



Minutes of the Board meeting held on
3rd May 2023

1. Present/apologies for absence:

- **Present:** Iain Frazer (Treasurer), Fran Hall, Anne Hislop (Chair), David Howell, Isla Kinnear, Iain MacKay, Kayt Howell (Manager), Gordon Cowtan (Consultant), Kirsty Murray (Admin Officer)
- **Apologies:** Chris Robinson, Sharon McMurtrie

2. Any Conflict of Interest (COI) matters on the agenda?

- None

3. Approve minutes of 29.03.23

- The minutes were approved.

4. Financial report (IF)

- IF had circulated a spreadsheet prior to the meeting. All accounts are looking healthy. Grants have been paid out and more money is due in soon. Money will be moved from FREE to FDT to prevent having to pay corporation tax. IF is happy to answer any questions.

5. Balgair report (GC)

- The project manager's role has been advertised but no sensible responses have been received. A consultancy tender has gone out to five companies and GC is hopeful of receiving good responses. The deadline is Monday 8th May.
- GC had spoken to Norman McKnight recently (see agenda item 6).
- Operationally, things are working well at Balgair – hardly any gas has been used and there have not been many call-outs. GC was there today and spoke to some householders who have moved in recently and needed to sign contracts. One is still outstanding.

RESERVED BUSINESS

6. Outsourcing IT (KM & GC)

- Three quotes have been sought from Illuminate IT, Luma IT and Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO). Once SCVO have finalised their quote all three quotes will be circulated to the Board. Once a decision has been made, it should be fairly quick to get things up and running.

7. Grants update

a. EE grants (KM)

- 23 grants have been granted to total of £21,743.73. Eight projects have been completed and photographic evidence has been received as well as positive messages from grateful residents.

b. FP grants (KH)

- The last four applications are being processed. Only a few applications were not awarded as they did not meet the criteria. There were a few hiccups with the process but on the whole it worked well. KH & GC are meeting with Energy Action Scotland (EAS) soon to finalise invoices and plan for next winter. There is still money left in the budget.

- 86 log grants were given out to total of £2725.00. The amount per household could possibly be increased this year and the number of suppliers could be increased. There was a suggestion to do a review of the process to look at what worked and what didn't. **ACTION: KH & GC to put together a report.**

8. Directors' pack – any questions (KH & KM)

- The Directors' packs had been circulated earlier. There is just one to be signed and returned. **ACTION: KH to chase CR for his signed documents.**

9. First two policies. Approved – sign off. 1st batch

- AH had spotted one point that may need to be changed. Once this is done they will be signed off and the next two policies will be circulated.

10. Website – comments on revised homepage sent through (KH & KM)

- A second design for the website has been sent from the web designers and circulated to the Board. It does not seem as though the designers have taken into account the comments and suggestions made by the FDT following the first draft. It was agreed that KH should contact them expressing the FDT's concerns and requesting a meeting to discuss next steps. **ACTION: KH to send an email as above.**

11. Transport Day (KH)

- The Transport Day was not well attended despite it being well advertised and it being one of the top requests arising from the community consultations. There was discussion about what could be done to obtain more community involvement. KH asked the Board to put any suggestions into the Ideas Bank (see agenda item 18). IK offered to be more involved in promoting the FDT on social media and FH suggested a weekly update. **ACTION: KH, KM, IK and FH to meet to discuss ideas and report back to the Board at the next Board meeting.**

a. Bike Maintenance Rack

- It was agreed to go ahead with looking into this being located at the bus stop outside the Menzies Hall. **ACTION: KH to look into costs and who owns the land there.**

b. HIYA car – FDT investment

- It was agreed to put this idea on hold for now.

c. Ginger – bikes and scooters

- This is similar to HIYA cars but for bikes and scooters. KH had provided a link for more information in the agenda.

d. Survey results

- Only 13 were returned

IK noted that the World Cycling Championship would be coming through Fintry in August.

12. Membership survey – 'what and when would you attend'? (KH)

- KH proposed to put out a survey to find out why the transport event was not well attended before starting to plan the next event. **ACTION: KH to go ahead and circulate the survey.**

13. Locality (GC & KH)

- GC & KH have been keeping in touch with Graham. He has asked for more detail but hopes to have something to present to the Board in the next few weeks.

14. Fintry Sustainable Food Festival (KH)

- A meeting has been arranged for next week to discuss the plans. The idea is to have it in two parts. The first about planting, growing, pollination etc. The second in Autumn about harvesting and pickling etc. It will be family friendly and will hopefully involve the primary school. Lots of suggestions were made for things that could be included such as the bike that harnesses pedalling power to make smoothies, involving Food Waste Scotland, linking with the G63 Hub and their Wild Food Festival, establishing food boxes, inviting a celebrity chef, speaking to the Fintry Flower Society – there is no Flower Show planned this year so maybe the FDT could incorporate some of the food related classes into the Food Festival, borrowing a dehydrator from the food bank as well as giving tips for drying fruit etc. in air fryers, creating recipe cards for making meals from leftovers, involve local suppliers, involve the Fintry Inn by asking the chef to make meals from excess food. **ACTION: FH to speak to Angela May & Julia Gilbert about the Flower Show classes and speak to Paul at the Fintry Inn.**

15. Training for Microsoft 365 & TEAMS from SCVO (KH)

- The SCVO has looked at the FDT's training requirements and has suggested online training courses that can be done on an individual basis as required. The Board agreed that this was a good way to do the training.

16. An exercise: add birthday to FDT calendar. Still issues? FH & IF – any advice?

- Only FH & IF had managed to do this so far and were happy to help other Directors if needed.

17. Ideas Bank (KH)

- KH asked Directors to put any ideas and suggestions into the online Ideas Bank.

18. A.O.B.

- a. KH holiday 16 & 17 May.
- b. Wee summer social? – KH suggested a social get-together at the Hub.
- c. FH asked about the chargers at the Sports Centre. One is not working and is there a need for more. KH has been in touch with Charge Place Scotland about this but has still not had a response. **ACTION: KH to contact the MSP for help with this.**

Next meetings

- Board meeting – 31st May 7.30 p.m. at the Hub
- Food Festival – 10 June
- Social Event – 28 June