

**The Ballantrae Trust**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**18th October 2018**

**In attendance:** Mhairi McKenna, (Stand in Chair of Meeting), Carol Bell, Alan Bell, Jessie Brown, Aylie McIlwraith, Andrew Ward and Chris Hanna (Creetown Initiative).

**1. Apologies**

Andy McAlpine, John McIlwraith, Daniel Cunningham, Claire Mills, Siobhan Liddington, Gavin Fairbairn.

**2. Approval of minutes from meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018.**

Minutes approved by Alan Bell and seconded by Carol Bell.

**3. Matters Arising**

All items covered by agenda.

**4. Following up on offers of assistance**

Chris suggested an “open evening” where we invite those who indicated they are happy to help the Trust. It could be in the format of a market place where Board members could chat to potential volunteers about the various projects the Trust is undertaking. It was decided by the meeting that it should be a Christmas social event giving those who attend a glass of wine and a mince pie.

**Action:** Chris to check availability of the hall at the end Nov/beginning of Dec and will circulate those dates around the Board.

**5. Financial Matters.**

The account statement was self-explanatory.

Updated grant funding strategy had been circulated to the board members. Ballantrae Community fund panel meet Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. We have three applications for consideration, BFFD, Trainee Development Officer and Website.

**6. Update on Membership.**

No new members since last meeting.

**Action.** Ongoing - Board members to continue to encourage people they know to become members.

**7.Trust Premises.**

The small room in the Community Hall has been secured and the Trust can share it with Roy. Access to the office is only available while Roy is in the building. Mhairi has reserved a desk and four chairs from BRICC for £25. Only two chairs required as the room is too small to fit more. Chris will spend a day a week at the office. The same day so that people will get to know she is there. Day to be confirmed.

**Action –** Mhairi to organise the desk and chair to be delivered to the new office.

**8. Development Officers Second Review**

Andrew confirmed that the review had been carried out by email between Andy, John, Chris and himself. He confirmed the priorities that have been agreed for the Development Officers going forward.

**9. Democracy Matters**

This is an opportunity for communities to have a say on various aspects of community life. There will be an event on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm in the Community Hall for people to give their input. It is also possible to give feedback online.

**10. DTAS Oil Buying and Electric Schemes**

Alan has investigated the DTAS bulk oil buying scheme. We would require to purchase a minimum of 12,000 litres and the price is 0.5p less than the normal rate. The meeting was

told that each order would have to be 12,000 and that to co-ordinate that amongst at least 12 households would be very difficult. The amount we would gain in commission would be £60. Alan's recommendation is that we don't pursue this. The cost of the DTAS price for individual orders of oil is quite competitive. Discussion also took place about electricity costs and Andrew suggested that encouraging people to switch providers might form part of another wider project.

**Action:** Chris and Andrew to consider where funding might be found to carry out such a project.

## **11. Food Science Experiments**

There had been a sub group meeting. There is only a handful of children who would take part if outside school hours. The school are keen for the activity to take place during school time. It was decided to try in school time and it would start next month at the school in Girvan. It was also decided to hold a session with the nursery children in Ballantrae.

**Action:** The sub-group to progress the first sessions and report back to the Board.

## **12. Trust Projects.**

BFFD – The first meeting of the sub group was held at the beginning of the week. There is £5,000 secured from the Regional Food Fund.

Telephone Box – The Trust has an opportunity to adopt an old telephone box. The cost is £1. The box is situated in Heronsford and the Trust will have to pay for transportation. Anne McCulloch of McCulloch Rail has agreed to store the box until a suitable place is decided upon. The intention is to use it as a "Heritage Information Point as part of the Linking Technology and History project.

**Action:** Chris to obtain quote from transportation company and to organise transportation.

**13. Update Paper:** The contents of this were noted.

## **14. Any Other Business**

Films – Alan reported that there were 6 people who attended the last film night. It was felt that another element should be added to future film evenings to encourage people to attend or reduce the ticket price. A suggestion was a "cinema and supper" evening.

**Action:** The sub group to discuss options and make recommendations.

**14. Next Meeting on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm in BRICC House**