TGDT Board Meeting

Date: 14th July 2021

Video Conference (5 - 7pm)

Minutes

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

Apologies: Alastair Sharp (AS, TGDT Director), Liz Henderson (CNPA)

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

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

Actions carried over from previous meeting (updates in *italics*)

Minutes		
Conflict of interest and governance	None raised.	
Minutes of previous meeting	TGDT Board minutes from 5th May were approved Proposed by Jenny Herschell Seconded by Phil Rogers	
Matters arising from previous actions	All previous actions were completed	
Development Plan Projects	**Affordable Housing** i. Progress Civil contractors started on site last week to level the site. There will be two months of groundworks before the build commences and the kits arrive on site. Alpha have advised of increased building material costs. Community Housing Trust (CHT) have seen a similar rise across all projects and are working with the Rural Housing Fund to see what can be done.	

	Additional monies would come from Scottish government not contingency. The winner of the road name poll, by a significant margin was, *Auld School Close*. This will be registered with Moray Council. The first Social Investment Scotland (SIS) payment has been drawn down for Alpha's first invoice. Dorenell are going to take allocations re: conditions of the grant offer back to the committee for amendment. The committee meets on 20th July and once agreed their loan element can be drawn down.	
	Campsite i. Progress OG has met with the architect Tom Morton from Arc who has conducted a walkover and survey. He has identified some issues re: ecology and established wildflower, but nothing to stop development. A further walkover ecological survey will be conducted to assess if anything would need to be included in a planning application. Community Enterprise Scotland are visiting the site next week and advise that stakeholder feedback so far has been positive. Water supply, getting water off site and drainage may be an issue for the site. Tom has suggested a bore hole may be the easiest solution. A hydrological survey of the site would also be useful. It is not possible to complete an application to Scottish Water until there is a rough design for the site. An application to the Crown for a below market value purchase of the site can be made once the business plan is finalised.	
	Glenlivet Projects i. Croft Inn The board discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the draft business plan. All agreed it was a good overall report but the board needed further information to make a fully informed decision, particularly in relation to the finances. A key question was what the 'exit strategy' would be and what TGDT's obligations would be re: any Scottish government funding. DN asked if FR could help with identifying a specialist hospitality consultant to review the plan. FR suggested Laurie Piper at Moray Speyside Tourism. TS suggested former TGDT Chair, Mark Finnie's hospitality experience and insight could also provide useful.	**RI to reschedule feedback meeting with SKS** **OG to contact Mark Finnie**

	A further meeting was arranged for Wednesday 21st July, 4pm for board members to further review the finance aspect of the business plan, before feeding back to SKS on the draft. ii. Community Renewal Fund The outcome of the funding application is expected at the end of July. OG and RI are progressing a match funding application to Dornell for the 31st July. iii. TITP RI advised that sadly TITP has been cancelled due to insufficient volunteer numbers to implement the COVID control measures necessary for the event to run. DN asked whether Wild in the Park could run in October and whether it could be linked with a community BBQ. TS suggested a community picnic as another idea. All agreed that if it is possible to run the event it should go ahead. TS suggested considering Scalan as an alternative venue. DN highlighted the drawbacks of this site were the lack of toilet facilities and wet cover in comparison to Glenlivet Hall. **Observatory** i. A meeting has been organised with the Braes Hall Committee on 20th July to discuss the viability of the site for a mini observatory. CAG is keen to get observatory plans off the ground. DN highlighted the strengths of an observatory being sited in Tomintoul and the synergy this had with the Discovery Centre. All agreed that at this stage all site options should be kept open.	
COVID – 19 update	**Hostel & Discovery Centre** The Discovery Centre is now operating full time. Visitor numbers are down on 2019 figures at 28 per day in comparison with 53 per day in 2019. This appears to be a shared trend with local businesses. May's income including donations was £700. Donations can be gift aided. The hostel has had group bookings the last two weekends and has a further booking coming up. OG advised that there had been a number of cancellations with booking.com allowing cancellations up to 7 days before.	
Finance report	OG presented the Hostel and Trust finance reports, and the board reviewed the statements that were circulated in advance of the meeting. RI will check the situation regarding the £500 grant received from the Arnold Clark Community fund intended for COVID measures at Tea in the Park. There were no invoices for approval.	**RI to contact Arnold Clark Community Fund**

DONM	Topic: TGDT Board Meeting Time: Aug 18, 2021 05:00 PM London Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81900516396?pwd=UGVyellvWk8vbmxYZTBjUnJnbWg4UT09 Meeting ID: 819 0051 6396 Passcode: 548769 One tap mobile +12532158782,,81900516396#,,,,*548769# US (Tacoma) +13017158592,,81900516396#,,,,*548769# US (Washington DC) Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) Meeting ID: 819 0051 6396 Passcode: 548769 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbS3jh2VBO	