

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust at 2pm, 1st June, held via video conferencing call.

Present:

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

Apologies:

Andy Campbell
Andrew Ward
Rob Asbridge

Apologies: As above

1. Minutes of the meeting 4th May. Approved by Allan Ross and seconded by Colin Maclaine.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Reports

Silvercraigs (CW)

CW reported that he had been doing some maintenance on the site, cutting grass etc. He also raised the issue of people accessing the site using the lower path, which was causing problems as dogs were being allowed to foul there. He said that he had emailed the right of way society and was waiting for a reply, but the title deeds showed the area to be Silvercraigs Park. It was agreed that legal advice would be taken, but in the meantime, he would erect a sign asking people to pick up after their dog.

Funding (AW/DC):

DC reported an underspend from the Regional Arts Fund for the GYAH project had been given to the youth project for art projects and materials in the Johnston Centre.

DC was working on approaching small trusts for funds for the exhibits in the DSVC. The Trust had also been successful with an application to the Coastal Communities Fund.

£19,311 had been awarded which would go towards the Harbour Stage regeneration.

DC and AW would continue to look for funding streams for DSVC.

Building (AK): AK reported that there was not much going on but that prep work would be starting with a potential restart date of sometime in June.

JJ asked who was going to pay for the increased measures that would need to be put in place. AK replied that it was hoped the Healthy and Safety Executive would pick up the cost, but this was still to be ascertained.

GC asked if there had been a notable increase in the cost of materials. AK replied that it was inevitable there had been and some of these would undoubtedly be passed on to us.

Dark Skies (CMac): CMac had circulated figures for the DSVC prior to the meeting and it was agreed that some decisions would need to be made with regards to how the money for the DSVC was going to be spent as funds were tight. It was also agreed that HES money was critical at this stage.

It was agreed that AK would speak to the Rebecca Cadie to see if the HES architect was back working and it was agreed to keep on top of the HES funds as they were critical for the ongoing project and exhibits. CMac reported that three contracts needed to be signed soon to have a finish date of December, hence the importance of the HES funding. He proposed that contracts were started to be signed with the premise of staggering them. This was agreed.

Youth work (AR): AR reported that Eilean Parker and her team had been doing a fantastic job of keeping the project going online and were hoping to deliver another set of activity packs for the young people thanks to a donation from Rotary and some of the underspend from the GYAH project from the RAF.

Barrhill Woods (RA): RA had reported that the squirrels were thriving, and all was well.

TIC (HH): DC and LG were dealing with Visit Scotland regarding the electricity bill. HH reported that at this stage there were no plans to reopen the TIC.

Branding: It was asked that a record of thanks be minuted for all the help that Peter Duncan has provided with marketing and branding. A tender had been sent out to 11 agencies, with 8 replying positively to the 11th June deadline.

HH also mentioned that she had some contacts at Cape Canaveral and there was a possibility of some form of tie in, which everyone thought was a fantastic possibility.

Leases: LG reported that there had been some further lengthy discussions with some of the tenants, and LG and Neil Cavers were going to discuss the matter. It was agreed that there was disappointment at the condescending tone regarding one of the leases from the solicitor involved, but compromises would be made and once agreed then a new, uniform lease would be sent out. It was also noted that Neil Cavers had been working incredibly hard for the Trust for very little money.

Finances (CMac): Reports had been circulated ahead of the meeting, which everyone agreed with. It was also reported that money had been ringfenced for the Covid-19

response team and Helen Bowick was keeping a close eye on receipts etc for that group. CMac also reported that the audit was nearly finished and thanked everyone for their help.

Communications: Q&A had been updated and Sean Orms was working on getting the newsletter out as well.

AOB:

Brick naming: It was agreed that LG send the brief details to AR to see if the Youth Group could come up with a design.

Contracts: CMac asked that one of the suppliers for the DSVC had requested that the signing of the contract be announced on their website. It was agreed that this was ok.

Thanks: AR asked that a note of thanks be minuted for the hard work of LG, CMac, JJ and AK.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3.20 pm