

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Banchory & District Initiative held at Cruachan, Ramsay Road, Banchory on 25th September 2008

Attendance: Sue Edwards; Tony Brown; Jean Henretty, Henry Allen, Anne Lamb,

Apologies: Margaret Paterson; Cllr Webster; Cllr Linda Clark

Absent: Matt Merchant

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with minor amendments.

Matters Arising:

1. It was noted that Huntly Town Partnership visited and found the meeting with JH and TB very useful
2. JH had been in touch with the Strathspey and Reel Society regarding insurance and they will notify BDI if they wish to operate under our insurance.

Administration, Organisation and Finance

1. TB referred to the Financial Position report. Marr Area Committee and Rural Partnership grants cover the annual outgoings with a surplus remaining. The Board agreed to support the STEP project with a donation of up to £1500.00 if required to meet funding requirements
2. The Charity status application is on hold due to concerns over reporting requirements which appear to be onerous. . Agreed that this should be re-considered after the AGM.
3. The Company's Accounts are with the accountant for finalisation.
4. VAT payments should be investigated re charitable status. (Action TB).
5. HA requested that approximate time spent on the swimming pool feasibility study should be documented and passed to Senergy and Bandsxim (Action TB).
6. Zurich Insurance Co is moving to Ireland. TB wishes to investigate alternatives. (Action TB).
7. JH to obtain spare keys for office after receiving letter for submission (Action JH and TB)

Project Updates.

1. An updated project register had been circulated prior to the meeting.
2. Noted that Executive (Aberdeenshire) is meeting to discuss Banchory 'issues'.
3. Noted that KGV estimate for first stage is £72.000 (professional fees). Trying to determine if eligible for LEADER funding.

4. Calendar has gone to print. Costs less £300 were covered. Deficit due to requirement for artwork time. Several lessons learned for next year when we should look to sell online. Allocation of proportion of proceeds to additional Christmas lights to be discussed with BBA (Action SE)

Hanging Baskets.

Noted that the Council have inspected the baskets and confirmed that they are indeed higher than they need to be to meet current regulations. They have offered to provide advice and assistance and it was agreed that this offer be taken up. (Action SE who also has an outstanding action to contact the Horticultural Society)

Princes Foundation

Two representatives will be coming to the Making it Real Business Session. Further consultation will take place early 2009.

Making it Real

1. Very successful sessions have been held with church and parent focus groups. Business Groups scheduled for 1st October. Still looking to hold a Youth event. HA to contact Colin Nicol at Academy re Junior Chamber of Commerce youth involvement in Making it Real. (Action HA)
2. Material for public sessions needs to be prepared (Action TB and JH)

Board Membership/Chair/AGM

1. Securing new treasurer and new chair are prime objectives.
2. TB to check when we need an AGM and if it is possible to continue with a rotating chair? (Action TB)

AOB

1. **Shell Small Grants Scheme :**

Noted that applications can now be submitted.

2. **Newsletter**

It was noted that this has made a loss and it is difficult to ensure 100% door to door delivery (reaching over 90%). It was agreed not to do any more newsletters until benefits assessed in Making it Real public events. (No action assigned)

- 3 **Website (paper previously circulated)**

Decision taken to move the sites to Stonehaven company web site., so long as not breaching their contract (Action: TB to check)..

- 4 **Local Plan consultation**

BCC requested to pass to BDI any information regarding this consultation. (action JH)

- 5 **Museum**

Congratulations were passed to Anne Lamb for the Museum gaining accreditation.

Next meeting: 27th November.

S. Edmund

December 4th 2008