



Minutes of Board meeting - 26/09/12 - FDT Office - 7.30pm

Present : Gordon Cowtan, David Howell , Derek G Hulme, Iain Frazer , Kelly McIntyre, (Project Manager) Matthew Black,(Senior Energy Advisor) Holly O'Donnell, Kayt Howell (Admin) , Jamie Pearson,

Apologies : Peter Skabara, Gordon Murray, Chrissy Pollock (Junior Energy Advisor)

ACTION

AGM

Hall is booked for the 27th October 2012 . Meeting to begin at 2 pm. Agenda to be based on the standard format . Posters and e mails to be prepared for circulation to the membership.

KH KM

Two directors need to stand down for re- election. Peter Skabara will stand down and be co-opted to board over the agreed sabbatical period and David Howell has offered to stand down for re-election too.

Accounts information was sent off for preparation for year end figures at the end of August. Awaiting reply.

Refreshments will be served at the end of the meeting.

KH

PA system to be organised.

DGH & IF

Board and staff to consider items for presentation and discussion.

ALL

WARM HOME FUND GRANT

Two grants have been successfully awarded to village residents to enable measures to help reduce their fuel poverty. The board agreed this was an excellent method of assisting those who don't qualify for government grants and are unable to afford to make changes themselves.

Directors discussed the current grant criteria and some of the more unusual requests being presented for grant funding. The directors agreed on the need to cost repair of wood burning stoves before considering replacement of damaged units.

MB

WIND FARM PROPOSAL

The board were contacted by wind farm developers - Force 9 - to review the proposals for a wind farm located at Cairnhill and Spittalhill . The board have been asked to give an overview of the proposals as part of the developers community consultation. The directors discussed the information which had been sent and agreed that a further meeting with the developer would be required to discuss community benefit proposals, access etc. KH to contact Force 9 to agree a date after their presentations at the Menzies Hall and the FDT AGM.

KH

COMMUNITY GARDEN PLANS

DH and CP have been working together to come up with some plan proposals for the community garden at the far end of the sports field. DH talked the board through the plans which are mainly for costing purposes at this stage and to access any grants which may be available. The proposed layout is flexible and allows access to all age groups and abilities. DH to provide list of materials need and DGH will cost. **DH & DGH**

EV and FEET

We have had a great response to our new EV Citroen Zero which we have on loan for two months. Many people have shown interest and seven have been introduced to the car and driven it so far. KM is in further discussions with Citroen to see what happens when this loan period ends and what we can perhaps continue with. Insurance may be an obstacle but we should be able to transfer to another vehicle without too much problem. **KM CP**

Reserved business.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The board has received a request from the After School Club to join FEET as commercial members in order to ferry children from Buchlyvie to use their club, as numbers are down and the facility is at risk of closure. The board discussed the issues of restricting use of one car to other FEET members during term time, at a set time each day, in order to accommodate the request. The commercial rate and insurance deposit fee of £250 + £100 will be met by FDT although the club will pay for usage. (Unanimous agreement)
The board agreed to trial the scheme for the term leading up to Christmas as it reduces the carbon emissions of several cars making the same journey. KM to get in touch with the club to agree details. **KM**

SCOTTISH RENEWABLES

The board agreed to pay the membership fees to SR for the coming year but wished to express their disappointment in the lack of access to the CEO afforded to FDT over the past year. **KH**

BUS SERVICE

FDT received an email enquiry which asked for support in establishing a regular bus service within Fintry. The Board discussed and felt that this was more of a Community Council matter.

With the current provision of DRT, the directors also felt this was a more sustainable solution as it was only used as needed by comparison to other bus route schemes trialed in the past which sadly failed due lack of use and running empty buses on the road. **KH**

SEWAGE WORKS.

There are concerns in the village over the environmental impact of the swage works and the potential problems of it running at capacity.

Access to monitor the levels and workings have already been denied. FDT staff have tried to gain figures on the energy efficiency aspects of the works but have again been refused information. As FDT have been flatly refused relevant information we are unable to assist further at the moment.

HO'D

WOODLAND

FDT are looking into the various codes of conduct and insurance issues and limits etc which would be required if/when we are able to find a suitable woodland location to meet our needs as an outdoor classroom for the Centre for Excellence. Options are being looked at. Board to look at the draft agreement for comment and additions.

KM

STAFF REVIEWS

Now six months into the F8 project it was agreed that staff reviews will begin shortly to allow the Board to support the staff as necessary and exercise their responsibilities to employees. Dates to be organised but board agreed that the best time would be prior to board meetings.

HO'D KH

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

FDT have been approached on a number of occasions by local businesses seeking assistance.

While the staff and board can give advice and information to businesses, they are currently not in a position to be able to offer financial assistance . This would take away for the core work of the trust which is to assist the domestic homes of the village in reducing energy costs and carbon emissions.

The board discussed the potential to help, in the future, when the capital has been paid off for the turbine and greater funds will be available. A Business Grant could perhaps be established then. At this point, however, the funds are not available.

LOG STORE

MB & KM presented the idea of having an FDT log store situated centrally in the village to be accessible to the community for fuel at cost price. The proposal is at an early stage but case studies are being investigated and further detail of management, training and suitable supplies and delivery are being investigated. The running and management of the store may also provide employment within the community .

The board agreed in principle with the idea and look forward to seeing the results of further study.

KM & MB

