

# MINUTE OF MEETING

## MID DEESIDE COMMUNITY TRUST – BOARD

21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 at 7.00 pm

Conference Call on Zoom

<b>Present:</b>	Alan Emslie (AE) (Chair), Mark Mitchell (MM), Dave Marshall of MDCC (DM), Brian Rae (BR), Cllr Peter Argyle (PA), Duncan Cassie (DC), Johnathan Kitching (JK) and Gail Amey (GA) (Minutes)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Wilson Forbes (WF), Lynn Mackie (LM) and Richard Smout (RS)
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Approval of Minutes:</b>  Minutes of 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 were approved by MM and seconded by DC.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Accounts:</b> GA updated the Board on the project funds and the DCT end of year.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Project Updates:</b>  <b>Transport</b> Silver Circle and Aboyne Academy have started back this week.  We have been successful in our funding with The Robertson Trust which will help us over 3 years to sustain the dial-a-bus service. Our new bus fund is estimated to be £41,600.00 as the Coop Community Fund is dependent on the number of votes we receive.  <b>Woodlands</b> Now that restrictions have been eased there are 6 people allowed to work outside. With this in mind work parties are being scheduled for Lady Wood in the coming month. 700 trees have been planted or redistributed within the Aboyne to other projects. The board recognised that we are a carbon negative trust, and an opportunity exists to achieve a recognised accreditation. Future plans for funding are planned for permanent signage to highlight the emergency access and 10-year reviews of Bell Wood and Lady Wood.  <b>ABPA</b> Work parties will resume in May to complete the resurfacing maintenance on the bike park. Funding from Sports Scotland have been applied for the extension to the bike park.  <b>Wheelers</b> Funding efforts continue to Fife Environmental Trust, McRobert Trust and Sport Scotland.  <b>CPR Deeside</b> Nothing to report.  <b>Aboyne Paths Group</b>  Work parties starting again as of 1 May. 1st sat of the month and Third Wednesday of the month. APTG are looking ahead to the publication of the second walks leaflet spring 2022 and engaging with landowners. The Boat Inn wish to make APTG their fund-raising group

	<p>this next summer. No movement on the Glen Tanar - Aboyne link. Looking at possibilities of a path between the water works west fence and the field. 30 trees planted on the river bank along the new fence. Community Support Group ideas coming together slowly (staycation initiative).</p> <p><b>Huntly Hotel</b> DS updated the board on the site visit with the new owner. The new owner has secured the site and made minor maintenance to the property.</p> <p><b>Station Square Renovation Project</b></p> <p>Due to work commitments and a house move, NS has resigned her project leader role. BR has been assigned the new role supported by AE. The project is behind due to time lags with final agreements and consent from Aberdeenshire Council. The board discussed the proposed changes to the safety concerns regarding parking near the new planters. It was agreed the changes to drainage, wider kerbs, relocation of bike parking, Marshalls lock block for planters to sit on and the plants to be predominantly evergreens as opposed to annuals to reduce maintenance, were all suitable options. BR will forward the plans to the board for their perusal. Contractors still needs to be sought to complete the groundworks, electric works and gardening aspect. Storage options for the materials to support the project were discussed. DS highlighted that the lights in the square were not all functioning and that future funding maybe sought to improve the shrouds.</p> <p><b>Aboyne FareShare</b> The project continues to grow, accessing a variety of food distributors as well as larders to ensure food support reaches everyone who needs assistance. Funding has been successful with another £500 secured from the Community Food Fund as well as donations of £1030 from St Kentigern's in Ballater and parishioners from St Thomas church in Aboyne. GA is attending meetings with food groups across Aberdeenshire to compile a report that gives us a snapshot of the community need in terms of type of user, support required and the duration they believe they will require it. The aim of the report is to give a roadmap of all food support groups within Aberdeen and the shire.</p> <p><b>COVID-19 Support</b> Support is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Community Garden</b> RS is moving forward with plans.</p> <p><b>H&amp;W</b> Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>Jubilee Fountain</b> Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>Education</b> No update</p>
4.	<b>A.O.B.:</b>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New project - <i>Socially-Engaged Artist in Residency in the Village of Aboyne, An Open Art Studio for the Village and surrounding area</i>. Funding continues to meet the project goals.</li> <li>2. Facebook is still not operational.</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> The next meeting will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.</p>

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