



## **Tarland Development Group Trustees Meeting**

**Wednesday 13th April 2022 at 7.30pm  
Upper Hall**

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Present: Chris Redmond (Chair) (CR), Dave Hirst (DH), Kathy Dale (Minutes) (KD), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Lizzy Shepherd (LS), Liz Cooper (LzC), Julian Davies (JD), Linda Cunningham (LiC).

Apologies: Ana Pena del Valle (AP).

#### **2. Matters arising**

A meeting has been arranged for 27 April at 7.30pm on Zoom with the Indemnity Insurance contact.

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

None.

#### **4. Membership**

There have been no new applications.

#### **5. Governance**

Simon Power has resigned as a Trustee. The Trustees expressed their gratitude to him for his long service to TDG and his commitment to the running of the organisation and its projects. The Trustees sincerely hope that the links between TDG and The MacRobert Trust will remain strong and that Simon will attend TDG Trustees meetings in the future when appropriate. The Trustees have also appreciated the use of the MRT office for meetings over the past few years.

DH to prepare a handover document for Treasurer so that there is another Trustee who is aware of the procedures.

KD to do the same for Secretary as she will be resigning at this year's AGM.

DH to ask Dave Muirhead for advice on Sharepoint.

#### **6. Tarland Trails**

Leaflet went to all Tarland village residents and key addresses.

Pre-start meeting with landowners on Wed 30th March.

Build started - car park (Thur 31st March) and trails (Mon 4th April).

In the news across the country (Tues 29th March).

Ecology largely unchanged. EnviroCentre doing twice weekly surveys.

Scottish Enterprise funding in bank.

Sport Scotland funding - to claim as we go.

Private donation – as we need.

Contractor expected to spend £350,000 in 60 days.

15 Early Warnings from contractor - Cost and/or Timescale and/or Quality issues.

Path to Tarland - on hold - cost up 300% based on council revisions. Further requests for help made.

Ecology work - weekly cost issue.

Drainage issue in car park.

VAT registration - DH exploring.

Path to Tarland and Orange trail excluded from scope to keep to budget if required.

Toilets ordered.

Parking meters in progress.

Signage costs coming in under estimate.

Woodland Trust - trees applied for and awarded (arriving in November).

Bee shed etc. - moving Friday by contractor (FOC).

Horse riders - lots of positive engagement again.

Pot holes at TT1 fixed in moving machinery to TT2 site (FOC).

Accused/reported to Councilor Paul Gibb (and Planning) for breach of conditions (before we had started and not breached any conditions).

Discussions with resident re mitigations.

Emails from Simon Power have been/are being addressed - bike users, motorised vehicles, walking routes/bike routes map.

Enquiry from a bike shop about setting up in Tarland.

NESTRANS - application for £10,000 (panel decision in two weeks time and more info requested).

MacRobert Trust - request to meet Chris Hockley re funding from MRT.

Farmer has sown crop. Longer wait for field or compensate.

CR and Dave Woods secured full funding for a chainsaw course that they are doing this week.

## **7. Tarland Show**

CR spoke to Stephen Young, the retiring Chairperson.

All directors and committee have stood down from Tarland Show.

They have handed everything to the solicitor at the moment (Raeburn Christie and Wallace).

There was a plea on social media for new members/committee in January. A few people came forward after the date that they had set for interested parties to get in touch.

They have sold the toilets, dancefloor and the shed back to MRT.

They have also passed on the gates/benches to other shows but with the option to get them back if the show is resurrected.

They have given the trophies to MRT.

There is a significant sum in the Tarland Show accounts (after sales complete).

Stephen is keen to come to a TDG Trustees meeting in May and discuss the situation. CR to invite him along.

CR also spoke to local individuals and has had an email exchange with Simon Welfare from Cromar Community Council.

Local individuals seem to be keen (and to gather others) for a smaller gala type event, back at the show's original location, maybe this year but very unlikely.

There are a number of options that could be discussed at the next Trustees meeting with Stephen.

## **8. Cromar Food Waste Project**

### Food Pop-ups

The March pop-ups had similar numbers attending, but, whereas we normally have quite a lot of food left over for the next month, we were completely wiped out. The stock at the Aboyne Fareshare Depot continues to have a more limited range of food, but they are supplementing this with donations so we can still give a reasonable choice. And we in turn, supplement our supplies with baked goods, fresh produce, and some frozen meat goods picked up from Aboyne Coop, all of which would otherwise go to waste.

From now until July we are trialling running pop-ups every two weeks. Next Pop-ups are 25th/26th April, 15th May and 30th/31st May.

### Future Events

The fun day at the pavilion which was scheduled for Saturday 9th April was postponed till Sunday 15th May to coincide with Aberdeenshire Health and Wellbeing Festival. This is joint with Tarland Climate Crisis group once again. The theme for this year's Aberdeenshire festival is 'Community and Loneliness', so we are actively hoping to engage folk to join in the activities and get to know their community. As well as our pop up, we will be serving free soup and bread/cake/snacks, and there will be football, pickle ball and tennis, boules, e-cargo trike rides, and a repair shop. There are a lot of new people in Tarland, and this will be a good place to show the community what TDG is up to, and how to get involved.

The only other event planned so far is the Community Kitchen at the Tarland Food and Music Festival.

### Growth

The Investing in Communities Fund (ICF) application that we have been drawing up since the last meeting has highlighted a possible plan for improving our community's food security and resilience and which would allow the Food Waste Project to deliver regular cooking and general food education workshops, alongside a similar push to educate and encourage folk in the community to grow their own food, and/or use local produce where possible. Regardless of whether or not we receive funding from ICF, we now have something to work towards. ICF funding bid ongoing. Need to submit in May. Will start in 2023.

## **9. Tarland Wetlands**

### WWTW wetland area and hide

The drain is not functioning as it should and raising water levels. Simon Power to look into it. Site to be topped in the autumn. 130 lapwings and curlews there in mid March.

### Tarland Burn

RSPB leading the bid for the NatureScot Nature Restoration Fund. Approval from MRT Directors and TDG Trustees would be required.

### Ordie wetland

On 26 March a scrape was dug, which is about 12m x 8m and c.0.8-1m deep, with shallow edges. There are a couple of camera traps on it to see what might drop in. There's now a small dam in place aswell, with the aim of

preventing the moss from gradually draining and drying during the summer (two more cameras traps here). A water rail has been heard calling and there was a pair of curlews displaying last week.

### Outreach

Cromar Future Group Ecohunt on 20 March. NESBiP seminar on 27 March. Wellbeing Festival on 15 May.

### **10. Paths and Access**

Nothing to report.

### **11. Tarland Bee Group**

Bees moved from Smallburn to Oldtown.

Bees moved from Smallburn to Lease Hive site.

The bees were moved to accommodate the start of Tarland Trails 2. It's a little early in the year to move bees so we have had losses, but we will hopefully make increase in colonies this year to compensate.

Our beginners classes start at the end of April.

Membership will be open for the 2022/23 season this month.

Members are making bird/squirrel/hedgehog boxes to put up at the Oldtown and Lease Hive sites.

A huge thank-you to all our members who have worked very hard, volunteering to get Oldtown ready for the planning inspection and to move all our bees from Smallburn. All main works have been completed including disabled ramp, plumbing, water treatment, water heater and electrics. Building warrant amendment accepted and completion certificate received.

### **12. Composting**

Starting on Saturday.

### **13. Food and Music Festival**

Shona is in control. All bands booked bar one. Two grants have been applied for. There may be a Year of Scotland's Stories event as part of the Festival.

### **14. NESCAN**

KD to check the membership criteria. KD to attend the next meeting in case JD can't make it.

### **15. Cromar Community Council**

Nothing to report.

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

SE money has been deposited (as above). Vattenfall, Marr Area Committee, MRT to be approached. Two for F&MF (as above).

### **17. AOB - Aberdeenshire Wellbeing Festival 9th - 15th May**

Covered in Food Waste item above.

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

The next meeting will be on 25 May.