# TGDT Board Meeting

Date: 5th May 2021

## Video Conference (5 - 7pm)

## Minutes

**Present:** Tilly Smith (TS, TGDT Director & Chair), Doug Nisbet (DN, TGDT Director), Jenny Herschell (JH, TGDT Director), Alastair Sharp (AS, TGDT Director), Phil Rogers (PR TGDT Director), David Toovey (DT, TGDT Director & Treasurer).

**In attendance:** Oli Giles (OG, TGDT), Rebecca Irons (RI, TGDT), Fiona Robb (HIE), Liz Henderson (CNPA).

Due to the restrictions associated with COVID – 19 the meeting was held online.

| **Actions carried over from previous meeting** (updates in *italics*) |
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| **Minutes** | | |
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| **Conflict of interest and governance** | No conflicts of interest issues were raised | |
| **Minutes of previous meeting** | TGDT Board minutes from 10th March were approved with minor amendments.<br>Proposed by Alistair Sharp<br>Seconded by Doug Nisbet | |
| **Matters arising from previous actions** | OG has made a pre-development enquiry to Scottish Water. There is a statutory response time of 28 days.<br>OG and RI attended Glenlivet Hall Committee AGM who are supportive of Tea in the Park (TITP) going ahead in line with any restrictions. A TITP planning meeting has been arranged for 12th May at 7pm. OG and RI will draw up a budget after this meeting. | |
| **Development Plan Projects** | **Affordable Housing**<br>i. Progress<br>CNPA planning committee is due to meet and reach a decision on 14th May. The queries raised by CNPA have been resolved. | **OG to send the link to board members for the planning meeting** |

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| | | OG has contacted Patricia Grant (KATCA) re: how things are named in the village.<br><br>OG will provide a Smart Survey link for name suggestions and drop-off at the Discovery Centre. The process of naming could take time to finalise and needs to go to Moray Council for approval. | **OG to set up Smart Survey link for name suggestions** |
| | ii. | Allocations<br>The conditions of the Dorenell grant offer stipulate that half of eligible applicants are from Glenlivet. Thought needs to be given to how this is operationalised in practice and will need to be resolved before the loan can be drawn down. | **OG to send wording to board members** |
| | iii. | CNP have dropped the requirement for health care which has dramatically reduced the contributions. TS asked that LH pass on the Board's thanks to the Park. The ecological weaknesses in the application have been addressed and a landscaping proposal made to get planning. There would be additional costs with landscaping design post development. As a charitable organisation TGDT could draw on a number of resources e.g., Woodland Trust. | |
| | **Campsite** | | |
| | i. | Progress<br>Feasibility funding has been secured through CES Supporting Communities Fund. A consultant has been appointed for the feasibility and design work. Timescales have slipped, which CES are relaxed about, and there is the option of an extension if needed. | |
| | ii. | Funding<br>A case will be made to CES for a lower than market value transfer and the Trust will have a robust business plan to take to funders. OG has spoken to Murray Ferguson who has indicated that the Rural Infrastructure Tourism Fund would not be the right fund for the project. FR suggested that some match funding from HIE may be an option. | |
| | iii. | Ideally the site would be ready for the 2022 season, but this will depend on the transfer process with CES and when capital works can be undertaken on site. | |
| | **Glenlivet Projects** | | |
| | i. | Scalan<br>Patricia Nisbet contacted OG with concerns about the capacity of local volunteers to operate the Scalan. OG, RI and DT met to discuss how TGDT might support. There is a need to extend the current volunteer base. Patricia has spoken to Amy Woolvin who is keen to help in a voluntary capacity. A 'soft opening' event for the community will be held on 7th July with a view to participating in Moray Doors Open on the 18th September. OG plans to resubmit the Heritage Officer application to Dorenell at the end of July with an outcome in late August. | |

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| | ii. Croft Inn<br>HIE are funding the business plan work which has been contracted to SKS. The priority will be to establish market failure. OG and RI are meeting with the owner to update them on the inception meeting with SKS and establish whether they would be willing to put the Croft on the market.<br><br>UK wide business development funding due to be announced may provide another funding option in addition to SLF. Community Shares would have an impact on the trading subsidiary and operating model, requiring a Community Benefit Society be set up. Crowdfunding is another option. If there is enough community interest a Glenlivet group could be set up to take the project forward.<br><br>iii. Survey<br>RI advised that 76 survey responses had been received and 36 new members signed-up as a result. RI gave an overview of the key findings and will present in more detail to the community at the members meeting which follows this meeting.<br><br>iv. TITP<br>A planning meeting has been arranged for 12th May at 7pm.<br><br>**Observatory**<br>A three-stage plan has been established with CAG<br>1. Dark Skies exhibition via the Green Recovery Fund with installation if successful in August.<br>2. Planetarium in the Discovery Centre garden. A site meeting has now been held to establish this is possible.<br>3. Mini observatory with fixed site telescope which can be viewed both in person and online. Two sites are being considered: The Braes Hall and a site next to Richmond Hall, Tomintoul. DN felt the site in Tomintoul had synergy in terms of linking things together and would provide an alternate attraction on cloudy nights. | |
| **COVID – 19 update** | **Hostel & Discovery Centre**<br>The Discovery Centre is due to reopen on Thursday 20th May. Three members of staff have been recruited, including one new member. A familiarisation visit to key local sites has been organised for staff on 17th May. Jules has been getting the Centre ready for reopening.<br><br>The kitchen and ensuite at the hostel are now complete. There are a few things which need to be sorted to prepare for guests e.g., disposing of old kitchen and sorting/labelling of cupboards. OG requested volunteers to help and will tie this into the next hostel board meeting later in May. The first booking for the 5th June has now been cancelled due to being a foreign visitor. Discovery Centre staff will check guests in and out and do some hostel cleaning. | **OG to confirm date to help with preparing hostel for opening** |

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| **Finance report** | OG presented the Hostel and Trust finance reports, and the board reviewed the statements that were circulated in advance of the meeting.<br><br>The Board approved an invoice of £3471.98 to Community Housing Trust which can be claimed back through the RHF grant. | |
| **AOB** | The Bike Glenlivet funding application to Sports Scotland has been successful, the outcome of the application to Dorenell is awaited. The proposed new trail has passed planning. If Dorenell funding is successful and the trail is fully funded Bike Glenlivet will be able to use their own £12k of funds for another trail. | |
| **DONM** | **9th June 2021 5 – 7pm via Zoom** | |