



**STONEHAVEN TOWN PARTNERSHIP**  
**MINUTES OF TRUSTEE MEETING**  
**HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015 AT 7.00PM**  
**AT INVERCARRON RESOURCE CENTRE, STONEHAVEN**

**Item**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

<b>Present Trustees</b>	<b>In attendance</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Douglas Samways (DS)	Cllr Raymond Christie (RC)	John Robson (JR)
Wynne Edwards (WE)	Cllr Peter Bellarby (PB)	Charles Sands (CS)
David Fleming (DF)	Cllr Graham Clark (GC)	William Munro (WM)* arrived later
Mandy Murray (MM)	Ian Balgowan (IB)(in place of Knud Christiansen)	Lee McCann (LMC)
Jim Stephen (JS)	Mitch McKay (MM)	Michelle Ward (MW)
Andrew Newton (AN)	Colin Addy (CA) Independent Energy Consultant	
Allan Sutherland (AS)	Chris Oliver (CO) O2 Energy	
Elizabeth Havens (EH)	William Munro (WM)* arrived later	
Isabel Munn (IM)		

**2. Presentation by Energy Consultants**

Colin Addy an Independent Energy Consultant and Chris Oliver from O2 Energy gave a presentation about what the Energy Co-operative Initiative could provide for Stonehaven for Council, housing association and private housing stock as well as business premises. There was discussion after the presentation and questions from the trustees and those in attendance. It was agreed that CA and CO would provide further information to the Trustees about the benefits of this type of partnership to the residents of Stonehaven.

**3. Approval of minutes**

On the proposal of DF seconded AN by the minutes of Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015 were approved.

Accuracy of wording on page 3 was queried by Cllr Bellarby "SCIO document was still in draft on web". Wording of minutes will be amended to Final SCIO document still included "draft" in the title. This has now been updated and is on web site.

Matters arising from these minutes are detailed in section 3 below.

#### 4. Matters arising

	Action
<b>Minutes of Meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>	
<b>Agenda</b> - Trustees Agenda now indicates that STP hold meetings that are Open to the public. STP have taken up Mearns Leader's offer of a monthly STP news column. This commenced in January and the February column should be published this week. DS has compiled information on how STP operates and has received comments back from DF and AN. Trustees agreed the document entitled "The role and function of STP" and it will be uploaded onto website.	DS
<b>What follows are matters arising from 6<sup>th</sup> January Meeting</b>	
Wind up Company - Motion to wind up company limited by guarantee. DF confirmed he is still waiting for legal docs	DF
Archive work - DF confirmed there is still more to do	DF
WE Director of communication. WE still to put a task list together and circulate to trustees. Lesley Clark will be chased up for her information	WE
<b>Minutes of meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>	
Finance WE and MW Still to get logged on to internet banking but DS suggested that it is not necessary now as DS, DF and AN can log on. This was agreed by trustees.	
Website Trustees box. AN will look at again at the wording of uploads to the Trustees box, to make it more specific.	AN
Website Photos are still required from JS and EH to be uploaded onto the website.	EH, JS
Funding for Rural Partnerships DF and DS met with Maxine Smith regarding KDP funding. This will be raised again following meeting on Thursday evening. KDP have £70,000 in their account some of which could be used by STP	DF
AWPR Junction Alison McInnes from Aberdeenshire Council and Transport Scotland have met to establish whether the Stonehaven Junction is suitable for the proposed HQ of a Major Oil & Gas Company on Megray Hill. This will be discussed by Area Committee. Trustees agreed to keep monitoring.	
SBA £168 cheque presented to Chris Stirk for Business Extravaganza	
STP Membership AN confirmed that STP Membership form has been updated and the two new members details Grampian Tigers and Furniture Lodge have been put onto website	
SDCC	IB

<p>SDCC have yet to respond to our comments on their suggested revisions of the original paper provided by STP re roles of STP and SCDD and make amendments</p> <p>OAITS</p> <p>KC was going to bring up OAITS committee request for support. AN confirmed this hadn't been brought up</p> <p>IB has been asked to remind the SDCC committee of the above</p>	
<p>Long leases Act</p> <p>WM replied to DS (not DF) with information about the Long Leases Act. WE spoken to contact re constitutional law. Professor at Aberdeen University looking into this with a colleague and 2 post grad students.</p> <p>DS was going to speak to members of the bowling and tennis clubs which use the recreation grounds. Has been unable to speak to Graham Penny chair of the men's bowling club. He had received a response from the tennis club chairman who is a trustee of the recreation grounds, who suggested that DS directs communication to the recreation ground trustees</p>	WE/DS
<p>Fireballs Funding</p> <p>JS confirmed that info has been received from IM for grants. This is now in hand with the Fireballs Committee.</p> <p>JS asked IB if SDCC would put up lights in harbour and if they could put a plan in place for this. It was agreed to put this on an agenda for later in the year.</p> <p>DF suggested that this should tie in with STP disbursements.</p>	JS

#### 5. Finance Report from IM in MW's absence

	Action
<p>STP Cash in bank is £10970 as at 31 January 2015.</p> <p>CCF Cash in bank is £17243 as at 31 January 2015.</p> <p>Land Train Income/Expenditure</p> <p>IM stated that Land Train started operation after the school holidays in 2014 and there were a number of one off expenses in year 1. It broke even over the summer last year but was not profitable to run in December.</p> <p>2015 If the train is run over the summer holidays and weekends outwith the holidays it is expected to make a small profit. Sponsorship is still being looked into as are donations and sponsorship for an additional carriage. Due to current downturn in Oil and Gas Industry, many companies are not sponsoring charities this year.</p> <p>IM to place figures in Trustees Box</p> <p>AN suggested a sinking fund for the Land Train to cover future financial expenditure and expenses. This was agreed by the trustees</p> <p>Caravan Park had a very successful year. Rent received in February was £4826. DS to write a letter of thanks to the wardens.</p>	

#### 6. Communication – Report from Director of Communication, Wynne Edwards

	Action
WE to circulate what job entails.	WE



	<p>Dumfries Education Department and others, with experience in change of use.</p> <p>DF confirmed he had a slight conflict of interest in that there has been an offer from a commercial nursery school and he is a member of the Church of St. James who are currently looking at crèche/childcare facilities. DF does not see his involvement in both to be favouring one over the other.</p> <p>DS wished it recorded that it looks like the building will be put to good community work and not left derelict.</p>
''	<p>WM was contacted re draft press release and letter and is hoping to deal with these this week. JS Kevin Boyne the slater interested in doing the work and has correct public liability insurance</p>
Former Gas Works Site (MW)	<p>MW has been contacted by Fiona Massie SGN Lawyer who is keen to meet in the next few weeks to discuss site. Currently unsure if they are willing to sell to AC and/or STP. IM is looking at grant options for purchase.</p>
Land Train (MW)	<p>Drivers and Conductors are required for 2015 season.</p>
CAT for Beach Toilets (MW)	<p>Nothing further to add</p>
Stonehaven Harbour Development Feasibility Study (WE)	<p>Letters requesting comments for the consultants to take on board have been disbursed to interested parties. Submissions received and some still to come back so deadline has been increased for them. Next Steering Group meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> March to look at matrix of comments. These will be forwarded to consultants with shortlist of people who will be invited to present to Consultants. For example IB has experience and expertise and should speak with consultants; also Tolbooth Restaurant and Museum with their plans from extensions.</p> <p>WE attended Harbour Advisory Committee meeting, at their invitation, he thought, to let them know what was happening. Felt there was an orchestrated attack on STP generally and its motives in particular. WE was especially surprised at level of hostility shown by Mr Singer and John Anew. RNLi representative had understood that it is a feasibility study that is being undertaken. WE will report back to Steering Group to see if a letter is required to HAC.</p> <p>AS supported WE who had reported that the harbour cost council tax payers £100k last year and this trend will increase. If STP doesn't look into this, who will? Someone needs to ensure that the Harbour continues to benefit the Town and population of Stonehaven</p> <p>* WM arrived</p> <p>RC thought WE put over his case very well at HAC</p>
Energy Coop Initiative (WE)	<p>Presentation from CA and CO</p>

Cruise Ships (JR)	Nothing to add
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## 9. Business Items

	Action
<p>Town Hall Trust</p> <p>Committee and bookings - Chris Stirk raised concerns to DS that the Town Hall Trust committee is down to a couple of people and are looking for help. DS asked if anyone with the relevant skills, expertise and commitment was interested in joining their committee to let the STHT chairman Alan McConnachie know. Booking of venue was from Viewmount but now Inverurie are dealing with this and Chris feels it is not as efficient with a number of double bookings and organisations block booking but not taking up slots. WM thought the problem with advance bookings had been resolved. WM made the following points. Agreement on the business plan had not been reached and there were problems with investment, maintenance, booking and charging. The Trust has to look at funding from grants which would help them with investment/maintenance. WM felt more could be done by the Trust to encourage greater community involvement. His view was the Trust was not communicating with AC and noted that there had been no meeting between the two since the THT AGM last May.</p> <p>DF's suggestion that WM contact the Development Trust Association Scotland was supported at the meeting.</p> <p>RC noted that Trust has control over Wifi in Town Hall, only a couple of people have password for wifi.</p> <p>WE noted that the THT has historical issues and wondered if there was a way for STP to help it turn around.</p> <p>It was agreed that STP contact DTA</p> <p>It was also agreed that DS Invite Alan McConnachie to STP meeting for update on progress and to ascertain what if anything STP can do to support the Trust</p>	<p><b>DF</b></p> <p><b>DS</b></p>
<p>Disbursement of Funds</p> <p>DS reminded the trustees present that the Disbursement of Funds Sub Group consists of two trustees and three lay people. He apologised for not intimating at the last meeting that he intended to approach named individuals with the purpose of joining the Sub Group and seeking permission to do so. He had approached four individuals, three of whom, Stuart Alexander, Mike Robbins and George Strang, had agreed to participate. His proposal that he and the treasurer be the STP reps on the Sub Group was approved. A meeting of the Sub Group will be called as soon as possible and its first task is likely to be promoting the fact that there are funds to be disbursed.</p>	<b>DS</b>
<p>Report from/items to Community Council</p> <p>Volunteers for OAITS, Christmas lights for the Harbour, Disbursement of funds, Town Hall</p> <p>SDCC responded about Harbour Feasibility</p> <p>SDCC not responded about Courts</p>	
<p>RGT AGM 25<sup>th</sup> February</p> <p>DS, DF, WE, JS and IM intimated their intention to attend as observers</p>	
<p>Aberdeenshire Town Centre Conference – Strengthening Aberdeenshire’s Town Centre</p> <p>It was agreed that two trustees attend. DS and WE to confirm they are able to attend</p>	<b>DS/WE</b>
<p>KDP Community Engagement Event 26<sup>th</sup> February</p> <p>DF and AN to attend</p>	<b>DF/AN</b>

<p>Enscape Membership Agreed by trustees</p>	
<p>Land Train IM to meet with Asda Portlethen Community Champion to see if they can provide any sponsorship. IM and MW meeting with Louise Moir Head Teacher at Mackie Academy on 26<sup>th</sup> February to discuss potential of becoming one of the pupils' selected charities from their sponsored walk.</p>	
<p>Feeing Market 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015 Cost £70. It was agreed to intimate interest and think what STP can do on a stall. DF, EH (possibly available), Decision next meeting, IM to let them know STP will be provisionally talking a stall but will confirm after next meeting</p>	<b>IM</b>
<p>Harbour Festival 30<sup>th</sup> August 2015 Cost £70. It was agreed to intimate interest and think what STP can do on a stall. Decision next meeting, IM to let them know STP will be provisionally talking a stall but will confirm after next meeting</p>	<b>IM</b>
<p>Mains of Cowie pre-determination Meeting 29<sup>th</sup> April Objection submitted by DF on STP's behalf - Meeting St James Hall to state a case and be asked questions. DF to attend for STP. DS attending as made personal objection. AN reminded the other trustees that In general terms it is outside the remit of STP to make comments on planning applications; however, in this case STP has a legitimate concern as lessee of the Caravan Park and should be represented at the pre-determination hearing in order to voice their concerns over flooding etc. from the proposed development.</p>	<b>DS DF</b>

#### 10. AOCB

	Action
<p>Surplus computers WE has a number of surplus computers with Windows 7 which might be of use to schools or other organisations. They are available on first come first served basis.</p>	
<p>Attitudes to/impressions of STP in community MM stated that he had heard people in the town express negative views of STP, questioned its motives and display the kind of hostility mentioned above in relation to WE's address to the Harbour Advisory Committee. Some thought STP was involved in too many projects and MM thought we should consider "reigning it in a bit". The trustees fully accept that the attitudes of some people in the town were as described by MM and the issues arising from what he said were discussed. WM said that he had been contacted by an individual complaining about the Mearns Leader PFR article and managed to turn it round to show STP as positive as they were a facilitator in getting different groups to look into residents' comments. DF stated that STP were asked to conduct the PFR exercise by AC. Stalls at the Feein Market and Harbour Festival good idea to liaise with public. A suggestion that to publicise further the point that our meetings are open to the public, the agenda should be placed in the Town Hall, library, announced on Mearns FM etc was approved IM to action</p>	<b>IM</b>
<p>Advertising STP DF reported that he had been phoned by Secretary of Mackie Academy and they would like us to advertise in their booklet. Trustees agreed STP should be involved with this.</p>	<b>DF</b>

<p>Horizon Group help requested</p> <p>JS reported that he had been contacted by the Horizon Group regarding doing something about the boardwalk at the Market Lane area. He will be meeting Horizons Kath Boyne and Landscape Services with a view to tidying up this area. His suggestion that STP become involved with this initiative was approved.</p>	JS
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### **11. Date of next meeting**

24<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at Invercarron Resource Centre.

Meeting Closed 9.25pm.

**Private Session for Trustees to discuss Plan B**