

STONEHAVEN TOWN PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF TRUSTEE MEETING

HELD ON 23rd MAY 2017 AT 7.00PM

AT INVERCARRON RESOURCE CENTRE, STONEHAVEN

Item

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present Trustees	In attendance	Apologies
Jim Stephens (JS) Andrew Newton (AN) Stuart Alexander (SA) Jim Douglas (JD) David Fleming (DF)	Isabel Munn (IM) Phil Mills-Bishop (PMB) Wendy Rudd – Friends of the Open-Air Pool (WR) Douglas Knox (DK) Stonehaven Men's Shed Raymond Christie (RC) Douglas Samways (DS)	John Robson (JR) Bill Allan (BA) Cllr Sarah Dickinson (SD)

2. Approval of minutes of Trustee Meeting held on 25th April 2017

	Action
JS thanked RC for continued support and for attending this meeting.	
On the proposal of SA and seconded by JD the minutes of the Trustees meeting of 25 th April were approved.	
These minutes will now be placed on the website.	IM

3. Matters arising from the meeting on 27th March 2017

	Action
Husky Haven IM contacted Aberdeenshire Council and the Police who both confirmed that the land train will not be able to travel on the Netherley Road to Husky Haven due to the 60MPH speed limit on the road. Wattie McDonald has been contacted and informed of their decision. IM will let all the groups who contact STP regarding the Land Train hire that about Husky Havens kennel tours.	
Suggest that Wattie might want to get in touch with the Kirkton Garden Centre to see if he can organise anything with them when they have the reindeer visiting before Christmas.	IM
Minutes of March meeting Minutes have been uploaded to the website	
Other Matter arising were dealt with through the meeting.	

4. Director of Finance - John Robson

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<p>Disbursements</p> <p>The Disbursement Group have agreed the following disbursements and the groups have been told they will be getting cheques when JR is back. £6,000 will be disbursed.</p> <p>Horizon Group £500 Folk festival £1000.00 Stonehaven Golf Club £500.00 Pillar Kincardine £1000.00 Stonehaven Men's shed £500.00 Mackie Badminton team £500.00 Table tennis club who are called the Stonehaven Fireballs £500 Stonehaven Park run £500.00 Stonehaven Swimming club £500.00 Stonehaven Highland Games £500.00</p> <p>One group were unsuccessful as they were not based in Stonehaven.</p>	
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5. Business Plan Items

Report of progress on individual projects has been circulated and is on website. What follows is an update on that information.

Project	Additional Information from Liaison Meeting with Aberdeenshire Council 12 May 2017 (see below)	Action
Bervie Braes Road (JR)	<p>Barriers</p> <p>JR was to speak to AWPR regarding the possibility of grey barriers being available for the road. In JR's absence JS confirmed that AWPR are aware of this.</p> <p>Report</p> <p>At the liaison meeting on 12 May Willie Munro confirmed that there was no budget for a new report to reconsider the current weight limits.</p> <p>SA mentioned the monitoring for ground water levels that was in place. DF and AN confirmed that the monitoring equipment has been removed.</p> <p>Land Train Exemption</p> <p>Axle weight limits of the land train have been sent to Aberdeenshire Council together with the axle weights of comparable vehicles that might come down the Bervie Braes so they can re-examine whether they will give an exemption to the Land Train.</p>	
Court Building (DF)	<p>DF reported that he had been to Edinburgh for a meeting with Juan Tejero SCTS Estates Manager in Edinburgh, to let them know STP were unsuccessful in the bid for funding. SCTS are being very supportive and will not put the Court Building on the open market until August when STP will know whether they have been successful in getting other sources of funding.</p>	

	<p>Funding has been applied for from LEADER, Aberdeenshire Council's Area Committee Budget and Hillhead of Auquhirie Wind Farm.</p> <p>DS asked how much has been applied for and DF confirmed that the project costs have been thinned down to a Phase 1 Project for refurbishment to get office space ready to rent to tenants with the other parts of the project to follow. £75K is required initially.</p> <p>DF mentioned that he has asked JR if there is the potential to use STP disbursement money for the court building next year, on a one-off basis.</p> <p>JS complimented team on their hard work on this project.</p> <p>DF also reported that Gary Black from IDD Ltd has carried out a survey and written a report on the condition of building, which has deteriorated over the winter. This is due to the building's heating system being drained so there has been no heating in the building since May 2014.</p>	
Improving Our Town Centre (JS)	<p>JS reported that seagull egg removal took place last weekend. 2 more visits are planned this year.</p> <p>JS thought that preventative spikes should be offered as well as egg removal. This idea is to be bought up at the next IOTC meeting. RC reported that they shouldn't be plastic spikes as the seagulls can break them.</p> <p>JS wanted it noted that Diane Strachan has done a lot of good work on this initiative.</p> <p>Some funding for sail banners and signage is still required.</p> <p>It was noted that it was disappointing that SBA have not attended the IOTC meetings as they are the ones who would benefit most from the work that is being done.</p> <p>Next IOTC meeting is scheduled on 15th June</p>	JS/IM
Former Gas Works Site (JS)	<p>IM contacted Aberdeenshire Council and has received confirmation that there is no planning application on the former gas works site.</p> <p>WM and IM have received no response from SSE/SGN.</p> <p>JS also has received no response from his contact to SGN/SEE on behalf of the Fireballs Committee.</p> <p>WM has stated that he would be chasing Mark Skilling to produce the long-awaited report. JS to follow up</p>	JS
Cruise Ships (JR)	Nothing further to report	
New Cycling Project (JR/SA)	SA reported that JR and SA went to see Willie Tulloch. They showed him the initiatives already in place in Banchory. The	

	<p>Stonehaven Cycle club has membership of 300 people in 3 years. SA is considering setting up a survey through Survey Monkey to get ideas for improvements from the Cycle Club members.</p> <p>IM to send SA contact details for Andrew Diansangu.</p> <p>RC reported that he is interested in helping with this project. It was noted that there are links to Grande Promenade Project</p> <p>PMB asked what would be in place by September and SDCC have a trip to Archeres regarding twinning. SA and AN reported that the work Aberdeenshire Council are intending to carry out with the Integrated Travel Towns will not start in Stonehaven until October 2017.</p> <p>JS has been in contact with Stuart Young re cycling paths. JS will arrange a meeting with him.</p> <p>JS reported that Stuart Milne will have to put in other entrances to the Dunnottar Park Development and this could be beneficial to cycle paths around Stonehaven. One of the entrances will be a foot/cycle bridge from Dunnottar Park to Dunnottar Church. JS has a map of potential new loop around Stonehaven which he is willing to show interested parties.</p> <p>DF mentioned that there is a Conservation Areas Regeneration Scheme -CARS, which should be considered. IM to research. (Fraserburgh and Peterhead have received money from CARS).</p> <p>SA showed maps of Banchory's walking and cycling areas and has been to the TRAX meeting.</p>	<p>IM</p> <p>JS</p> <p>IM</p>
Grande Promenade (JS/JR)	<p>Feasibility Study will be carried out shortly</p> <p>JS reported that Dunnect Estates will be upgrading the paths south of the war memorial.</p> <p>SA and AN would like to attend the next meeting.</p>	
Beach toilets update (JS)	<p>JS has spoken to Frank Budd, who has taken an interest in the Beach toilets and what can be done with them.</p> <p>AN reported that The Bay and Aunty Betty's have a lease on the beach toilets until September 2017 and will be meeting with Aberdeenshire Council about a further year's lease to September/October 2018.</p> <p>There has been no further information from Calum Richardson regarding the costs of running the Beach Toilets and what help they might require.</p> <p>DF reported that he had spoken to Frank Budd today and queried whether the building should be taken over by CAT.</p>	

	<p>Willie Munro had emailed STP and confirmed that a small part of the land that the beach toilets are on is owned by the Recreation Ground Trustees (RGT). IM had asked WM what the position is if STP put in a CAT for the Beach toilets if part of the land is owned by the RGT and whether the RGT are responsible for maintenance, repairs and running costs. The reply from WM was that Aberdeenshire Council would probably need to get the agreement of the RGT and possibly arrange for the slip of land to be conveyed. He doesn't think it would be a barrier to getting something sustainable in place for the toilets.</p> <p>As Scallywags and Molly's have been taken over by new owners it was thought they might be able to contribute to keeping the toilets open.</p> <p>JS has put the actions back on Business Association and they will need to contact STP for any assistance they might require.</p> <p>DF suggested that STP could offer assistance with the CAT process if required.</p>	
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6. Business Items

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<p>Report from/items to Community Council</p> <p>PMB reported that RBS Directors will be meeting with SDCC and 10 businesses on 31st May to look at alternatives for businesses once they have shut down in Stonehaven They will be looking at cash handling, night safe deposits, festivals. Pop in pop up banking is also on the agenda.</p> <p>DF asked PMB to consider what can be done for charities/volunteers.</p> <p>SDCC will be going to Archeres at the end of the summer and have indicated that there is space for someone from STP to go with them.</p> <p>JS asked if SBA and Visit Scotland are supporting this project, PMB said they hadn't been contacted about it.</p> <p>More defibrillator training is taking place tomorrow. Over 30 people have already been trained, including pupils from Mackie Academy. The final defibrillator will be placed at the Recreation Grounds and there will be further training later in the year.</p>	
<p>Report on KDP meeting (AN)</p> <p>AN reported that KDP have a formal and informal meeting.</p> <p>Karen McWilliam was at last meeting to speak about "settlement planning" which has several different segments. Aberdeenshire Council expect this to be in place by December 2017</p>	
<p>Liaison meeting update from 12 May 2017</p> <p>In addition to the items already reported above the following were noted:</p> <p>East Newtonleys Aberdeenshire Council will keep STP updated on developments</p> <p>Beach Pavilion Dealt with under AOCB</p> <p>Bus Bays</p>	

<p>STP asked if there was the potential to have dedicated bus bays in Stonehaven to encourage tourists into the Town. WM will bring this up with the Roads Department</p> <p>New Councillors</p> <p>CLLrs will soon have their emails set up so can be invited to meetings</p>	
<p>Land Train</p> <p>IM reported that from 1 April to 23 May April there have been 677 passengers. Total Income from fares and sponsorship is £5606 to date.</p> <p>The Annual Monitoring form has been received, completed and sent back to CCF, this was for the period start of the project until 31 March 2017. The CCF will contact STP if they want to use the Land Train as one of their case studies.</p> <p>Costs for covers for over winter for the carriages and locomotive have been obtained from Montrose Rope and Sail. The total cost for all 3 covers is £1291. A further quote will be obtained.</p> <p>It was suggested that tarpaulin could be used or it could be over wintered in a large shed/farm building. IM to ask Jimmy Bruce if he has anywhere to store it.</p>	<p>IM</p> <p>IM</p>

7. AOCB

	Action
<p>Green Hut/Beach Pavilion</p> <p>After the last trustee meeting DF drafted a letter to Area Manager to raise STP's concerns. This was done, replied to by WM and discussed further at the Liaison meeting on 12 May.</p> <p>At the liaison meeting WM confirmed he was surprised that there had been a press release about the Beach Pavilion closing before the user groups had been contacted. He stressed that although the Pavilion is surplus to requirements, there would be investment in the Town Hall.</p> <p>At the liaison meeting WM confirmed that the Pavilions' user groups will be contacted in the week beginning 15th May to relocate them into other halls and that they will be contacted individually.</p> <p>WM gave a commitment to provide STP with a copy of the report that suggests how all the user groups are to be re-allocated within Stonehaven.</p> <p>A question was asked on how much repairs to Pavilion are likely to cost. WM confirmed that a survey would be required to establish costs.</p> <p>WM confirmed that there were several groups interested in taking the building over by CAT. BA reported that the Men's Shed is progressing a CAT for the building.</p> <p>WM was asked for an update before the trustees meeting on the above.</p> <p>His response just before the meeting was that he was trying to get the up to date situation re working with the various groups who use pavilion and their potential relocation. He's not sure what stage this is at but there is a meeting with Judo club</p>	

<p>imminently. He's planning to get everyone interested in a CAT or some other arrangements together in one go. He doesn't think there is any point in multiple meetings and potential competition between groups.</p> <p>He has a copy of the spreadsheet that was produced to show how relocation can be achieved but hasn't circulated it yet, he will get someone else to look at it, so he has a clear understanding before circulating and can then deal with any questions. The exercise is currently being repeated with this year's bookings and that will be shared in due course too.</p> <p>There was some discussion on why what was agreed at the liaison meeting hadn't happened yet and considerable concern was expressed about the poor processes, the slow progress and lack of detail from Aberdeenshire Council.</p> <p>Men's Shed and Green Hut Douglas Knox confirmed that the Men's Shed are not interested in Cowie Lane due to another groups interest in the building. He reported that the Men's Shed had an CAT application in for Aberdeenshire Council's nuclear bunker as a temporary solution (not ideal due to access issues) and for the green hut at CAT stage 2.</p> <p>JS asked for confirmation that the Green Hut was offered to Men's Shed by Aberdeenshire Council and the Men's Shed had not asked Aberdeenshire Council for it. BA made it clear that all Willie Munro told them that all groups had been contacted and they did not approach the council, the council approached them about the possibility of them using the Green Hut. BA has previously said "If we Men's Shed judge feel that the current user groups are being unfairly dealt with in this process we will review our decision to proceed".</p> <p>PMB asked why the Men's Shed are only looking for accommodation in central locations. DK confirmed this is for accessibility for everyone in the group.</p> <p>There was some discussion as to which group would be better placed to get user groups together if Aberdeenshire Council wasn't doing so. SA suggested that STP should get involved. IM was asked to request a list of the user groups from WM.</p> <p>If the STP trustees speak to anyone involved with the user groups of the Beach Pavilion over the next few weeks they should ask them to write to STP to get information about the Pavilion, as it is thought that Aberdeenshire Council have not carried out any meetings with them to date.</p>	<p>IM</p>
<p>Caravan and Motorhome Club of Great Britain Area at the rear of the park and suitability for tents IM contacted the Caravan and Motorhome Club whose Regional Manager has confirmed that as it currently stands, the area at the back of the park is not suitable for tents due to the slope and current unkempt condition of the area.</p> <p>SA will provide IM with the information which show what the commitment was from the Club to follow up with the new regional manager.</p>	<p>SA</p>
<p>Letter from member of the public with concerns with parking of motorhomes along The Links.</p> <p>The summary of the letter is as follows:</p>	

Since 2012 storms, after which the damaged “No Overnight Parking” signs were removed, there has been an increase in the amount of motorhomes parking on the Links. There is one still on The Links where no one parks.

There are 2 motorhomes which have parked in this area for 2 years.

On the Links area throughout the summer there are motorhomes parked on both sides of the road making it difficult to negotiate a way into Cowie. It is a safety hazard for pedestrians who are trying to cross the road and can prevent or limit access for other vehicles. There is also congestion on the pavements with gas bottles, tables and chairs, clothes and motorised scooters in the way.

Some of the people with the motorhomes parked on the links have been seen by the Caravan Park Wardens and residents trying to use the QEII caravan Park facilities, which they aren't paying to use. The Links is turning into a secondary Caravan Park without the regulations.

There have been 15 to 20 motorhomes parked overnight who run their engines in the morning to charge up their batteries. An environmental issue for people walking past them and for the residents of Cowie.

She has also witnessed people using the beach as a toilet in the morning and someone emptying their chemical waste onto the beach.

The trustees noted that Safety concerns had been raised before and that Cllr Peter Bellarby had been trying to get chevron parking on one side of the links and double yellow lines on the other.

It was suggested that Aberdeenshire Council should be sent a copy of the letter for their Environmental Department, Roads Department, the Area Manager and Cllr Dickinson. A copy should also be sent to the Police and PMB requested a copy of the letter for SDCC so they could look at the issues raised.

New councillors

It was noted that all the Ward 18 Councillors had been invited to the meeting. Cllr Dickinson was the only one who sent apologies with the other 3 not responding to the invite or attending the meeting.

Date of next meeting

27 June

Date of future meetings 4th Tuesday of every month –All to take place at the Invercarron Resource Centre in Dunnottar Lounge.

No meeting in July

22 August 26 September 24 October 28 November AGM No meeting in December

Meeting Closed at 21.50 hrs.