TGDT Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday 16th July

Held at Discovery Centre, Tomintoul (1700-1920)

Minutes

Present: Tilly Smith (TS, TGDT Director & Chair), Sam Robinson (SR, TGDT Director), David Toovey (DT, TGDT Director & Treasurer), Alastair Sharp (AS, TGDT Director), Robert Mintram (RM, TGDT Director), Sam Robinson (SR, TGDT Director), Neil Buchanan (NB, TGDT Director) Fiona Robb (FR, HIE).

Apologies: Chloe Clay (CC, TGDT Director), Lydia Fisher (LF, TGDT).

In attendance: Oli Giles (OG, TGDT), Claire Filer (CF, TGDT).

Actions carried over from previous meeting (updates in *italics*)
No actions from the previous meeting.

Minutes		
Conflict of interest and governance	TS welcomed new directors Neil Buchanan and Robert Mintram whi have been appointed under article 63 of the constitution. Companies House has been updated to reflect the appoinments.	
Minutes of previous meeting	SR proposed, DT seconded.	

DTAS Crisis Support Meeting	<u>Finances</u> FR updated that she had thanked DTAS and had asked for the flip chart pages and notes from the meeting. TS summarised that the result of the conversation was sobering and ephasised that the future of TGDT needs serious discussion. The board discussed potential income sources and the requirement of core costs. OG updated that tentative discussions have started with Foundation Scotland about contributing to core costs.	

	The board discussed the supplementary finance report produced by the Operations Manager and the availability of unrestricted and retricted funding. TS summarised that the DTAS have presented a number of scenarios including the worse case but TGDT does need an additional income stream to cover core costs. The board discussed the Tomintoul Village Store as a possible asset for the trust. FR hightlighted resources of Just Enterpise to help assess potential assets. FR also offered HIE support with community consultation. The board discussed the profitability of the venture, the existing offer on the business, timelines involved and funding. The proposal was put to a vote, 1 board member voted for the proposal and 6 were against. The board will explore other income streams available. <u>Communication</u> TS commented that communication has been an issue. Minutes were discussed for last year's 2024 and 2025. The board agreed to release the altnerative version of the 2024 AGM mintues. The board discussed a complaints policy/procedure and a separate meeing will be scheduled to review the draft compalints policy. <u>9 month action plan</u> TS commented that most points had been discussed previously in the meeting and OG highlighted the need to implement full cost recovery through all future projects .	
Development Plan Projects	<u>Affordable Housing</u> *Solicitor Update* OG updated that the solicitors have contacted structural engineers for quotes to review the development. They have been given access to all the paperwork including the Savilles report. AS asked about the cost of engineers quote. TS updated that the insurance will recoop these costs. The board discussed the availability of the as-built drawings. *Factoring Update* OG updated that they have engaged a factoring consultant about the scheme and will receive a quote for the maintaince of the development. This includes an updated schedule of services and budget as well as setting up a client deposit account. *TAGH Update* There has been no update from the housing group in an official capacity. TS has spoken to a member and emphasised the need for a single spokesperson. TS updated that one rental property up for rental. The board discussed this process. <u>Glenlivet Projects</u> *Development Officer* CF updated that Tea in the Park is organised and will run from the 3rd-17th August. Inveravon Scottish Land Fund and Dorenell application has been submitted on behalf of GICA. The has not been much progress with the Braes of Glenlivet Hall but they have confirmed that	

	they would like to keep the structure of the hall. The Garden of Rememberance, Braes of Glenlivet has got planning permission and work will begin shortly. The Glenlivet Hall have a new chair in Gordon Wallace who is keen to make improvements to the hall although priority has shifted to improving the services at the campsire due to its popularity this year. *Heritage Ranger* SR updated on Lydia's behalf that 13 houses have had dark sky-friendly lighting installed and the TGLP Legacy project has come in underbudget. Work will now begin on the lighting amnesty in Glenlivet and they will aim to promote this at Tea in the Park.	
Hostel and DC Update	<u>Hostel</u> OG gave the number of stays and income. <u>Discovery Centre</u> OG noted that visitor numbers are down. The board discussed ways of changing the exhibition to encourage more visitors. TS recognised that Sharon does an excellent job and is a brilliant asset to the trust.	
Finance	<u>TGDT Finance report- June 2025</u> OG and DT will meet with accountant in the coming weeks. <u>THL Finance report- June 2025</u> Hostel transferred £6k to TGDT in June for the costs of the producing the accounts and audit.	
AOB	RM updated the board on the organisation for Tomintoul 250 suggestion to connect with it. TS and NB updated that there is a proposal for the Discovery Centre to be open for a two week period, staffed by volunteers. There will be free entry during that time with obvious donation points. The board heard that celebration will last the year and that Jennifer Stewart will lead the heritage group. OG updated that TGDT has applied to Dorenell to update the website, If successful works will begin in September and be completed in January.	
DONM	27th August 2025	