

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust at 4pm, 1st February 2021, held via Zoom

Present:

Lesley Garbutt (Chair)
Colin Maclaine (Vice Chair)
John Johnson (Treasurer)
Neil Picken
Sean Orms
Allan Ross
Gordon Cowan
Alex Kinnell
Colin Wyper
Helen Henderson
Ruth McMorran
Rob Asbridge
Debbie Craig

Apologies:

Andy Campbell
Andrew Ward

Apologies: As above

1. Minutes of the meeting 11th January 2021. Amends – HH (done). Approved by Gordon Cowan and seconded by Neil Picken.

2. Matters arising
There were none.

3. Reports

Silvercraigs (CW)

LG reported that a business plan would be available for the next meeting.

CW reported that Silvercraigs had received a £2000 Covid grant for January. He also reported that he had managed to get the insurance from £2100 down to £990. There was, he continued, about £2000 credit with EDF for electricity and there was approximately £4000 in the bank.

There had been a few bookings for mid-March, which he had accepted, but it was possible the bookings would need to be postponed and the holidaymakers were aware of this. In the meantime, all guidelines were being adhered to.

Seaward (CW & LG)

CW reported that he had spoken to Neil Cavers regarding the building and it would take about £400 for legal work. He continued that the building had never been registered as an occupancy building, therefore it would need a change of use, building warrant and planning permission. The Trustees of the building has also been in touch to see if there had been any developments at this end, and CW reported that he had replied saying the project was being looked at but action was limited because of lockdown.

Allotments

CW asked the board about the possibility of using the land at the back of Millburn Street to the caravan site for allotments. It was agreed that this could potentially be a good idea and LG agreed to contact the allotment society with regards to the matter.

Funding (AW/DC):

DC reported that an application for £10k for DSVC staffing had been submitted to the Region Wide Coastal Benefits.

An application had also been submitted to the Adapt and Thrive/Community Recoveries fund.

Building (AK): AK reported there had been a positive meeting with the tenants recently. He also reported that there were some plumbing issues that were being dealt with and the gates at the back of the building had been fitted.

LG and AK were meeting with Andrew Clark Hutchison of the Gin Distillery later in the week. We were still waiting for the final figures from the contractors and the QS was monitoring this.

DSVC (CMacL): CMacL reported that there were a few final touches to the DSVC but these would not take long.

The setting up of the new company, however, was taking longer than initially thought because we were setting up a charity within a charity. OSCR was currently taking 90 days to process this, so it had been decided to approach DTAs for help, which had been done. Recruitment for the position of DSVC manager would begin in the next few weeks and CMacL thanked everyone for their input regarding the job advert.

Professor Hammond, he continued, had been looking at well-known names to open the building, with Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock being mentioned in particular.

Marketing/branding/Social media/Communications (HH & RMcM): HH reported that work had begun on the website with Artibrand and was going well. HH reported that everyone was very pleased with the work that Artibrand had produced. It was agreed that discussions regarding the reveal of the brand should take place.

HH and RMcM reported that there had been no news to post of late, but they were monitoring the social media channels.

Tenancy/leases: LG The Wee Pottery had signed their lease and the only one still to sign was the gin distillery.

Youth work (AR): £1741 had come in from Rotary and approximately £5000 from the winding up of the Wee Centipedes.

Barrhill Woods (RA): RA reported he had been in talks with Helen Kerron of Galloway Glens regarding a three day festival in the woods in September. Galloway Glens would provide the insurance and some of the funding and there would be no commitment from the Trust. RA asked the board if there were any objections and there were none.

Harbour Stage (RA): Still waiting on a decision from planning, but the CG Committee had met and recommended that a 25 year lease be granted. RA reported that a decision was expected around the 11th February. Once the outcome of these decisions was known DC would approach additional funders (Suez).

KIC (HH): DC reported that the BP would go before the Visit Scotland board in March. It was not expected that the KIC would open before that.

Finances (CMac/JJ): Reports had been circulated ahead of the meeting, which everyone agreed with. GC asked if all the tenants were paying rent. JJ replied that all apart from the Gin Distillery were. CW thought the Gin Distillery should have been paying rent by now. It was reported that LG and AK were meeting with Andrew Clark Hutchison and this would be discussed then and they would report back on the meeting.

AOB

Galloway National Park: NP reported that he had been interviewed by the BBC regarding the support for Galloway National Park, which everyone agreed was a step in the right direction.

Community led tourism project: CMacL reported that there had been a meeting with Creetown Initiative to help with a community led tourism project to show how Kirkcudbright had grown over the years.

Postal address: JJ reported that he was still looking into the matter of keeping the DG6 4EG postcode and would keep everyone updated.

KSF Flyer: CMacL reported that part of the funding being applied for would help towards the cost of producing a Visit Kirkcudbright flyer which KSF was working on. A member of the Artibrand team (Tabi) had been a huge help with regards to the layout and copy. DC then asked CMacL for costings regarding the flyer. CMacL agreed to contact John Blaikie of KSF for these costs.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 5pm.

