TGDT AGM

6th November 2019 (Draft)

Attending members: Tony Birchall, Scott Ashforth, Andrea Polak, Rosalind Tansley, Tricia Lawson, Mike Woolvin, Laurence Prime, Sam Robinson, John Shewan, Phil Rogers, Julie Rogers, Jeff Clare, Cathy Walker, Angela Burstow, Martin Hutchinson, Alexandra Negrea, Karen Birstwistle, Tilly Smith (TGDT Director), Alistair Sharp (TGDT Director), John Polak (TGDT Director), David Toovey (TGDT Director – Treasurer), Doug Nisbet (TGDT Director – Chair), Andy Wallace (TGDT Director).

Others in attendance: Kenny Harris, Lynn Robinson, Ian Walker, Murray Ferguson (CNPA), Joe Gribben (Highland Small Communities Housing Trust), Simon Ovenden (Crown Estate Scotland), Oli Giles (TGDT staff), Amy Woolvin (TGDT staff).

Apologies: Fiona Toovey, Jenny Herschell, Patricia Grant, Cathal & Caroline Breen, Val Ireland, Alison Shewan, Jennifer Stewart, Malcolm MacGarvin.

Welcome

Doug Nisbet opened the meeting and set out the purpose of the meeting. Before looking back over the 2018-2019 year. Doug stated that the trusts vision is for a vibrant and sustainable community, providing opportunities for employment, enterprise and cultural regeneration that can support the infrastructure necessary for a quality way of life.

Minutes of Previous AGM

Minutes of the 2018 AGM were presented by Tilly Smith, questions & queries invited. There being no comments the minute was proposed by Scott Ashforth and seconded by Andrea Polak, there were no matters arising.

The early meeting start time was highlighted by a member. If you would prefer a later start time, do feed it back.

Chair's Report

Doug Nisbet delivered the Chair's report highlighting the following points:

- The Discovery Centre and Hostel have been developed to support visitors and the community.
- The Oral History Project is now coming to a conclusion.
- The 2018 – 2022 Community Development Plan is now in it's first year.
- Consensus has been developed for the development plan projects.

Partnership is at the heart of everything the trust does and as a small organisation working in partnership enables us to exponentially increase our impact. The £3.6 million NLHF project is an excellent example of this and is coming to a conclusion with many of the 21 projects coming to fruition.
There have been a few issues with consensus in the last year with a major objection to TGDT's plans for the sustainability of the Discovery Centre, the board have worked hard with the community to resolve these issues. Funders received the community development plan positively and pledged 3 years core funding to support its delivery.

The culmination of TGLP provides opportunities for communication and new partnerships such as dark skies and the proposed observatory which the trust have supported. The next year will be a period of challenge and change as TGLP concludes and TGDT's other priorities move to the fore.

Vibrant community is instrumental in the development project, e.g. Affordable housing project, dark skies and observatory. Although it's not the TGDT role to be managerially involved with all these projects, we have to work in partnership to enhance our communities infrastructure.

Thanks were given to all the volunteers and community groups who continue to support the trust especially in our event programme and at the Discovery Centre.

(The chair's report can be viewed in full here: http://tgdt.org.uk/tomintoul-glenlivet-development-trust/downloads/)

Development Manager's Report

Oli Giles delivered the Development Manager's Report which is available to view online here, the following points were raised by members:

- Campsite location infrastructure costs water / huts are a priority
- Guided by Crown Estate
- Every year plan has faded
- Walking distance of the village
- Tenancies make it difficult to gain that land
- Tony Birchall – tip site at the bottom of the site
- Information about the campsite? Other site
- Forestry advice about what will be done regarding the tree felling.
- Access? Widen – difficulty getting out of site

Oli gave further thanks to TGDT volunteers, staff and stakeholders.

(The Development Manager's report can be viewed in full here: http://tgdt.org.uk/tomintoul-glenlivet-development-trust/downloads/)

Presentation of Annual Accounts

Accounts for the 2018-2019 period were presented. A question regarding the discovery centre profits were raised and what was the final visitor numbers. There were just over 11k visitors to the centre and around £3k subsidy. Jeff Clare noted that on average there was 60-70 visitors per day, where as out of season days was at 10-15.

Scott Ashforth asked whether the hostel could do better, perhaps with more group bookings throughout the winter. Murray Ferguson presented details on results from the CNPA visitor surveys. Alexandra Negrea asked what was happening with the café at the cycle trails. A detailed discussion hopefully will be available sometime next week.

David highlighted that Tomintoul Hostel Limited income is down due to the absence of the Skerryvore event but the subsidiary continues to make a positive contribution to TGDT through it's lease for the hostel and its staff and bookings management agreement.

The acceptance of the TGDT accounts was proposed by Tricia Lawson and seconded by Phil Rogers.
The acceptance of the Hostel accounts was proposed by Andrea Polak and seconded by Laurence Prime.

Resolutions

The resolution to adopt the revised MOA was put to members and passed unanimously

The resolution to proceed with application for charitable status was put to members and passed unanimously.

Election of Directors

Alistair Sharp, David Toovey, John Polak and Doug Nisbet all stood down as required by the constitution but all immediately stood for re-election. The re election of Doug Nisbet, David Toovey, John Polak and Alastair Sharp was unanimous.

Closing Remarks

Doug thanked everyone for attendance, encouraging everyone to get more involved, then closed the meeting.