

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRATHERRICK AND FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST HELD AT WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE AND MS TEAMS AT 7.00 p.m. ON WEDNESDAY 11 JANUARY 2023

Present	Kirsty Balfour (KB), Catriona Fraser (CF), Ken Sinclair (KS), Maire Brown (MB), Mark Sutherland (MS), Malcolm Stewart (MMS),
Apologies	Maureen McGuire (MM), Gareth Jones (GJ), Chris Gehrke (CG)
Chair	Catriona Fraser (CF)
In Attendance	Tony Foster (TF)
Non-attendance	Susan Greer (SG)
Minutes	Laura Walker-Knowles (LWK)
Declarations of interest:	None.

A. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

B. MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2022

KB **PROPOSED** and CF **SECONDED** and the Minutes of the AGM held on 23 November 2022 were **AGREED** as a correct record **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

KS **PROPOSED** and MB **SECONDED** and the Minutes of the Post AGM Meeting held on 23 November were **AGREED** as a correct record **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

CF **PROPOSED** and KS **SECONDED** and the Minutes of Meeting held on 7 December 2022 were **AGREED** as a correct record **APPROVED** and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

New Director Training

KB will take the new Directors through the training on 24 January 2023.

New Laptops

The laptops for new Directors are in the process of being ordered.

Broadband

TF e mailed CFWN re increasing visibility and will chase up a response.

Fee Note

The solicitors have sent additional information in relation to Inverfarigaig and TF is checking what the fees relate to.

Action: Assist update to MB e mails – LWK

Action: SAEs to Wildside – LWK

Action: Grant report – KB

Action: Invite staff to grant training/share PowerPoint – TF

Action: Speak to Lesley Mathieson re advertising - CF

C. PROJECT DIRECTORS

The Board worked through the Project Director list.

The Board discussed community group led projects with custodian Directors. TF added Forest School to the list (MS and KB) and Investments (KS). MB was added to grants, Sharon Ferguson to renewable funding and CF to Stronelairg (under renewable funding).

The Board noted there are plans to schedule a meeting with the Community Council in February 2023.

D. FINANCE

The Board noted the Finance Report.

E. TRUST MANAGER'S REPORT

TF took the Board through his report. The Board were pleased to note the opportunity to support Foyers Bay Radio.

The Board discussed the number of Knockie Trust cost-of-living grants applied for, noting that funding has now finished.

In relation to the business cost-of-living grants the Trust has received one further application bringing the total to two. Applications must tie in with the CAP.

The Board discussed the 'token' scheme operated by Greggs and the possibility of operating something similar in the area.

The Board discussed expanding the local car share scheme.

SW has been working on a project proposal to provide wood. There is a source that can be provided but it will be next winter. Food and fuel grants could be used.

The Board discussed storage of wood and the potential for delivery to Wildside. All the options are set out in SW's paper and TF will circulate.

Watertight works have commenced at Errogie today. The Board noted the complexity of the project has prohibited local contractors tendering. The Quantity Surveyor and Project Manager are local but not the tradesmen. The Board felt this was an opportunity lost for community engagement. However, this is only phase one and a pro-active approach in phase two could be used to get more local contractors involved. It was suggested as a matter of policy, a condition of the tender award could be to insist on local workers first, within a set radius and relative to one of the Trust's quantifiable outcomes. It was noted the procurement process stipulated in applications can exclude smaller local businesses who do not always have, or can afford, the time to complete complex applications. A roundtable discussion with the Trust and local tradesmen would be beneficial to highlight the complexities that they face and that potentially puts them off applying. The Board discussed local authorities' procurement rules.

Stratherrick Public Hall Committee

Work to finish by end of February 2023.

Foyers Toilets

Completion expected in March 2023. Additional works will use some of the contingency fund.

Errogie Bat Licence

The Bat Licence has been acquired.

Riverside Meeting

MS and CF reported on the Riverside meeting, and it was agreed to circulate the notes of the meeting to the Board and interested parties.

Housing Group

The Communities Housing Trust (CHT) is ready to announce the building plots at Inverfarigaig. The next meeting is on 18 January 2023.

Place Planning

The Board noted the report.

Winter Wonderland Survey

The Board were pleased to note the score of 9.1 out of 10 for the Winter Wonderland survey.

Storage and Lighting

The lighting at Wildside is to be reviewed and additional storage provided for users. TF suggested the Wildside Centre Group discuss and collate requirements and cost improved lighting. There is space for an additional cabinet and container. Costs will be covered from the Wildside budget with sub-budgets for each group's requirements collated with group input.

Action: Discuss transport with Kit – TF

Action: Circulate SW's paper – TF

<p><i>Action: Report on Errogie – CT</i> <i>Action: Meeting with local contractors – TF</i> <i>Action: Circulate procurement policy round the Board - LWK</i></p>
<p>E. A9 ACCOUNTANCY</p>
<p>The Board noted Heather Young from the Trust's Accountants, A9, would be attending the February meeting to discuss VAT and Charitable Status.</p>
<p>F. COST OF LIVING GRANT</p>
<p>The Board discussed the recent cost of living grant application. This is the second application received to the fund. The Board compared and discussed the application and the first received in relation to the guidelines. The applicant had some years ago received a non-constituted/constituted grant awards for a similar activity as applied for to the cost-of-living fund. There is a health and wellbeing aspect to the application and the Trust can subsidise businesses with this fund. The Board acknowledged SSE were clear that small businesses could be supported. TF took the Board through the costings in the application. The application should be strengthened to relate to the CAP.</p>
<p>G. AOCB</p>
<p><u>Foyers Bay</u> There is a steering group set up and the website is being updated with the current project lead contact information. MMS is keen to get the project going and tidy up the area. MMS will bring a proposal to move the abandoned boats from the shore after speaking to the steering group and incorporate what they would like to see actioned now. The Board noted this financial year's budgets were due to be set in the next few months and it would good for all Directors to update their objectives for the next financial year 2023/2024. For the benefit of the new Directors KB explained the overall budget setting process.</p> <p><i>Action: Send link to SharePoint to MMS – LWK</i> <i>Action: Remaining budget for Foyers Bay figure to MMS – TF</i></p>
<p><u>Bring and Buy Sale</u> Whitebridge Hotel would like to host a bring and buy sale. The Board discussed the idea and with the submission of a proposal, the Board would consider the idea further.</p> <p><i>Action: Request Whitebridge draft proposal – KS/TF</i> <i>Action: Pass information to Sarah Byrne to support – KS/TF</i></p> <p><u>Outdoor Bouncy Castle</u> There is an opportunity to purchase two bouncy castles, which if the Trust owned could form part of a hire of Wildside Centre. The Board discussed the opportunity and the associated liabilities and manpower. The Board declined the offer and a suggestion made for the Baby and Toddler group to apply to the Stronelairg fund.</p>

11/01/2023

<p><u>Stronelaig Fund</u> One last round of applications is expected to be reviewed in February before the Stronelaig fund ends. Currently there is £88,398 in the pot and forecast underspend is £66,000. Once the remaining funds are dispersed the underspend will be returned to the Community Council.</p>
<p>J. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Next meeting, 1 February 2023, 7 p.m. Hybrid – Wildside/MS Teams.</p>

The meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the meeting	
Signed Chair (Catriona Fraser)	Date