



DCDT Enterprise Company

Minute of Annual General Meeting

Held via Video Call (due to pandemic restrictions)

Tuesday 22nd September 2020 at 8pm

Members Present:

Tom Wallace (Director and Chair), David McCulloch (Director and Treasurer), Richard Boddington (Director), Mhairi Duncan (Director), Paul Saunders (Director), Ewan McKay (Director), Jackie McKay, Dawn Connor

Apologies:

David Allan

Chair's Welcome

Tom Wallace opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the AGM. He explained that similar to other charities our AGM has been delayed this year due to the pandemic and that is why it is being held via a video call.

Tom thanked everyone for attending and to the Directors for their help and support through a challenging year that had understandably restricted activity. He did note his appreciation for the work done to paint the bus shelter recently.

Minute of previous AGM

The minute was proposed by Ewan McKay and seconded by Dawn Connor

Chair's Report

During the financial year 2019/20 the Directors of the Trust worked hard to continue to support community development throughout the Drymen area.

Through the regular meeting of the board of directors, including the introduction of periodic 'open' meetings to which members and community organisations were invited

to observe and contribute, the DCDT supported and led on activity for the benefit of the community as a whole. This year these activities include:

Drymen Play Park Improvements – Highlighted as a priority within previous Community Action Plans, the need to improve the quality of play provision for those who live in and visit the area was tackled this year, led by a group of enthusiastic residents. The grass roots activity included community consultation, project development and fundraising, resulting in the redesign and redevelopment of the Charles Crescent playpark. This work is nearing completion and has been delivered in partnership with Stirling Council.

Path improvements – Continuing to build upon the partial completion of the shared use path to Balmaha, work has continued to negotiate the completion of this route. Designs have been completed, planning secured, and further development undertaken to ensure the completed route will be as effective as possible. The next step will be to raise the funds required to complete this important final section.

Village Square – As owners of the village square the Trust has worked hard to find ways to secure the required funds to repair, maintain and improve the square for all who use it. A fundraising campaign has been developed, however due to the global COVID pandemic this has not been fully launched. Options to secure funding through other means, including grant funding, business donations and visitor giving have all been considered and will remain under review.

Community Events – The backbone to the work of the trust remains the provision of a number of small community-focused events throughout the year, these include Bagpiping on the Square, the erection of the Christmas Tree and Lights and the community village clean-up. We would like to thank all who help in the delivery of these events.

Financial review

The Trust was exceedingly grateful to receive a generous legacy of £5,000 from a local resident, Kenneth Cameron, who died in July 2018. Membership fee income continues to fall year-on-year, and the trust needs to persuade more people to become members. Donations from 'Bagpiping on the Square' were broadly in line with the previous year, and generated a surplus of £610, although the event was cut short by one week due to bad weather. We are grateful to the National Park for providing £300 'capacity grant' funding to help fund our core costs. The overwhelming majority of our assets are in the form of restricted funds that are linked to specific grant-funded projects.

In February 2020, the board decided to transfer £3,500 from our unrestricted funds to a new restricted fund set up as part of a fund-raising appeal to improve the surface of the road around the Square. Unfortunately, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the board had to suspend fund-raising within days of launching the appeal in March. By the year-end, our general reserves have increased to almost £3,500, although this is still a modest sum bearing in mind our responsibility to maintain the Square, which we own. The Trust is very grateful to all of the organisations which have provided funding this year, without which the Trust could not carry out its activities.

Approval of the accounts and the reappointment of the auditor was nominated by Ewan MacKay and seconded by Richard Boddington.

Tom thanked David for his hard work and attention to detail as Treasurer.

The election and re-election of Directors

At this AGM Directors Tom Wallace, Mhairi Duncan and David McCulloch are all standing down. Tom passed the meeting onto Paul Saunders to Chair.

Paul thanked Tom, Mhairi and David for their outstanding contributions to the village over many years.

Paul said that as there would now be four Directors, below the required minimum number of five there would need to be a recruitment drive to increase the size of the board. It is hoped that this will be achieved in time for the next monthly meeting. Paul appealed to those on the call to consider joining the board, or to recommend anyone that may be interested.

AOB

Dawn Connor asked about the legacy for Mr Cameron and the plans to plant a tree on the Square. It was agreed that a solution would be found, consulting Mrs Cameron first about any proposal.

The meeting closed at 21.05