

KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting

Monday 3rd December 2001

1. Present

Les Bates, Ged Church, Sandra Hogg, Alan Humphries, Alistair McNeill, David Rogerson, Elizabeth Shiach.

Apologies

Alan Dobie, David Shepherd.

Ged Church proposed new member Erik Lundberg as Secretary, seconded by Les Bates. The meeting approved this and Erik subsequently took the minutes.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting on 5th September

Proposed by S. Hogg and seconded by L. Bates.

3. Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting on 7th November (distributed at this meeting & attached for those not present)

Proposed by E. Shiach and seconded by A. Humphries.

4. Finance

4.1 S. Hogg reported a bank account balance of £520, less £80 pending for membership of British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) for employer, public liability, personal injury and equipment insurance for 1 year.

4.2 Accountancy fees of approx £300 due at the end of the year.

5. Action Group Reports

5.1 Footpaths

5.11 G. Church confirmed an offer of £30,000 from Lottery Fresh Futures had been accepted by the Directors at a meeting on 07.11.01 for construction of footpath from Inchmore to Easter Moniack. Meeting held with Highland Access Officer and the Community Land Unit, which has funds available for land lease/purchase, marketing (leaflets), maintenance and labour costs. Meeting held with Paths for All who walked the route, updated the feasibility costs and gave advice on construction and the route. Meeting held with Eddie Garden on Footpath Agreements who recommended an exchange of letters with the landowners rather than legal agreements. This is to be discussed with the landowners then the Lottery. Contact also made with David Andrews, Highland Access Project Manager who has been given £1.2m for Highland Footpaths. Contractors have now been invited to tender and Fred Geddes has informally agreed to do contract administration and obtain a Planning Supervisor to cover health & safety issues. Tenders due back 7th December and work is due to start in the Spring. One landowner (Mrs Hinton) is now deceased and the Trust will deal with her lawyers.

Tenderers are MacDonald Surfacing, GF Job, Ian Bain from Tore and Mark Hederwick. S. Hogg confirmed the footpath is covered for £10m Public Liability insurance with BTCV.

Action: G. Church

- 5.12 Alistair Lawson from the Scottish Rights of Way Society has offered to give a talk to the Trust on the footpath from Moniack to Lochend, which is becoming overgrown and footpaths generally.

Action: G. Church

5.2 Market

- 5.21 L. Bates reported that they had ceased for the time being due to lack of support from traders and public. G. Church thanked Les and the team for all their hard work.

5.3 Pantomime

- 5.31 A. Humphries advised that it is to take place on 1st & 2nd February in the Inchmore Old School Canteen. Casting and rehearsals for Robinson Crusoe now in progress – lifts available. £150 has been paid for public liability insurance.

5.4 Woodlands

- 5.41 L. Bates and D. Rogerson recently attended a very successful international woodlands conference at Dalbeattie.

- 5.42 L. Bates reported that 3 weekends of work have been carried out at the Community Woodland at Relig Glen. Forest Enterprise is to prepare a Forest Plan to which the Trust will give input. There is a possibility of a linking footpath from Moniack. Thinnings have been cut and stacked and will be moved to Croft 7 for removal. Les to seek Highland Council clearance to load trailers on the roadside. 8 Tons of beech firewood has been recovered and will be sold to the team for £10/load with funds put back into the team, any excess to be offered to the public at a higher charge. £25 paid to FE for a firewood licence. Further weekend sessions will be held every 2 weeks and other helpers are welcome.

Action: L. Bates

- 5.43 Grant awarded from BTCV for administration £33 and tools £300. More tools are required – LB and SH to approach SNH for a grant. Safety Training Certificates for chainsaw operation in the wood are required and insurance cover is to be clarified. Meeting to be held on 12th December with the Commercial Forest Facilitator.

- 5.44 Woodland Officer post financed by the Community Land Unit or Esme Fairburn Fund to be considered.

5.5 Housing

- 5.51 G. Church reported that a meeting had been held with Albyn Housing Association on their 9-house development in Kirkhill (all for let), which will be completed by the end of 2002. 50 people initially expressed interest in the houses and 5 will be retained for local applicants. The houses are all for let as Gro-Grants for toppings up applicants' mortgages have already been granted for houses in the Macmillan scheme. The Community Trust Housing Group has now disbanded as the scheme is underway but D. Rogerson offered to assess support for reviving the group given the interest in the scheme and will put an advert in Crannog.

Action: D. Rogerson

6. Procedure for AGM

- 6.1 AGM to be held on Monday 18th March 2002 in the Bogroy Hotel at 7.30pm with the committee meeting to follow directly. The financial year is to 30th September to allow audited accounts to be prepared for the AGM.

- 6.2 E. Lundberg to confirm notification and election procedures with G. Church. Advert to appear in Crannog, Kirkhill Post Office, Bunchrew Caravan Park shop, KBCT website, telegraph poles (not in the Inverness Courier). **Action: E. Lundberg**

7.0 AOCB

- 7.1 S. Hogg advised a website for the Trust has been set up as part of the Moray Firth Partnership site – address in Crannog. Directors' names are to be listed but not their addresses. Minutes of meetings are to be added after approval at the following meeting. L. Bates is doing pages on the woodland and other groups are to be invited to submit pages.

8.0 Next Meeting

- 8.1 AGM and meeting on Monday 18th March 2002 in the Bogroy Hotel, 7.30pm

9.0 Distribution

- 9.1 Board members and Alan Dobie

End

EL 12.12.01