

Kirkcowan Community Development Trust

Minutes of Board Meeting held on Tuesday 27th June at 7pm at
the Autumn Club in Kirkcowan

1. In attendance

Charlie McNeill (Chair), Lynn Dalglish, Martin Marsh (Vice Chair), Bill Harkness, Andrew Gladstone, Hazel Johnston and Hazel McWhirter.

2. Other

Carol Lochrie (Machars Action), Nicki Chadwick (KCDT Support Officer), Siobhan Jarvie (ScottishPower) and Gillian Masterson (ScottishPower).

3. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

Three grant applications have been approved that weren't included in the minutes – Fun in the Park, the Autumn Club and grass cutting. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed, proposed by Martin Marsh and seconded by Hazel Johnston.

5. SPR Killgallioch

Siobhan Jarvie discussed the ongoing relationship between SPR Killgallioch and KCDT. She also outlined proposals for the construction of Kilgallioch Windfarm Extension.

6. Volunteer Policy

Comments regarding a volunteer policy for KCDT projects were requested to be sent to Carol by email.

7. Village Hall Update

It was reported that the Village Hall Committee is exploring a 10 to 15-year lease for the Village Hall and plans to carry out small-scale renovations.

8. Jenna Morra Wood

Work has continued to cut back rhododendrons. It was reported that a lot of planned work for the wood will be carried out after the summer, including marking trees to be removed and improvements to the car park area. Plans to install a bridge, boardwalk and steps were discussed. It was agreed that efforts should be made to encourage young people to be involved in the development of the wood.

9. Website

The website is continually being updated and revised. Nicki agreed to look in to why the old website address pops up in a Google search whereas the new website doesn't. Nicki also agreed to add the rebranded ScottishPower logo to the site.

10. Play Parks and Rest Garden projects

It was reported that the recent public meeting for the play parks and rest garden projects was well-attended. Meetings have taken place regarding HAGS and Jupiter play park equipment suppliers. Their quotes and plans are to follow. KCDT is to look at the possibility of Dumfries and Galloway Council including the playpark in their regular inspections timetable as there are other community-funded playparks in D&G who have this arrangement. However, any major maintenance or replacement of equipment would remain the responsibility of the community.

11. Kirkcowan Community Council update

It was reported that the Fun in the Park Day was a great success, raising £1,385. The KCC is to explore the possibility of purchasing more gazebos for future events.

12. Accounts

The end of year accounts were agreed and signed off by Charlie.

13. Finance Report

The finance reports from April and May 2023 were accepted. Charlie, Andrew and Carol have all been accepted as signatories for the United Trust Bank account.

14. Grant Applications

Grant applications from the Kirkcowan Community Council and for the Jenna Morra Wood footpath were agreed.

15. Educational and Driving Grants update

One grant application has been received for a university course. Possible changes to the educational and driving grants were discussed to open up the grants to vocational courses, using the ScottishPower funds to remove barriers to employability.

16. Any other business

Free support through the Accelerate Programme of Community Enterprise was discussed, with their support for Glentroll being highlighted. KCDT is to explore whether the programme would be useful for Kirkcowan.

Bill is to speak to the Autumn Club regarding community transport.

Siobhan suggested that a sign is placed in the Kirkcowan Post Office to say that the Post Office and village shop are being supported by ScottishPower.

17. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th July at 7pm in the Autumn Club.