

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Banchory & District Initiative held at Cruachan, Ramsay Road, Banchory on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

**Attendance:**

Sue Edwards, Tony Brown, Margaret Paterson, Jean Henretty, Henry Allen, Anne Lamb, Cllr Jill Webster, Mark Hope (from 8.15pm)

**Apologies:**

Cllr Karen Clark; Cllr Linda Clark;

**Absent:**

Matt Merchant

**Minutes**

Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting were deferred.

**Banchory Business Association**

*Hanging Baskets* :It was noted that the hanging baskets had been planted by the Scouts and hung by Deeside Construction as a courtesy gesture at 6am. Scolty Centre are watering twice a week. The baskets could be improved by being planted in May to give them time to mature before being hung in June. Currently the plants which are supplied by the Council don't arrive until mid June. Action: SE to contact Norma Makin re potential of involving the Horticultural Society, possibly with the Allotments Society, Primary Schools and Raemoir Garden Centre. Action JH and TB to include as an issue for the Planning for Real.

*Calendar*. The advertising revenue will cover the production of 2000 calendars. A further print run would be organised if sales go well. All volunteer effort by BDI. Action: SE to report progress to BBA.

**St Ternans Fair**

General concensus was that Sunday had been more successful than Saturday, partly due to the better weather and also due to the Continental Market, Council Sports reps and the SSPCA Dog Show. A Ferret Club has now formed in Banchory and 22 ferrets had been entered for the races. Noted that the largest expense had been the marquee. Prizes had yet to be awarded to the Shop Window Competition winners (thanks to Cllr Webster and Sheila Millar for organising this event)

**Planning for Real**

TB and JH reported on progress. A meeting was held with local community groups in June. A parallel exercise is ongoing with respect to the Town Forum with TB providing short talks to groups.

**Princes Foundation – Workshops and Consultation.**

Concerns were expressed relating to the 'hidden' sponsorship; timing and lack of transparency, but it was also felt that if handled correctly the workshops and consultation could be a powerful instrument for the Planning for Real exercise. Action: SE to contact Princes Foundation to clarify various issues.

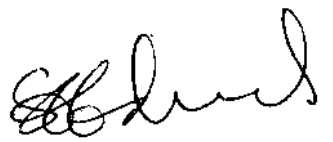
**Town Hall**

Mark Hope reported on a meeting with local councillors who were supportive of the work of the Town Hall Group and the different options set out in the report. It was agreed that all the options should be included in the plan, together with 'ballpark costings'. Concerns were raised that the report might be seen as a wish list but it was recognised that the options would be refined by more consultation in the Planning for Real Process. With regard to funding MH felt that without recycling some money the

Council is unlikely to fund the town hall renewal and that it is essential that a good case is put to the council for keeping gains in the community. TB reported that there is no very high expectation that money will be forthcoming. There were discussions about the involvement of Bancon in the Town Hall Working Group and it was agreed that the document should clearly state that all development would be tendered on the open market. Cllr Webster stated that to get support from the Council it must be convinced that the project will be viable economically. An application for funding will be submitted if the Town Hall Working Group considers it appropriate. Action: TB agreed to organise the office upstairs in the Town Hall.

#### AOB

- Proposed visit from Huntly partnership. Action: SE to contact Judy Aylett.
- JH provided an update on the KGV project. A meeting is scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> July when a new steering group will be formed.
- TB reported that SNH have reconsidered their decision not to fund the improvements to the Scolty Footpath improvements and have allocated £10,000 this year, next year £20,000 and £20,000 the following year. These amounts require match funding. Action: TB
- An application has been made through BDI's offices for a grant of £3000 for the Walks to Health from the Community Health Partnership. Financial arrangements will be through BDI.
- It was agreed that BDI could provide the insurance cover for the Strathspey and Reel Society when holding concerts in the Town Hall providing that the Society acts through BDI and providing that the correct procedures are followed including health safety risk assessments etc. Action JH

  
Sept. 2008.