KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the meeting of Kirkcudbright Development Trust
held on Monday 10th November 2025 in the Meeting Room at The Johnston.

Present
Lesley Garbutt – Chair (LG)
Helen Henderson (HH)
Rob Asbridge (RA)
Hollie Mitchell (HM)
Derek Smith (DS)
John Blaikie (JB)

Debbie Craig (DC)

Deborah Firth (DF Minute Secretary)

Apologies
Brian Thomson (BT)
Jenny Milby (JM)

1.Welcome & Apologies
LG welcomed all to the meeting with a reminder of the declaration of interest. The following Declarations were made: - LG also reminded Trustees that when in KDT meeting, they are there as members of KDT Board.

LG – DSP/Silvercraigs / Swimming Pool
RA – Silvercraigs
DS - Silvercraigs
HM – DSP

Minutes of last meeting held in September 2025

The Minutes were agreed by HH and seconded by RA. There were no matters arising

2. Reporting

Silvercraigs & Hut

RA reported that all seems quieter at the Park. Colin was off sick today and had phoned Adrian – RA will stress that he needs to be contacted in case of absence.

The Hut

An invoice had been received recently for water at the hut – DF has contacted the company concerned querying this as the supply is private and the council has been paid annually for water testing. The matter was referred to Scottish Water – a representative arrived at the Hut this morning to check. It was confirmed that the supply is private, so invoice is to be cancelled.

Funding/Claims

DC. Awaiting outcome of further funding for the Meeting Centre - this is for running costs ie staff admin and room hire. An extension for Scottish Government funding is awaited and a further amount from CEIS. **DS** suggested approaching Kings Trust which DC will look into.

Office & Building

DC read through report supplied by **JM**. **DS** asked a couple of questions from the report as he is playing "catch up". Answers were provided. A vote of thanks was proposed for **HM** for her hard work putting together the power point presentation. Quotes are in hand for repairs to the chimney.

DSP

BT sent in comments to be raised ahead of the meeting – these concerned the current status of the Tower. It was reiterated that we are in the hands of the solicitors / legal process. They have been informed of this, but it was agreed, for clarity, that an email would be sent after each meeting with any updates.

Marketing & Communications

DC First reel added to Facebook – this was the youth projects "spooky corridor" which all agreed was a great success and a letter of appreciation is to be sent to the team acknowledging their hard work. There has been very positive feedback about their display in Soaperie Gardens for Armistice Day. Amy is updating website and will prepare year end reports for social media engagement etc. It was highlighted again that there really needs to be a new photo on the website of the Board and the current one is out of date.

Tenancy Agreements

HH is awaiting a letter from Festivities regarding the reduction in standing charges for future electricity recharges**. JB** wil**l** action**.** Next tenants meeting arranged for early December,

KDT Finances

HH Circulated report prior to the meeting to all. LG made a Declaration of Interest in the Book Festival which is now a CIC. They need to make changes to their banking arrangements and request we act for them temporarily. This was agreed.

Youth Project

HM Evening sessions are going well and are well attended. Morgyn has now returned to work.

Barhill and Harbour Stage

RA His contact with Forest & Land Scotland has left so he has to start the process over again – this may require a management agreement, but he sees no issue with this. There are two cameras not working at the Harbour – RA is aware and is investigating.

KIC

HH The centre is now closed until next season – takings are down on last year, which is accredited to the closure of the bridge over the summer. Figures were very low for October – and consideration may be given to closing end of September in future.

3. **AOB**:

A general discussion followed regarding the upcoming Christmas Weekend – **JB** advised that the lights are going to cost in the region of £1500 / 2000 and this is falling to Festivities. A contribution has been received from Rotary. It was suggested that contact be made with The Chamber of Commerce (who received funding last year) new business group / Nick Morris? Also apply for funding going forward.
Santa is not going to be in the KIC this year but will be at Greyfriars Church, **LG** expressed disappointment that many of the shops also seem to be doing their own thing on different dates.

The current situation with the Youth Shelter was raised. **DC** confirmed that planning would have to be applied for to make any changes to the layout (possibility to turn it round) and the donor who was prepared to pay any costs does not want to be liable to additional planning costs. It was therefore agreed that **DC** should find out what would be involved with simply repairing it as is.

Next meeting with be 12th January 2026 4pm in the small meeting room at The Johnston.

LG thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 4.55pm