

## KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust at 5pm,  
7th April, The Selkirk Hotel, Kirkcudbright.

Present:	Mrs Lesley Garbutt (Chair) Mr Neil Picken Mr John Johnson Mr Allan Ross Mr Colin MacLaine Mr Alex Kinnell Mr Rob Asbridge Mr Andrew Ward Ms Deborah Craig Mr Neil Cavers Mr Gordon Cowan
Apologies:	Mr Colin Wyper Mr Andy Campbell Ms Heather Unsworth

Apologies: As above

Lesley Garbutt welcomed Gordon Cowan and Neil Cavers to the meeting.

1. Minutes of the meeting 1st April, 2019. Approved by Colin MacLaine and seconded by Neil Picken.

2. Matters arising

It was reported that Susan Howell had resigned from her position on the board.

3. Policy and procedures sub-committee

Nothing to report.

4. Communications/social media

It was agreed that Rob Asbridge contact Barry Russell regarding revamping the website with editorial control remaining with one person.

5. Silvercraigs

Colin Wyper emailed to report the following:

Takings for April were up on last year with many bookings coming in and August bank holiday is almost fully booked.

The camp kitchen / store is almost finished, the only labour cost was for fibre glassing the roof, all construction done by Colin Wyper (CW). CW has also replaced and extended the roof between the toilet block and office, as it was allowing too much water to gather in the alleyway.

The park has paid £17k of the £20k management fee to the pool already this year. It is hoped that it can clear the £15k owed to the Friends of the pool and have enough in the bank to see it through the winter months. If this is the case then next year should all be profit. Once the legal title has been granted, the park will be eligible for water rates and refuse collection relief.

#### 4. Finance

Colin Maclaine had sent out his report previously by email, and these were accepted by the Board.

#### 5. Project Worker Update

##### Johnston School

Andrew Ward reported that the final bit of funding had been awarded and in total **£2,670,684 had been raised.** Everyone agreed that this was phenomenal and thanked Andrew and his team for all their efforts. Andrew Ward then reported that letters were being sent out to some of the funders about the potential of a draw down on funds, which would help enormously with the cash flow situation.

He also reported that there was a delay with tenders going out due to Historic Environment Scotland. After looking at the amount awarded from HES, it was agreed that if the go-ahead had not been given within two weeks, then the Trust should decline the funding offer and continue with the tender process.

##### Ownership

It was reported that ownership of the building was imminent, which everyone agreed was great news.

##### Bats

These had been dealt with and Max Hastings was happy for work to go ahead.

##### Storage

A container had been purchased and placed in the grounds. Thanks to Andy Campbell for facilitating this.

##### Youth Work

It was reported that a funding application to Young Start for £71,000 had been successful. This will provide funding for a full time youth worker, and the current youth workers for three years. The funding will also cover more youth work

sessions, outings etc. Match funding was required and AW said that the Trust was looking to apply to the Holywood Trust for this. This application would also cover the youth work element of the 2019 Festival of Light. It was agreed that this was great news and that the work and development that the project had already achieved was a real asset to the town and its young people.

It was also reported that a funding application had been submitted to Children in Need Curiosity Fund for a science engagement officer. This funding would focus on the Dark Skies Visitor Centre and Planetarium.

### **Silvercraigs**

It is expected that we hear about the asset transfer this month. Colin Wyper had reported as above.

### **New post**

AW announced that funding had been extended for another three months, with a further 9 months on top of that from Strengthening Communities. This would continue to pay for the current project worker (DC) as well as a Finance/Admin Assistant. It was agreed that this be done as a matter of urgency and it was agreed that a job spec be circulated and agreed as asap. It was also agreed that the post be advertised locally on the KDT site as well and the KBT Town website.

### **7. Tourist Information Centre - Harbour Square**

It was reported that a suitable tenant had been found for the building, who would work in conjunction with the Trust and its volunteers, who would continue with the tourist information aspect. It was also reported that Visit Scotland had not yet responded regarding the roof repairs to the building and whether the repairs would mean the building being closed completely. Andrew Ward was in contact with Visit Scotland regarding this. In the meantime it was agreed that Debbie Craig contact Adam Turnbull (solicitor) to draw up a lease between the prospective tenant and the Trust. It was also agreed that DC would contact Visit Scotland to gather leaflets and brochures for the tourist information side.

### **9. Policy and procedures**

Nothing to report.

AOB

Andrew Ward asked the board if they still wished to employ the services of Creetown Initiative. It was agreed unanimously that Creetown Initiative be kept on board.

Rob Asbridge asked if there were any objections to Barhill Wood becoming part of the Biosphere. There were none.

Rob Asbridge then asked if the Trust would consider looking at obtaining the land on the old Creamery site, and he thought the best way would be the Scottish Land Fund. The land is currently owned by a Mr Jim Bell. It could be converted into a landscaped car park as well as an event space. While everyone thought it was a good idea, it was agreed that the focus should be on the current projects. Andrew Ward also pointed out that there wasn't much time left to apply to the Scottish Land Fund as it ended in 2020.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6.15pm.