

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust held at 4pm on Monday 5th June 2023 in the Small Meeting Room, The Johnston.

Present

Lesley Garbutt (Chair) (LG)
Neil Picken (NP)
Francis Kearney (FK)
John Blaikie (JB)
Andy Campbell (AC)
Hollie Mitchell (HM)

Helen Henderson (Treasurer) (HH)
Ruth McMorran (RM)
Rob Asbridge (RA)
Debbie Craig (DC)
Jenny Milby (JM)

In Attendance

Anna Austin (AA)

1. Welcome & Apologies

LG welcomed all to the meeting. Anna Austin attended the meeting, introductions were made around the table. Anna is considering joining the Board.

Declarations of interest:

LG, RM declared an interest with regards to DSP.

JB declared an interest with regards to KSF

LG and AC declared an interest with regards to FKSP

LG, NP, FK and RA declared an interest with regards KDTSCP.

Actions:

AS to Circulate RC photos of Clock Tower damage with the minutes

DC to establish original conditions of engagement of architects.

DC to check KDT insurance policy and grant conditions imposed by SOSE and Heritage Lottery.

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 4th April 2023.

Proposed by FK and seconded by RM.

3. Matters Arising

AS to Circulate RC photos of Clock Tower damage with the minutes - completed

DC to establish original conditions of engagement of architects – completed

DC to check KDT insurance policy and grant conditions imposed by SOSE and Heritage Lottery – check with DC

HH to set up a Silvercraigs email and a Business Paypal Account. – email completed,

FK to set up High, Low and Medium pricing structure: FK had looked into this but on reflection decided that the price structure was working well and best to leave it as it is. NP agreed.

DC to ask Amy to check Scotland Starts Here website details up to date – completed

4.Reporting

Silvercraigs Caravan Park (FK)

FK: Michael McGaw is on holiday this week, cover has been organised by FK which includes AP, Caretaker at The Johnston, and MO. There have been a few issues with the booking system especially if people are paying by cash or do not have internet access.

AP to shadow MMc on his return to work to see how things run.

Cleaning – the toilet/shower blocks are closed between 12-2pm every day for cleaning, although it is hoped that the cleaner at the Johnston will do this we may have to employ a separate cleaner.

It was agreed that M McGaw requires a bank card to pay for smaller items, e.g. fuel, office supplies. To be arranged.

As Manager he should be managing the day to day running including administration. All payments are being done by KDT but a record is being kept.

There is a notice stating that staff from the Pool man the site, this is to be removed.

Action FK

Seaward (FK & NP)

FK and NP have met with Cllr D Campbell to discuss the access to The Hut and the area across the road. We will only have pedestrian access from the entrance of Seaward Caravan Park not vehicle access. Mr Gillespie owns the access land but we have pedestrian access the Hut owns the land it sits on. Mr Gillespie is not keen on the Hut being used.

FK to reinstate the fence that had been taken down.

Action FK

A brief outline about the Hut was given to AA

AA enquired whether the Hut required a licence following changes regarding letting regulations by The Scottish Government.

Action: FK

FK has spoken to a plumber and electrician about the supply to The Hut, both know the building well and are happy to advise if and when required.

Funding (DC)

Scottish Government was money due next week. It was expected that this would be the first instalment of the funding.

Waiting to hear the outcome of funding applied for Seaward and KIC, but in the meantime Kirkcudbright Community Kitchen (Community Centre) had been awarded funding from Kirkcudbright Common Good Fund.

Actions: None

Office (JM)

The office continues to be busy. Room hire in the Johnston going well

The Foodbank is still active, monthly requests for items to be included in our newsletter.

JM is busy with examination of accounts, building issues and bookkeeping.

Annie is an active member of the team, dealing with the day to day items and the KIC (Kirkcudbright Information Centre).

The Steam Punk event booking has been cancelled and will be held elsewhere in Kirkcudbright.

Building (FK)

The Clock tower inspection has taken place. J Campbell & Sons have put up and removed the scaffolding twice for the engineer. The steel beams are in a bad state of repair. Although it has been agreed that the beams need attention no responsibility has been taken by the architect There is also the issue of the water getting into the building even though the roof has been done before.

LG and AK are meeting Neil Cavers on 6th June 2023 to discuss how things go from here.

Paul Burley, engineer, who attended the building recently is to show a scheme of works.

Thanks to Alec Kinnell for his continued hard work on this matter.

Dark Space Planetarium (RM)

RM reported the DSP is extremely concerned about the current situation with the clock tower/roof. The worst thing that could happen is for the Planetarium to be shut during the summer period.

Unfortunately Frances Coombey, the Manager is leaving in July, interviews have taken place and it is hoped that a new appointment will be made soon.

Marketing/Communications (DC)

DC reported that the monthly calendar of events was being advertised by Amy Dee Watson and the calendar was also being sent to members through Mailchimp. We have started a "Now & Then" article, showing pictures of how the classrooms looked and how they are now.

Bookings were going well.

KDT Finances (HH)

Information had been circulated prior to the meeting. RM reported that the DSP bank account appears to be working now.

DC reported that Kirkcudbright Fringe are using the KDT bank account, this will be ringfenced funding.

SCP – M McGaw will be paid through KDT but invoices will be sent to SCP.

Youth Project (RM)

RM reported on behalf of Eilean Parker.

YP have a busy summer schedule planned with 3 trips planned;

Youth Beatz

Galloway Activity Centre

Flip Out

JB reported that he had offered to give kayaking sessions.

NP – Solway View can offer Frizby Golf

Action: RM to discuss with EP

Barhill Woods/Harbour (RA)

RA reported that there had been a few bookings for the Woods. The transfer is still going ahead and there is a presentation planned for August.

Stage: bookings are quiet, we need to advertise it more, encourage people to use it, maybe ask if the Academy seniors would want to use it for busking?

Action: DC to send info to Amy for media coverage

Action: RA to ask P Tebay about Academy pupils.

KIC

HH had circulated a report earlier. The KIC is busy and volunteers doing well. They need a notice board for community events.

Memorial to Pauline Saul is away for repair, hopefully will be back.

RSPB want to use the green area next to the KIC for an event, no issues raised.

5.AOB

Driving Lessons

FK asked if driving lessons could be provided for Adrian Philpot, all felt this was not appropriate.

BBC Filming

The BBC visited The Johnston along with journalist and presenter Ian Hamilton and his guide dog Major for the series My Kind of Town.

Ice Cream seller at harbour

NP raised an issue from a visitor – the ice cream van constantly has his engine running, not environmentally friendly.

Electric Charging Points

JB asked if we had any plans to get ECP at the Johnston. DC had tried to get funding, no luck.

LG – there are 8 in the Council carpark.

They are not fast charging which makes it difficult for people to use practically. It was noted that Gatehouse and Castle Douglas have fast charging points.

Action: DC will contact Cllr Campbell

Water Fountain

DC looking into this.

LG thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 4.50pm.

N.B. all the Trustees wished AC a Happy Birthday.