

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

Committee Meeting

05.03.2018

2.00pm, Town Hall, New Galloway

Minutes

1. Present: Ros Hill, Ray Bridgeman, Bob Glaister, Ann Glaister, Debbie Hardy, David Hardy, Debbie Daly. Ros Hill welcomed the new committee members elected at the AGM on 15.2.18.

In attendance: James McCrossan (for an hour), Sam Rushton (for an hour and a half).

2. Apologies: Craig Millar, Eleanor Wilson, Sue Vest, Ingrid Gemmel

3. Election of Officers:

Chair: Ros Hill proposed by Ray Bridgeman, seconded by David Hardy, elected unopposed.

Secretary: Ann Glaister, proposed by Ros Hill, seconded by Ray Bridgeman, elected unopposed. Ann commented that she was very happy to continue as secretary, but would not want to stand in the way of someone who lived locally full-time who might take on the role.

Treasurer: Bob Glaister, proposed by Ros Hill, seconded by David Hardy. Bob re-stated his position declared at the AGM, that he would continue for the year, but would intend to hand over to somebody in the course of that year.

Vice-chair: It was agreed to defer the election of vice-chair until it could be established whether Craig Millar was willing to stand again.

4. Minutes of Meeting of 03.11.17: These were approved subject to one correction: In item 9 the name Gordon Henry should have read Gordon Barr..

5. Matters arising:

a) To remind Ingrid to send a sample of the use of a symbol for headed paper. **(AG)**

b) That Loreburn are actually willing to bear the cost of the broadband for a whole year.

c) That Jim will check out likely timing of correcting clock timing.

d) In regard to the likely timing of re-painting the exterior of the Town Hall, Jim reported that D&G did not have a sufficient amount in their budget but that if LING could raise enough for the hire and erecting of scaffolding, perhaps by applying to Stewartry Area Committee, then D&G could pay for the cleaning and painting. Two points were made in response to this.

i) This did not accord with the existing agreement where D&G still carried responsibility for this work.

ii) Figures needed to be checked because two very different figures had been given to LING for the costs of this work. One was around £7,000, issued in 2014, and one, just recently, indicated an actual previous cost of around £17,000.

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Agreed that LING will write to Robert with a request for clarification on both these issues.

(AG and RH)

e) Ros enquired about the purpose of the Energy Performance Certificate sent by Adrian.

f) It was confirmed by Bob that the issue of water payments was still not clear.

g) Ray indicated that no reply had been forthcoming about the installation of the new kitchen. Jim will chase this up. **(JM)**

h) Noted that, as agreed, Sam had provided a written summary of her role as Community Outreach Worker and this had been circulated.

Sam further informed us that:

- a) There would be a Dementia Awareness Program evening at the Catstrand on 20th March run by Jill Rennie. Places bookable. Aim is to promote Dementia friendly village and businesses.
- b) Sam is initiating a New Galloway Diary, which will allow potential clashes to be checked in advance and will provide information for visitors promoting co-ordination and communication. We should notify her of our plans regularly.
- c) In relation to her role with the economic wellbeing of New Galloway, Sam promoting networking across food providers, holiday lets, B&Bs and businesses.
- d) Has a student, Janosh Schnee, working on collecting information with a view to setting up an oil purchasing co-operative.

6. Chair's Report:

The Chair's Report had been circulated in advance and the information was noted.

It was welcomed that some money was forthcoming from the Co-op grant. It was not yet clear how this relatively small amount would be spent.

Noted that the first tranche of the Galloway Glens money is due in April. Volunteer hours can be counted as our contribution to matched funding with time counted as against normal salary equivalents. A further meeting will take place this week.

The proposed new Hall hire charges were noted and it was felt that the price rise might be quite steep for regulars. It was proposed that 'Discounted rates available for regular bookings' should be added and Ros should have discretion to decide on these rates.

7. Financial Report: Ros, with assistance from Gordon, has been revising the accounts. There have been delays and complications, but apart from a few glitches they are nearly ready to go back to the independent examiner.

Noted that for the report to OSCR, we have to provide accounts from when we became a charity and will therefore have to slice the accounts in two. This is not imminent.

We have around £5000 in our account.

Friends are gradually building up.

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Noted that in future there will be a need to account separately for sub-committee finances. Also, we will need to account for grant spending. It seems advisable to invest in a computer program that can help us manage accounts. Ros will investigate **(RH)**

8. Sub-committees:

i) A 'Celebratory events sub-committee of LING' has been set up and Ray has agreed to be the LING Trustee on this group. This development was warmly welcomed. Two events a year are envisaged, which will not be money-making but will be designed to bring the village together across organisations. The next event scheduled is a celebratory picnic-in-the-park on the day after the royal wedding – Sunday 20th May.

ii) A further sub-committee is being formed to handle the Galloway Glens initiative – paths and walled garden – and membership so far includes Gerry Cinderby, Ros Hill, Craig Millar, Gordon Hill, McNabb Laurie. Noted that Sue Vest had also expressed willingness to be involved in this. Craig will be asked if he is willing to be the formal Trustee link person to this group. A launch event is being mooted – possibly a BBQ in the walled garden on May Day.

Agreed that in future there will be a regular item on the agenda to allow for reports from the subcommittees.

9. AGM follow-ups:

i) New trustees induction – agreed to ask Christine Clarke if she could provide another training workshop **(AG)**. It was also suggested that new trustees might have meetings with each existing trustee to hear about their roles and background to what was happening. It can all be a gradual process. Agreed that people might think about whether there were particular roles they might be interested in taking on within the committee.

ii) The constitution, amended in line with what had been agreed at the AGM, was formally approved and will be sent around. **(AG)**

iii) Ann had drafted a Stage 1 Asset Transfer application (in Ros's name) and it was agreed that we should proceed with this. The previous summary notes re asset transfer would be sent to new committee members. **(AG)**

10. Funding bids and priorities – progress, planning and issues:

i) Car parking space – Noted, with delight, that Glasgow Galloway Association had awarded us a grant of £1000 towards the purchase of this space. Advance notice had been received by email on Sunday 4th March.

ii) Kitchen installation – Already noted that permission has not yet been given. No luck with bid for funding to Screwfix. Need to look for other potential funders. **(AG)**

iii) Architectural Heritage – can proceed with application once Asset Transfer stage 1 is applied for. **(AG)**

iv) Internet Café bid – we have £237.35 from the Co-op. Need to consider how best to use this. Agreed that person time will be important. Noted that we don't want to charge people

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for access, except for printing. There is now a printer. Need to lengthen cables to allow router to be mounted on wall shelf. Further thinking to be done. **(RH)**

v) Leader invitation to bid. Ros will explore whether to put in an indicative bid. **(RH)**

vi) Accounting for £500 from NHS for LING lunches. Noted that Sue had suggested various possibilities that would connect with improving sustainability – including some funding towards car parking purchase. Draft response to be written **(AG)**.

vii) Unisex loo – nothing further to report. Probably need some expert advice.

viii) NHS Health and Wellbeing grant focussing on children and young people – the possibility of applying for a £500 grant was discussed with various options for its use. **(RH)**

(See Chair's report for further detail)

ix) Core costs funding bid – Ann had been checking with Stewartry Area that their guidance wording really did mean we could apply for some support with core funding costs. She will put a bid in for this next round of funding – deadline quite soon. People are asked to suggest headings for core funding that could be included. Provisional list includes: Service charges (electricity, oil), stationery, printing costs, broadband, insurance, licences.

11. Town Hall events – past, present and future

i) Loreburn computer training – will be extended by a further week due to bad weather.

ii) Bingo – a further Bingo session is planned for 6th April, during school holidays. There was enthusiasm for keeping it going, possibly monthly at least during winter months. Need to explore potential sponsors or donations for further prizes. **(BG)** Noted that Tesco provided some support for the Bingo and its 'Bags of Help' is a possible source for funding for other things. Agreed to accept the invitation from the Tesco 'Community Champion' to come to talk to us about what they can offer.

iii) Janette and Geoff Davidson's fund-raising concert 18th May – information and bio available to us now for publicity purposes. Very impressive so need to make sure this is publicised well. Perhaps a separate splash in the Glenkens Gazette. **(RH)**. Need to chase up possibility of photographs. **(AG)**. Ticket prices. Agreed £10 per ticket – £5 for 16 and under. Probably a table and chairs layout, although could sell more tickets with rows of chairs. Will discuss with Davidsons **(RH)**. Probably get a licence to sell alcohol – also teas and coffees. Seek advice on how the Christmas Concert interval refreshments were handled.

iv) Old photographs and Paintings exhibition. Will be in Glenkens Gazette as lead item with photograph of unveiling on New Galloway painting. Ray will look for a suitable date in June so as not to clash with other events in May. Possibly to be open over a weekend.

v) Love food: hate waste workshop – free workshop available from Zero Waste Scotland. Agreed to host this on 10th April after LING lunches, but not to invite extras for lunch.

12. Publicity/promotion:

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The proposal for a calendar or Christmas Card was discussed and it was agreed that this would not be pursued at this point. The possibility of some postcards was seen as a better option, but on hold as an idea for now. Stuart Littlewood to be thanked for the offer of photographs for this **(AG)**

Copy for Glenkens Gazette – Ros will develop the draft to get copy in on time.

13. Volunteer recruitment and record keeping:

No progress as yet with this but agreed that we now have quite a number of volunteers.

14. Membership – approval of applicants:

All new membership applicants were approved. Noted that we now have 35 members.

15. AOB: There was no other business.

16. Date of Next meeting: 26th April at 2.00pm

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LING Committee Meeting 15.01.2018

Confidential Minute 1: Noted re Duke Street properties – Ros reported that work seems to have stopped on the house next door. Agreed we should try to find out what is happening, but that we should not at this stage reconsider trying to buy it, nor contact the Rural Housing Fund about it.

Confidential Minute 2: Re parking space – noted successful bid to Glenkens Community Shop and submission of further bid to Stewartry Area Committee. Cost of purchase at £4000 plus estimated cost of lawyer's fee at £900 confirmed. Further funding is still needed although we could possibly cover it ourselves. Stewartry grant decision will not be made until March. Reminder that trustees need to take ID into lawyers on High Street. Noted that seller had now confirmed she would be paying her own costs and that she would wait for us to raise funds for one year.