



TGDT AGM

7th November 2018 (Draft)

Attending members: Bill Lannagan, Jane Lannagan, Callum Dingwall, Alison Shewan, Fiona Toovey, John Shewan, Steve Smith, Andrea Polak, Andy Wallace, Maggie Paget, Val Ireland, Tony Birchall, Scott Ashforth, Cathal Breen, Tricia Lawson, Ken Lawson, Jenny Herschell, Rosalind Tansley, John Tansley, Mike Woolvin, Sarah Walker, Caroline McIntosh, Laurence Prime, Sam Robinson, Eleanor MacKintosh, Tilly Smith (TGDT Director), John Polak (TGDT Director), David Toovey (TGDT Director – Treasurer), Jennifer Stewart (TGDT Director), Malcolm MacGarvin (TGDT Director), Doug Nisbet (TGDT Director – Chair).

Others in attendance: Murray Ferguson (CNPA), Karen Derrick (VABS), Fiona Robb (HIE), Fiona Smith (Delfinity), Sarah Whitman (Delfinity), Joe Gribben (Highland Small Communities Housing Trust) Rebecca Irons (TGDT staff), Jennifer Fraser (TGDT staff minutes), Oli Giles (TGDT staff), Amy Woolvin (TGDT staff)

Apologies: Simon Ovenden (Crown Estate Scotland)

Welcome

Doug Nisbet opened the meeting and set out the purpose of the meeting. Before looking back over the 2017-2018 year Doug gave an update on some of the Trust's current and future projects:

- **Housing and Mixed Development** Community consultation has suggested that in Tomintoul the old school area would be the preferred location for development. The Trust is currently in discussion with the site's owner and the Scottish Land Fund with regards to the feasibility of this development.
- **Caravan Park** Glenlivet Estate has suggested a possible site which they may be willing to sell to TGDT. These discussions are at an early stage and a full consultation will be held when the proposed location is finalised.
- **Glenlivet Bike Hub** TGDT is keen to be involved in the hub and Glenlivet Estate have indicated they would support this. The current tender process makes it hard for the Trust to increase their involvement at the current time but TGDT will look to form partnerships going forward.
- **Observatory** Doug expressed thanks to David Newlands, Sam Robinson and TGLP for their hard work on the Dark Skies project which has the potential to significantly boost tourism in the area. If the observatory plans are progressed a site near the bike hub would be preferred.
- **Community Woodland** TGDT are supporting TGHG in their bid to create a community woodland near Drumin Castle and hope disabled access to the castle can be incorporated in this.

A brief review of 'Wild In The Park' was given, this event was felt to be very successful and well attended.

A breakdown of the staffing position of the Trust was given, with nine staff in place during the season in a mix of full time, part time and seasonal roles.

Thanks were given to all the volunteers and community groups who continue to support the trust.

Minutes of Previous AGM

Minutes of the 2017 AGM were presented by Tilly Smith and questions or queries invited. There being no comments the minute was proposed by Jennifer Stewart and seconded by John Shewan, there were no matters arising.

Chair's Report

Doug Nisbet delivered the Chair's report highlighting the following points:

- The Trust is a social enterprise and as such needs to continue to work toward self-sustainability, assets should be managed so as to provide a contribution to the Trust as well as the community.
- Following significant complaints at the EGM about the Trust applying for charitable status TGDT has taken further advice and no longer believes becoming an SCIO is the best way forward at this point, although it may be revisited in the future.
- Credit was given to all board members for commitment and attendance at meetings and events. TGDT has recently commissioned an independent board health check and initial feedback suggest this will not find any serious concerns.
- Members' communication and the TGDT website were both identified by the board for areas of improvement and actions are in hand in these areas.

Thanks were given to Development Manager Oliver Giles, the TGDT board, members and funders.

Doug invited questions and the following comments were raised:

- Why the AGM was being held so early (6pm) – it was clarified that this was to balance the needs of staff and those travelling to the meeting with those who live locally.
- Communication should not just be with members but also with other local groups such as KATCA, GICA, CES and the business group. Doug stated that TGDT regularly attend KATCA and GICA meetings and both organisations have now recommended someone for the TGDT board. There are also regular meetings with CES and talks are ongoing with the business group. It was suggested by the member that it may be beneficial to hold regular joint meeting with all organisations.
- It was suggested the business group could be asked to have a representative on the board. Doug stated that this offer has been made.
- Further information on the proposed caravan park location was requested but due to the early stage of this project this could not be provided.

(The chair's report can be viewed in full here: <http://tgdt.org.uk/tomintoul-glenlivet-development-trust/downloads/>)

Development Manager's Report

Oli Giles delivered the Development Manager's Report highlighting:

- The positive input by staff and volunteers in to both the day to day running of TGDT facilities and special events.
- The successful events help by TGDT this year including Skerryvore, Wild in the Park and the Discover Centre events programme.
- The successful seasons had by Tomintoul and Glenlivet Discovery Centre and The Smugglers Hostel.

Oli gave further thanks to TGDT volunteers, staff and stakeholders.

(The Development Manager's report can be viewed in full here: <http://tgdt.org.uk/tomintoul-glenlivet-development-trust/downloads/>)

Presentation of Annual Accounts

Accounts for the 2017-2018 period were presented by David Toovey and questions or comments invited from members. A member asked for clarification of the 'trade debtors/creditors' figure, Oli Giles explained this figure

related to the way in which grant payments are drawn down. It was questioned whether the Smuggler's Hostel held its own reserves and Doug clarified that due to another successful season £15000 is held in hostel reserves.

The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Jennifer Stewart and seconded by Andrea Pollock.

Election of Directors

Jennifer Stewart and Malcom MacGarvin stood down as directors; Tilly Smith also stood down as required by the constitution but immediately stood for re-election.

Two new candidates, Jenny Herschell and Andy Wallace, also stood for election and all three candidates (Tilly, Andy and Jenny) were unanimously voted on to the board by a show of hands.

As vacancies remain anyone interested in joining the board was invited to speak to Doug at any point over the year.

Closing Remarks

Murray Fergusson (CNPA) spoke of the work being done by the Snow Roads project and the potential for positive impact on the TGDT area. He also stressed the need to look beyond the end of the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership project and toward the legacy this will leave. Doug confirmed the TGLP and TGDT are working very closely together and the Trust is enthusiastic about being in a position to take on legacy projects.

Doug thanked everyone for attendance and closed the meeting.