors to draw up final designs for the Education Facility and submit these for approval to the Building Standards department of Aberdeenshire Council.

### **13. Spring Market**

It was decided that given the current uncertainty around Covid restrictions a decision over whether or not to hold a Spring Market will be postponed until the next meeting.

### **14. Tarland Food and Music Festival**

The FMF steering group have started to think about the 2021 festival. They are looking to take on new members to bring in new ideas and share the festival organization tasks. They intend to take on Shona Donaldson again as Festival Administrator. The first meeting is likely to be in early February.

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

DH has put together a new form to allow Trustees to claim expenses. These forms should be emailed to DH along with copies of any receipts.

### **16. Governance**

It was suggested that TDG's policies should be reviewed. MA will look into this and circulate any changes round the Trustees for comments.

KD has identified other governance documents which TDG might benefit from putting together, including a Social Media Policy, a Risk Register and a Skills Audit. MA will look into the Social Media Policy and the other documents can be done in due course.

### **17. AOB**

KD reported that Tarland Film Club is now on the Regional Screen Scotland Map.

### **18. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.