

Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust Board Meeting



DATE: 16th November 2016

VENUE: Crown Estate, Tomintoul

Attendees

Mark Finnie (Chair, TGDT), Mary Williams Edgar (Company Secretary, TGDT), Tilly Smith (Membership Director, TGDT), Jennifer Stewart (Director TGDT), Dr Malcolm MacGarvin (Director, TGDT) Doug Nisbet (Director, TGDT), Fiona Robb (HIE) Oliver Giles (Local Development Officer, TGDT), Justin Livesey (Business Development Manager, TGDT),

Apologies:

Lee Haxton (CNPA), Vicky Hilton (Countryside Manager Crown Estate),

Previous Minutes	ACTION
<p>Proposed Mary</p> <p>Seconded Mark</p>	
Matters arising	
<p>Doug Nisbet introduced himself at the meeting. He is involved in online education at RGU. He is also on the Thistle Down editorial team and has an interest in areas of economic development.</p> <p>Dr Malcolm MacGarvin also introduced himself. He has a PhD in Ecology. He is involved and is the chair of the Wildlife Group. He has experience of the European Commission at policy level and in negotiations. He has also worked in the food sector. Lived in the area for two years and interested in how small businesses set up in remote areas.</p> <p>Oli discussed the opportunity to get access to a mapping tool that the Crown Estate have. It was agreed that the Trust would take this opportunity and approach Vicky Hilton to get training on its use.</p> <p>There was no news on the new Crown Estate Board but something that the Trust would be interested to know about when it happens.</p>	<p>OG</p>

<p>Election of Officers</p> <p>Doug was approached for the role of finance & business planning. He agreed to look at this but wanted to know the scope of the work being agreed. Mark & Oli are to meet with Doug to go through this.</p> <p>Tilly proposed we stay with the current office bearers until the 7th of December.</p> <p>There was a discussion around a review and the Trust having a facilitated session at the next meeting. This session it was agreed would be a scoping and skill mapping exercise with a view to creating a long term vision and explore future possibilities. Fiona offered to organise someone to come help with a session following the February meeting.</p>	<p>MF & OG</p> <p>FR</p>
Trading Subsidiary Report	
<p>Justin went through the season finances. He showed how The Smugglers has seen revenues grow by 25% on the previous year and Tomintoul Museum & VIC has seen revenues drop by £1244. He went through the operational expenses and how staff costs at the VC had increased.</p> <p>The overall end of year figures where positive with operational profit up by 42% on the previous year and healthy growth in bed nights in the hostel & visitors in the VC.</p>	
Board matters	
<p>Communication was discussed, there was agreement for a need to identify the groups & people the Trust needed to speak to. A range communication strategies were needed. Building stronger links with Schools and having a personal approach.</p>	<p>OG</p>
Project updates & proposals	
<p><i>VIC Refurbishment</i></p> <p>The project was still at stage one and a request for using £57K of contingency was tabled and LEADER have been asked to increase grant offer. Oli discussed the need to buy items for the fit out that ranged from £500 - £2000. There is a potential need for the LDO delegated spending limit to be increased to £2000 on the museum refurbishment to avoid delays in purchasing caused by authorisation requests. Tilly proposed this and Jennifer seconded and was voted in. Oli brought up the possibility of getting sponsorship. Baxter’s foundation, John Muir Trust & Robertson’s Trust were mentioned as possible places to try.</p>	

<p><i>Recruitment</i></p> <p>Oli discussed the possible need to accelerate the appointing of the Communications Position as part of the Landscape Partnership. The Landscape board are keen to get this work started. There is currently an issue with office space and a need to look at possible rental options.</p> <p><i>Community History update</i></p> <p>A discussion report will be produced moving forward. There was a need for more equipment and £15K had been ring fenced for a heavy duty 'work horse' server and extra (paid) help. There was a programme of work over the winter and the opportunity for extra funding as part of the September world war 1 events.</p> <p><i>Charitable Status</i></p> <p>A model constitution had been sent to Corra Irwin.</p> <p><i>Events</i></p> <p>Skerryvore contract is to be the same as last year a 80% / 20% split.</p>	<p>Trust JL</p> <p>JS</p>
<p>AOB</p>	
<p>Christmas Dinner to be in the 2nd week in December at the CopperDog</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	
<p>7th of December</p>	