

# **DCDT Enterprise Company** Directors Meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (at David Mackie's house)

Directors Present: Richard Boddington (RB), Katy Gibb (KG), Ewan MacKay (EM), David Mackie (DM), Struan Robb (SR), Paul Saunders (PS)

Non-Directors Present: Robert Coleman (RC) (on Zoom)		
Item	Discussion	Actioner
	DOCUMENTS PROVIDED:  • Agenda	
	Minutes of last meeting (21/5) for review	
1.	APOLOGIES  Des Cibb (DC) weekle to attend	
	Rae Gibb (RG) unable to attend.  Noted that Louise MacInnes was not on the invitation email for this meeting and	
	should be invited to future meetings.	
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING	
	Minutes of 21 May 2021 meeting proposed by PS & seconded by DM.	
3.	All agreed that structure of the DCDT board to remain as is:	
	Paul Saunders – Chair	
	Ewan Mackay – Treasurer Richard Boddington – Secretary	
	Struan Robb, David Mackie, Katy Gibb, Rae Gibb - Directors	
4.	TREASURER'S REPORT AND MEMBERSHIP(EM) As of 29 <sup>th</sup> August, we have £46,355.95, of which £40,781.5 is restricted and £5,574.45 is unrestricted.	
	As we are at the end of the month I will get the Bank statement in the next couple of days, however there are a couple of Items which have not hit the bank account yet.  • The Income from piping in the Square	
	The Payments to the Band for piping in the square.	
	Notable changes in the period to our financial position are:	
	<ul> <li>We have completed the renovations to the Parking Places and the installation of the Bike stands and received the grant funding from Nature Scot.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>We have had a very good piping in the Square Season with £964.04 being collected in the buckets, after Costs and gift aid, this will give us £580.05 towards the trust funds.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>We have purchased a Plant and Plaque to commemorate the NHS and all the helpers during covid – to be planted at the medical centre.</li> </ul>	
<u> </u>	1	l .

#### Grants

- A grant application has been made to the Coop Community fund on behalf of the Food Shed to fund the shopping for a further year - £2080 - Unsuccessful
- A grant application has been made to the Foyle foundation to fund the digital inclusion project - £1120 – Unsuccessful
- A grant application has been submitted to the National Park Green Recovery fund for Renovation and transformation of the Bus shelter into a green E-bike charging point - £28K
- The FB Community Page was asked to comment on setting up an E Car Club in the village, however there was little of no support for this.

A Claim has been received with regards to an injury sustained in the square – this has been passed to our insurers to deal with.

## 5. **REVIEW OF RENEWAL OF PARKING BAYS**

Feedback on the renewal of the parking bays has all been positive. Hopefully it will provide a groundswell of support for the next stage of the refurbishment of the square.

## 6. **DRYMEN.ORG** WEBSITE

Since launch the website has had over 1,000 visitors and over 4,500 page views. The most visited pages have been the events diary and the piping on the square page. Ongoing efforts will be made to maximise the connectivity of the website to other pages, which should improve its position on search engines such as Google.

## 7. HERITAGE & NATURE BOARDS/TRAIL

#### **Board Sizes:**

The board size discussed at previous meetings and agreed at this meeting was 0.6m by 1m in a portrait orientation.

It was noted that boards larger than  $0.5 \text{m}^2$  require planning consent. However, as most of the boards proposed are to replace existing boards this is not considered a significant issue.

## **Board Locations:**

Agreed that a planning application be made to the NPA for boards to be installed:

- On the board holder on the square 3 boards (replacing the existing one with a three-sided structure)
- On the end of the bus stop 2 boards
- In the tunnel up to 5 boards, some to replace existing boards.

This allows scope for some flexibility in locating the boards.

# **Nature Boards:**

RC stated that the two Nature boards should be ready by Christmas, and that it would be useful to get the details of the Discover Drymen brand to ensure that the boards have a consistent look

Action: PS to share colour palettes and logo to assist with board design.

Action: RC to share the board template produced by his team so that it can be used as the basis for the other boards.

## **Heritage Board and Audio:**

Louise MacInnes and Carol Hemfrey have been working on contents for the heritage board and it is understood that this is nearly complete.

KG is recording audio pieces with various village residents, with content agreed with Carol Hemfrey. Approx. 10 of 14 complete.

PS RC The 14 pieces link to 14 locations in the village, each with an intro paragraph and an audio piece based on a historical fact.

How the audio pieces are to be used (i.e., the technical hosting of them) is still to be finalised.

- Link to website using QR at each location?
- Downloadable app?

2022 is the year of stories. £5k grant available from Visit Scotland for storytelling. Could be used to develop whatever is required to host the heritage audio trail. Current deadline is 1 October. Next funding round is 24/1/2022 to 18/3/2022.

Action: Apply for the Visit Scotland Grant – EM?

Action: PS to talk to Jamie Graham about recording a piece for the audio trail.

EM? PS

## Other thoughts on Information Boards:

- DM QR codes on boards (or posters) to link to further information on the website.
- KG Replace the fading Welcome to Drymen signs with Discover Drymen signs with website address.
- More posters (lockable display board? (Condensation?)) showing map of village with businesses. Must be easy to update.

8.

## **PIPING ON THE SQUARE**

Piping over July and August has been very successful, with good crowds. Doune and Helensburgh Pipe bands both gave good performances, although their numbers were reduced by Covid towards the end of the season and the last week had to be cancelled as a result.

£964.04 was collected in the buckets. After Costs and gift aid, this will give us £580.05 towards the trust funds.

Paul's announcements between pieces were well received and the scripts will be kept as a basis for next year.

It was suggested that the Milngavie pipe band also be approached for next year.

The banners should be updated next year to include the website details.

Action: Suggested that the tasks above be addressed in January.

TBC

## 9.

## **SQUARE PATHS/ROADS RENEWALS**

## Re-surfacing of the square:

We now have 4 quotes for the re-surfacing of the square, ranging from £73k +VAT (Stirling Community Enterprise) to £105k +VAT (Stirling Council). All quotes are based on the same specification, with a depth of 350mm, slightly less than the 450mm depth specified for highway roads.

EM is continuing discussions with the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF) which may contribute 50% of the cost.

DCDT would be required to provide match funding. It was suggested that the businesses around the square may be in a position to contribute some match funding, leaving a smaller amount for DCDT to raise elsewhere. (The possibility of direct payment by these VAT registered businesses was also discussed, but it was unclear whether this would reduce the total cost).

Action: DM to approach the other business owners to discuss donations, and the possibility of match funding from SLCF.

DM

## Safe Routes to School:

There was a meeting with Stirling Council Roads Department on Wednesday 4 August to discuss the square, safe routes to school, active travel and other areas that they can support us.

As a result, the Sustrans drawings for the square are being revisited, and discussed by DCC to get their view, with the possibility of council/Sustrans funding to improve some aspects of the square.

A further meeting, to include a DCC representative and Mr. Robertson, has been scheduled for 2pm on Tuesday 21 September.

Action: RB to share the Sustrans drawings with all DCDT Directors.

RB

## 10. TREE DEDICATION

The tree has been planted and the plaque has been purchased. The tree is currently slightly stressed, so a dedication ceremony will be planned once it has recovered.

Action: Organise date for dedication and invite people (PS).

PS/EM

## 11. MEMBERSHIP (RECRUITMENT, RENEWAL AND COMMUNICATION)

Membership stands at 139 members.

Suggested that the benefits of membership are more clearly communicated to members to encourage membership renewal.

Suggested that it is made easier for people to add a donation as part of membership renewal.

Action: Add membership renewal and donation options to the Discover Drymen website (PS).

PS

#### 12. ACTIVE TRAVEL (INCLUDING BIKE RACKS, EBIKE LOANS)

Bike racks have been installed outside the village hall, on a signpost in the square and on two plant pots – one on the square and one outside the bakery. Two bike racks are still available for deployment, and it is suggested that they are installed as part of the next refurbishment of the square.

RB is managing the loan of two e-bikes (supplied by LLTCT) to local residents. It was suggested that these could be booked through the Drymen website.

Action: Add e-bike booking facility to the Discover Drymen website (PS).

PS

## 13. PATH MAINTENANCE – VOLUNTEERING WITH NP RANGERS

Following Bill Thomson's contact with the NPA to highlight the poor condition of the core path from Winnock Court to Home Farm, Adam Samson, a NP Ranger, has been in touch to co-ordinate some volunteer work on the path.

Drymen Primary School are going to clear vegetation along the path on the 9th and 22nd Sept. Following on from that Adam will source material and then be looking for volunteers to help (alongside DPS pupils) with the paths repair.

## 14. **AOCB**

n/a

## 15. Dates for future meetings

Monday 27 September at KG's house.