

**THE BALLANTRAE TRUST
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
16th August 2018, 8pm BRICC HOUSE**

In attendance: Andy McAlpine (Chair), John McIlwraith (Treasurer), Mhairi McKenna, Jessie Brown, Carol Bell, Alan Bell, Dan Cunningham, Gavin Fairbairn, Claire Mills, Aylie McIlwraith, Andrew Ward (Creetown Initiative) and Chris Hanna (Creetown Initiative).

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies from Siobhan Liddington

2. Approval of minutes of meeting 19 July 2018

Approved by John seconded by Aylie.

3. Matters Arising

There were none - all were covered elsewhere in the agenda.

4. Update Paper

The contents of the paper bringing members up-to-date on what had been happening since the July Board meeting were noted.

5. Financial Matters (Accounts Summary & Grant Funding Summary)

Chris explained the current bank position along with the individual pots of Restricted Funds for the various projects. A update was given of the latest funding situation including the latest funds that had been received for the various projects. Chris had prepared a graph for some of the playpark projects which shows the estimated cost of each project and the current level of funding that has been achieved.

John told the meeting that on-line banking has now been arranged by RBS but when he logs in it also shows personal and Community Council accounts. The same situation applies to Andy's login. **We agreed** the current position of online banking showing Community Council and personal account details needs changed or it means that Chris can't have access to account.

Action: John and Chris to speak to RBS and consider moving bank in the medium term. Chris to put the graph on the The Trust's FB site – but show the sub group first.

6. Update on Membership – recruitment & approval of new members

New members were recruited at the Smuggler's Festival – 7 ordinary and 22 associate. Andy reminded Board members to continue to recruit new members. **We agreed** to welcome into membership the 29 new members. Total membership is now 108.

Action: Chris to send a thank you for joining/welcome email or letter to each.

7. BFFD Next Steps

Andy explained why he had written the paper "BFFD - the next steps". It sets out the Board's role following the decision to go ahead with a 2019 Festival, outlines information and actions which will help to support funding applications, and explains our journey towards sustainability for the Festival and less reliance on grant funding. We discussed the budget paper for 2019 prepared by Mhairi and Siobhan and made some suggestions.

We agreed:

- The information in Andy's paper should be used for grant applications along with a budget for 2019
- The budget paper prepared by Mhairi and Siobhan to be revised to reflect discussions about how to present income streams to grant funders, the journey to self-sufficiency over a number of years, and include the cost of a rigorous impact analysis by an external body.
- To explore funding for "learning journeys" to learn from other food and drink festivals – this could be available from the Community Learning Exchange
- The need to recruit more volunteers for 2019
- The sub group to consider one or more additional sponsors (in addition to Grants / Hendricks)

- Entry fee for 2019 of £5 with a discount for locals

Action: Chris to work with the sub group to pull the information from the two papers together and submit grant applications to the Ballantrae Community Fund (27 August) and Carrick Futures (10 September)

8. New Website and Trust Facebook page

Dan gave an overview of his paper explaining the reasoning for a new website. We have £2,000 towards the target. **We agreed** the proposals in Dan's paper regarding a new over-arching website for Ballantrae.

Action:

- Dan and Chris to start considering the next steps so that when funding is in place we can start discussions with the contractor about content, and consultation with village groups and businesses
- Content of Smugglers Festival, BFFD & Year of Young People Facebook pages should, in future, be incorporated in the Trust FB page

9. Harbour Transfer

Following discussion, **we agreed:**

- To do nothing about a transfer from the BCC at the moment
- With regard water supply at the harbour, particularly for the BFFD, there needs to be a permanent solution rather than erecting a temporary stand-pipe during the BFFD

Action: John to investigate with Scottish Water the costs of installing a water supply at the harbour

10. "After the Fire"

Gavin, Claire and Aylie reported on their actions since the last meeting. Discussion took place about a potential after school "treat" for primary school children. Alan suggested he could carry out food science experiments – these would be open to children and parents. All **agreed** this was a good idea.

We agreed:

- Not to pursue the planting of fruit trees on the A77
- The provision of fruit to school children is already covered as part of school lunches
- To explore "food science experiments" as described by Alan as an after school treat for parents and children

Action: Alan, Claire, Aylie to work up a proposal for a "food science experiment" event after school and involve Laura Cunningham of the Parent Council.

11. Play Park and Recreation Ground Upgrade – MUGA

Chris gave an update on the funding for the various play park projects and time scales, in particular where funding has been received and should be spent within 12 months. Chris will now focus on bringing additional funding in for the Trampoline and the Seating Area. There is a substantial pot of unrestricted funds within the overall play park project and the suggestion is that some of that be used towards the Trampoline which might be harder to fund than disabled access to the seating area. **We agreed** Fiona Stevenson and Cheryl Agnew (joint chairs of the sub group) be invited to a future Board meeting to discuss their vision of the upgrade to the Play Park and Recreation Ground and how it will be achieved. The meeting also **agreed** to use some of the play park unrestricted funds for the Trampoline. Chris will look at the project and suggest how much might be used.

12. Smugglers Festival

Andy announced to the meeting that this year's Festival was the last he would be organising. He has co-ordinated five Smugglers' Festivals and wondered if the Festival has run its course. He will prepare the evaluation of the 2018 festival and if the Board decide to continue with the Festival he would be happy to help but not be the organiser. It needs new ideas and a radical re-think.

Action:

- Andy to produce evaluation of this year's festival
- All reflect on the future of the Ballantrae Smugglers Festival in the light of the evaluation

13. Trust Premises

Chris and Mhairi updated the Board on progress. The search for suitable premises continues.

14. Kilphin Glen

Andy had produced a paper outlining his discussions with Glenapp Castle about their plans to improve access for walkers, the general public, and hotel guests. They were interested to know whether this is a project the Trust would be prepared to support.

Action: Andy to continue discussions with Glenapp Castle regarding their plans for Kilphin Glen and to keep the Board informed.

15. Biosphere Stinchar Valley PLACE project

Andy, Mhairi and Chris had met with the project officers for the PLACE project - to discuss specifically the Stinchar Valley element of the project - and agreed to put the idea of a public workshop to the Trust Board and Community Council. Board Members **agreed** to put the date in their diaries and to encourage attendance.

We agreed to jointly host a public consultation on Monday 10 September 7pm-9pm in the Community Hall.

Action: Andy, Mhairi and Chris to continue to liaise with the Biosphere project officers about the detailed arrangements for the workshop.

16. Ballantrae Development Plan

We agreed the need to devote DO resources, working in partnership with the BCC, to revise the Ballantrae Development Plan. The Biosphere PLACE project, and the consultation on Trust priorities carried out in 2017 can feed into that review.

17. Brainstorming session on fund-raising

Action: Andy to organise for September.

18. Electric Car Charging Points and Affordable Housing

Andrew and Chris thought these might be of interest to the Trust.

Action: Andrew and Chris to prepare papers on these topics for a future Board meeting

19. Next meeting Thursday 20th September at 7pm in BRICC House