

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust at 2pm, 3rd August, held via video conferencing call.

Present:

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

Apologies:

Andy Campbell
Gordon Cowan
Andrew Ward

Apologies: As above

1. Minutes of the meeting 3rd July. Approved Allan Ross. Seconded by Neil Picken.

2. Matters arising

Colin Maclaine asked if there had been mention of room naming at the last meeting? It was agreed there had been and now that it was safe to do so, a socially distanced meeting could be set up to discuss this.

3. Reports

Silvercraigs (CW)

CW reported that there had been many visitors but as agreed, they had not been at 100% occupancy. CW then reported that the site would not necessarily be entitled for a water rates exemption as the site came under the same charity number as the Trust. It was agreed that JJ and CMacl discuss this with the accountant.

CMacl reported that he had noticed work being done on the bunkhouse at Seaward. It was reported that the owner had been up to look over the property and it would probably be next year before anything else could be done regarding this.

Funding (AW/DC):

DC reported the KIC had been awarded £10k from the Small Business Bonus Scheme. The LEADER claim was being dealt with and CMac reported that AW was still chasing the HES grant and the outcome should be known later in the week.

Building (AK): AK reported that contractors were back on site and were steadily working towards a completion date of 11th September. Portacabins were coming off site and the community meeting room was being used the contractor office. There were, he continued, still some issue regarding the gin distillery water supply, but it was hoped that this would be resolved shortly.

There had been an issue regarding the resurfacing of the car park, as apparently the original surfacing was very thin and had been broken up when the new surfacing was applied. There would be an additional cost for this, but it was not something that could have been foreseen.

The QS had been on holiday for a couple of weeks and it was hoped that final costs would be reported within the next week or so.

There had also been an issue with seagulls in the general area of the school and although nothing to do with the work directly, the problem had been looked into and it was agreed that there was nothing that could really be done about them.

Dark Skies (CMac): Exhibition design work was going ahead at a good pace and it was agreed that the planetarium be installed mid-October. It was also agreed that it might be a good idea to look at getting broadband instead of fibre until the end of the year which would cut costs.

Youth work (AR): AR reported that all was progressing well and Eilean Parker had been talking to Paul Tebay of the Rotary into extra funding being available.

Barrhill Woods (RA): RA reported that the hide remained closed, but that it was planned to reopen it with one group visiting at a time and cleaning between visits. It was agreed that DC looked at finding sources for the upkeep of the hide.

KIC (HH): It was reported that the business plan was being revisited with a view to submitting it to Visit Scotland as soon as possible. It was also hoped that the £10k awarded would be able to help with the roof repairs.

LG reported that she had been approached by Chamber of Commerce asking that the window of the KIC be used to display a map of the town detailing what was open. This was agreed.

It was also agreed that DC contact Barry Russell to update the town website regarding what was open within the town.

Branding: Following the virtual interviews with three agencies, Artibrand had been chosen had been chosen and a planned external visit of the DSCV had been organised for 11th August.

JJ asked if there was any mileage in synchronising internal and external signage and it was agreed that it would be nice if there were some consistency, but the £8k budget was only

for Artibrand to use on the DSVC and advice would be taken on further branding. It was also agreed the Kirkcudbright 'K' was under copyright and LG would look into the use of it.

Leases (LG): It was reported that Neil Cavers was dealing with Andrew Clark Hutchinson's solicitor and it was hoped that this was going to be sorted out soon.

Finances (CMac): Reports had been circulated ahead of the meeting, which everyone agreed with. It was agreed that JJ and CMacI look at the cost of including Barhill Wood on the KDT insurance policy as it was currently costing around £400.

Harbour (RA/DC): RA reported that he had applied for Stage 2 Asset transfer and was in the process of getting revised quotes for building work. To date there had not been any significant increase in price. DC would circulate timelines and costings to the board.

Communications: CMacI suggested another Q&A be circulated, especially with the impending opening of the nursery and the pottery business.

It was agreed that an AGM be held, via Zoom, on 7th September at 7pm. DC, SO and HH would organise the agenda and Zoom links

AOB:

Community room: Neil Picken asked if an hourly rate had been agreed for the hire of the Community Room within the Johnston Centre. It was agreed that all this would be looked into and agreed on.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 3.15pm.