

Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust
AGM Minutes 2017
8th November 2017

ATTENDING: Oliver Giles, Amy Woolvin, Jennifer Fraser, Jackie Taylor (TGLP), Jennifer Stewart, Malcom MacGarvin, Doug Nisbett, John Shewan, Alison Shewan, Ros Tansley, John Tansley, Sandra White, Cathal Breen, Scott Ashworth, Jenny Hershall, John Pollack, David Toovey, Antony Birchall, Jean Birchall, Hamish McIntosh, Tilly Smith, Bill Lannagan, Mark Finnie.

APOLOGIES: Fiona Robb *HIE*, Gordon Sutherland *Moray Council*, Vicky Hilton *Crown Estate Scotland*, Liz Henderson *CNPA*

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous AGM were approved on the proposal of Doug Nisbett and seconded by Mark Finnie.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising from the 2016 minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS: Mark reported it had been another incredibly busy year in which the Trust has grown its assets, staffing levels and volunteer network. The asset transfer of the hostel and Visitor Information Centre to community ownership has been a major step forward and significant improvements have already been made to both properties. In 2018 the trust will push for charitable status which will open up new funding streams and help with business rates. Mark welcomed David Toovey and John Pollack, who were appointed during 2017, to the board.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Oli reported that 2017 had be characterised as a year of asset development with progress being made with the campsite at the Smuggler's Hostel, the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Business Centre, the Discovery Centre refurbishment and the community development plan for 2018-2022. Productive discussions have also been had about the continuation of funding for the local development officer post.

At the same time the trust has continued in successfully carrying out its core activities- running a successful events programme, updating its own governance structure and managing the Smuggler's Hostel and Museum. Funding has also been source for the additional role of participation manager which should be advertised shortly.

An update on the progress of the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Discovery Centre was given, with plans displayed.

The Smuggler's hostel continued to generate a profit this season, despite having problems with staff turnover. The next steps for the hostel are to investigate and implement a wet heating system, increase marketing of the campsite and the development of semi-permanent glamping units.

Oli invited Malcom to give an update on the broadband situation, which had seemed positive in 2016 but, due to the collapse of the aggregated broadband project, has now taken several steps backwards. Malcom presented several options for going forward but was clear that where we go from here will require significant research and discussion.

In summing up Oli categorised the four main steps the trust hope to pursue in 2018 as: the delivery of the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership Programme, achieving charitable status for the Trust, extending core funding until 2020 and the expansion of the Trust's income generation portfolio.

Thanks were given to the Trust's funders – Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Moray Council, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership, Heritage Lottery Fund, Cairngorm LEADER and the Crown Estate Scotland.

Oli finished with a brief account of his trip to Christchurch, New Zealand as part of the Social Enterprise World Forum 2017.

Questions were taken on the need for an update of the TGDT website and the outdated tourist information signs in the village. It was agreed these would be looked at in time although the notice boards may fall under CES responsibility. It was questioned how the training needs of new hostel staff was being met and Oli agreed that updated training procedures would be developed in partnership with TGLP. Questions about future projects for the trust were referred to the four year plan, which will be consulted on later in 2017.

TGLP UPDATE: Jackie Taylor gave an overview of the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership programme, a £3.6 million Heritage Lottery funded project to rejuvenate the Tomintoul and Glenlivet area working with 21 project partners one of which is TGDT. Updates were given on the themes of improving heritage and engaging with heritage, with Amy Woolvin (community heritage officer) giving an update on the theme of learning about heritage and opportunities for volunteering.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS AND VOTING: Two co opted members of the Board, John Pollack and David Toovey, stood for re-election. It was agreed voting would be done by a show of hands. With no opposition to either candidate both were duly elected to the board. Any other parties interested in becoming involved with the board were invited to speak to directors after the meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS: The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and all directors and staff for their hard work.