

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust at 5pm, Monday 9th January 2023, held in the Community Room, The Johnston.

Present:

Lesley Garbutt (Chair)
Helen Henderson (Treasurer)
Neil Picken
Ruth McMorran
Debbie Craig
Naomi Johnson
Francis Kearney
John Blaikie
Andy Campbell
Rob Asbridge
Jenny Milby
Debbie Craig
Anne Stoddart

Apologies:

Hollie Mitchell

LG began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and welcoming them to the January meeting.

1. Minutes of the December meeting
Proposed by NP and seconded by RSM

2. Matters arising
There were none.

3. Declarations of interest
LG, RSM, NJ declared an interest with regards to DSP.
LG, NP and RA declared an interest with regards KDSCP.
JB, AC declared an interest with regards KSF.

4. Reports

Silvercraigs (NP): NP said that there was not a huge amount to report. It was established that Colin Wyper had been removed from Silvercraigs bank account. It was decided that RA would speak to Michael McGaw to get the van back and transferring the ownership of the van back to Silvercraigs.

Seaward: LG reported that fees had been paid to the English solicitors so things were moving forward. Funding strands would be looked at and DC and LG discussed potential funders who had already expressed an interest – Robertson Trust, Holywood Trust and Galloway Glens. It was agreed that RA would speak to Michael McGaw about finding out

where the keys for Seaward were.

Funding/Office (DC):

DC reported that the SCP and ICF funding decisions had been delayed until the end of January. Other funding was being sourced for a Soup Kitchen in the Community Centre as well as potential funding for a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) down by the Solway. JM reported that there had a lot more bookings for the Community Room, which was good, and the office was being kept busy with accounts, book-keeping and printing.

Action: DC to keep Board informed of funding decisions.

Building (FK/JB): AC reported that there had been another leak in the DSP, which resulted in him having to go and investigate the source of the leak in the clocktower. The stonework is wet, like a sponge and no matter what was done – pointing, coating etc – it would still leak without cladding, which we wouldn't be allowed to do as a listed building

It was agreed that AC approach Alex Kinnell about speaking to Historic Scotland.

AC reported that there had also been a small leak in the ceiling of the gin distillery. On inspection it was discovered that the insulation is on the ceiling and boards are turning black because of the condensation. It was agreed that roof vents were need and quotes would be obtained.

JM also raised the of some of the rooms needing repainted. It was agreed that this would be looked at as well.

DSP(RSM): Nothing to report.

Action: None.

Marketing/Communications (HH & RSM): There was not a huge amount to report, but HH and DC were meeting with Amy Dee Watson from Creetown Initiative regarding the marketing plan for 2023.

Action: None.

Tenancy/leases: The DSP lease was due to be finalised in the next couple of days.

Action: None.

Youth work: An award of £2500 from Robertson had been made and new furniture and uniforms were going to be purchased using the money.

Action: None.

Barrhill Woods (RA): RA reported that the Woodland Festival was going ahead and he was waiting on match funding.

No progress had been made on the purchase of the wood as yet.

Action: None.

Harbour Stage (RA): Nothing to report.

Action: None.

KIC (HH): A new quote for the roof was being sourced.

Action: None.

Finances (HH) Reports had been circulated ahead of the meeting. HH explained that figures were not an accurate reflection as invoicing was not up to date, and the DSP transactions were still coming through the account.

NJ thought it important that the Board should have accurate figures. This was agreed and it was explained that HH and DC were looking at the figures over the next couple of days to do this.

RA then left the meeting at 18.05pm.

HR support – RSM and LG had met with Maddie Walker from an organisation called Peninsula. It was an HR company that can be brought in to do contracts, rotas as well as HR matters. The proposal was to employ them on a 3-year contract for a monthly fee in the region of £180 (inc VAT). The fee would be split over the various trading arms and it was agreed that this would be a step in the right direction, especially considering the forthcoming development regarding Kirkcudbright Swimming Pool. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Connecting Kirkcudbright – This event was discussed and it was agreed that FK, JB, AC and RSM would attend, with JB representing KSF.

AOB

Kirkcudbright Swimming Pool – LG explained that the Swimming Pool board have requested that Kirkcudbright Development Trust take over the swimming pool as a trading arm, but this had not been finalised.

There had been a meeting with Diane Laws - an independent business consultant - who had met with Trust and Pool Board members and this was followed by a meeting with the pool staff.

Friends of the Swimming Pool had agreed to draw down funds and it has been agreed that current staff are paid as close to possible to their current wages.

The advice had been to employ an Interim Manager, on a self-employed basis for a period of between 6-9 months. There had been expressions of interest from two current members of staff, while another person had been approached regarding the position.

AC was waiting to hear from this third person and would inform LG as soon as he had heard. It was agreed that this would be the best way to move everything forward, with the interim manager being instrumental in the re-opening of the pool, employing staff and bringing a focus and drive to the project. Everyone was happy with the suggestions and would wait to hear from LG.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 18.35pm.

