

KIRKOWAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Board Meeting held on Tuesday 25th October at 7pm at the Autumn Club, Kirkcowan.

Minutes

1. In attendance

Charlie McNeill (Chair), Bill Harkness, Hazel Johnston, Lynne Melville, Martin Marsh, Colin Richardson, Andrew Gladstone and Hazel McWhirter.

2. Other

Carol Lochrie (Machars Action) and Nicki Chadwick (KCDT Support Officer).

3. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed, proposed by Martin and seconded by Lynn.

5. Village Hall update

There was no update

6. Winter Fuel Allowance

It was reported that some households had not yet received the Winter Fuel Allowance application form and the KCDT Newsletter, in spite of them all having been sent on the same day. It was noted that any delay in receiving the application forms and newsletter was possibly due to the Royal Mail postal strikes.

The representative of the Kirkcowan Community Council reported that some members of the community had expressed concern that the Winter Fuel Allowance had not been increased in light of the current cost of living crisis.

It was also reported that Scottish Power had received enquiries regarding the Winter Fuel Allowance, asking why the payment had not been increased. It was agreed that Scottish Power will be informed that the payment has not been increased from last year as the UK Government is currently providing energy support.

7. Tenders for Project Management

It was reported that efforts were underway to secure a date to meet with the preferred contractor to finalise plans and set a timescale for the three Kirkcowan projects to begin.

8. Youth Club Update

It was reported that no further input had been received regarding the proposed Youth Club and agreed that a further update would be given at the next meeting following a call for interest in the latest KCDT newsletter.

9. Website update

It was suggested that the new KCDT website could incorporate news from the Kirkcowan Community Council (KCC). However, it was noted that KCC already has a website.

10. AGM

It was reported that some KCDT members had not received paperwork for the AGM two weeks before the date of the meeting, most likely due to the Royal Mail postal strike. It was decided that the AGM should still go ahead on the proposed date. All necessary arrangements for the KCDT AGM are in place.

11. Financial update

The projected budget was presented and will be revisited once the Winter Fuel Allowance payments have been made. Clarification was requested on a couple of accounting entries.

12. Any other business

Footpath - It was reported that further work needs to be completed for the footpaths to be signed off. Discussions will take place in the coming months regarding making the footpath wheelchair-friendly and suitable

for differently abled people. The Board thanked Andrew Gladstone and the Kirkcowan Community Council for undertaking the footpath project.

Jenna Morra Wood – It was agreed that a public meeting should take place regarding felling and other proposed work at Jenna Morra Wood.

Grant applications – It was agreed that grant applications should be presented at KCDT monthly meetings.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 28th November – now rescheduled to Tuesday 13th December.