

# MINUTE OF MEETING

## MID DEESIDE COMMUNITY TRUST – BOARD

16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.00 pm

Conference Call on Zoom

<b>Present:</b>	Alan Emslie (AE) (Chair), Peter Barker (PB), Cllr Peter Argyle (PA), Steve Gardyne (SG), Richard Smout (RS), Peter Lee (PL) and Gail Amey (GA) mins
<b>Apologies:</b>	Mark Mitchell (MM) Johnathan Kitching (JK), Brian Rae (BR) and Dave Marshall of MDCC (DM)
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Approval of Minutes:</b> The approval of the Minutes of 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022 were proposed by RS and seconded by SG.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Accounts:</b> GA discussed the accounts up to December 2022. The bank accounts are mainly for restricted funds and are in a positive position.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Project Updates:</b>  <b>Transport</b> The new bus arrived which has been well received with our passengers. We have had a couple of teething problems but we are working with Minibus Options to resolve.  <b>Woodlands</b> Duncan and the team have clogged the fallen trees and we have earned £800 in donations for the wood for domestic use. The felling licence will be approved by the next meeting and hopefully the work will have started to collect the fallen trees. PL has offered to go up and cut some wood when required as the stocks are low for collection.  <b>ABPA</b> Nothing to report.  <b>Wheelers</b> SG advised the Board that unfortunately Place Based Investment application was not successful the feedback suggested that the application fell short in some of the targets. The group has ringfenced the funds from Clothworkers and Children's Lottery to apply for the project. A meeting at the Rotary was positive and they have offered to offer their support to the project. Geeva Blackett has suggested to use a known consultant to assist but SG will not be going forward with her suggestion due to financial constraints. A committee meeting will be held soon to discuss future activities. SG is still engaging with Elgin and Banchory to share ideas and funding material to help the project.  <b>CPR Deeside</b> Nothing new to report.  <b>Aboyne Paths &amp; Tracks Group</b> AE updated on JK's behalf and updated the board that they had a very successful fundraiser at The Boat Inn raising £1000.00 hosting a quiz.  The gate at the water works is now in place into Robert Gardens field. The last work party did some clearing of old fences on the riverside west path. The strimmer course has

provided us with 6 trained and qualified Strimmer operators. We now have 5 strimmers, 1 electric, 4 petrol 2 of which we have been given.

We continue to work on several project fronts.

- Aboyne to Glen Tanar
- Dunecht paths south of the river
- Desmuir paths under mortlich and little hill and the Deeside line
- Castle woods, easy access paths

A small group of APTG volunteers from the base in the mens shed will be adopting a section of the Mortlich path to do routine maintenance. This has been thoroughly set up to ensure all H&S, landowner agreements and insurance matters are applied.

JK continues to be in London on a chemotherapy trial at UCL Hospitals.

#### **HARP**

Nothing much to report.

#### **Station Square Renovation Project**

The amended plan for the lower square has now been resubmitted as requested by Aberdeenshire Council. The water bowser has been purchased to maintain the planters. Further plans have been discussed with the Aboyne business association and MDCC to close the car park entrance opposite the Huntly hotel. A planning application has been submitted for this. With the remaining funds a few planters in front of the green, new picnic benches and bike parking are also planned improvements. A separate application has been submitted for these items. There is no money left to place planters at the entrance to the village from either end but going forward there may be a future possibility to improve both entry points and further consultation would be advantageous. If we develop a plan and then have it ready when future funding becomes available, it could be quickly implemented.

#### **Aboyne FareShare**

Cfine are now charging £100 to be a member.

#### **Community Garden**

RS has met with Nick Mardell, Aberdeenshire Council to identify community garden site. Greenspace have offered to put in some perennial bushes and MDCT will plant the annuals. Greenspaces subgroup within MDCT made contact with the Horizon project which was very informative, they had great ideas going forward. A lady who is involved with Forres in Bloom has offered to share information with RS. PB is arranging an event to invite the community to come along to discuss getting people involved in a Greenspaces Committee as well as share ideas. The meeting has been arranged at Victory Hall and hopefully will attract some keen volunteers who have skills to support the project. The board discussed ideas on how to make the event fruitful. The planting of new fruit bushes on the Deeside Way and fruit trees are continued to be planted around the village.

#### **H&W**

Nothing to report.

#### **Jubilee Fountain**

AE went to visit Ed who switches on the water around May and off in September to discuss water supply in the area around the green. The gentleman was really helpful but it is not believed that the water for the fountain or the games is a suitable supply to water the planters in the village.

	<p><b>Education</b> Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>Artist in Residence</b> The courses are ongoing and there has been some very positive feedback on the courses.</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>A.O.B.:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There has been one meeting to discuss the breakout zones. SG put a risk assessment together on behalf of Dinnet and the group. 10K has been offered to each area for small purchases and using the SE grants for the larger items. Communication is still an ongoing problem due to BT fibreglass lines. Volunteers are coming forward very easily. KON hall has received a quote to install a generator. The plan must be ready by June 2022 to discuss how the plans fall align with the Council objectives. Integration possibilities with MDCT with regards to storage of food in our distribution point. The area we cover is quite broad, so a cohesive plan is taking its time to coordinate.</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> The next meeting will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7pm via Zoom.</p>

**Date Approved .....****Chairman**