

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

Committee Meeting

10.10.2018

2.00pm, Town Hall, New Galloway

Minutes

1. Present: Ros Hill, Ray Bridgeman, Bob Glaister, Ann Glaister, Debbie Daly

In attendance: Sue Vest, Sam Rushton (for her item), Angela Orro (from Tesco, for her item).

2. Apologies: David Hardy, Debbie Hardy, Eleanor Wilson, Ingrid Gemmell, James McCrossan, Craig Millar,

3. Minutes of Meeting of 31.08.18: Correction noted to item 10: the shop-trail grant received from Glenkens Community Shop had been £100 not £75.

4. Matters arising: The question had been raised as to whether there would be any further support from D&G following asset transfer. Agreed this should be followed up. The secretary offered to send a query to Ingrid Gemmell. **(AG)**

5. Chair's Report: A report was tabled by Ros, who talked it through. It was noted that Christine Clarke's replacement at 3rd Sector D&G was David Link and agreed that he would be invited to the next meeting **(AG)**. Ros had sent a note of thanks and farewell to Christine.

6. Financial Report: i) Accounts: Ros apologised that the accounts were not yet finalised. A further version had been submitted to Alan Rumble and Ros had requested a transactions report from him. Bob and Ros would meet tomorrow to go through this.

ii) Treasurer hunt: noted that time is running short for finding a replacement treasurer when Bob steps down at next AGM. Brian Edgar's advice has been sought. Sue Vest suggested that we might advertise in the Glenkens Gazette and also on Facebook.

iii) current position: £8000 in bank account, of which £3,500 is reserved; running costs annually are around £4000; also we have £1,500 core costs support to come from the Stewartry Committee grant once they receive our signed-off accounts. £137 was raised at the Cheese and Wine evening. Therefore, we are in a reasonable position to proceed with plans, for example, to install new kitchen.

7. Reports and responses to queries from D&G: No reports today

8. Report from Sue Vest: i) Erin's evaluation work in relation to LING lunches is now underway and an interim report will be available by mid-November.

(ii) Sue's report on Social Isolation and Loneliness in the Stewartry and her summary of follow-ons in place or planned had been received. Areas where LING might have a direct involvement included:

- a) Setting up an internet café in the Town Hall. This has already been in LING's aspirations and has been suggested during the development of ideas around social

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isolation. Sue will support in any way they can in development and evidencing need for funding applications. It has been highlighted as a potential area for intergenerational work – maybe linking with Dalry School.

- b) Inter-generational story-telling – This has also been suggested from the development work and Sue is looking for an organisation to test the idea with. The comment in the engagement exercise which triggered the idea was made by a New Galloway Community Member who talked about linking older people without grandchildren to children without grandparents.
- c) In order to widen the uptake of lunches to include lower-income households, might be possible to have a scheme with pre-payment cards which could be available to all. These could then be bought or subsidised and it would avoid stigmatising those who were subsidised.
- d) IT support – not directly LING linked, but a heads-up about work with a Dumfries-based IT team looking at a remote access befriending system providing a support framework for those who are house-bound, possibly chronically ill.

9. Sub-committees:

i) *Celebratory events Committee*: Plans are still in place for the 2nd of December concert. The commemoration bench has been ordered for the park. It is hoped to install a railing/hand-rail, which would make it easier for older people and those with difficulty walking, to access the bench. Costs currently look high at around £1,200. Other quotes will be sought. It was suggested that Winnifred Kennedy Trust might be willing to fund something of that kind. Ann will contact them to ask.

The Christmas Community Programme is still on track.

(ii) *Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership Project*: A report on the Exploring New Galloway project is included in the Chair's Report. This covers both the clearance of the Golf Course woods footpaths and the work related to the Garroch Estate Walled Garden.

10. Report from Sam Rushton (Community Engagement Worker):

The wishing tree follow-ups have been analysed with Chris Jowsey and Brian Jones and now fed back to Ingrid. A more formal assessment is now ongoing. Issues emerging as front-runners are: litter and transport. Transport issue regarding timings of buses is being referred to the community council to follow up. On litter concerns, it is suggested we might organise a Saturday morning litter pick up in the park followed by a cup of tea. Or similarly on the golf course paths.

Ladies Give-it-a-go sessions are being followed up with a pot-luck supper in the Town Hall for all ages. Bring a plate to share, and a drink – focus of discussion to be on social wellbeing in the Glenkens.

Football in the park still succeeding. Have got some feedback to evaluate – Sue and Ingrid will help with this (noted value of external evaluation). Loan of floodlights for trialling, but will move to Sunday mornings in the meantime.

The History/shop Trail has been passed back to Ros to continue.

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Oil discount scheme – still negotiating – noted that Town Hall could sign up. Possibility of wood briquettes being bought in bulk from Fuel Co-op in Dumfries – link to winter-resilience.

Youth café: keen to have a space where they can hang out; challenge for Town Hall is how to create a space that can be adapted appropriately very quickly.

Community apple press – wondering if Celebratory Committee might raise funds for this?

Sam was thanked and congratulated on so much happening.

11. Future Plans for the Town Hall: The committee was updated on the development of the funding bids to Architectural Heritage Fund, Resilient Heritage and Awards for All. The Architectural Heritage Fund and Awards for All Bids are ready to go and all the preparatory work has been done on the Resilient Heritage Bid. Finalised accounts are needed before anything can be submitted. **(AG)**

12. Publicity/Promotion:

i) Wording for notice boards for Town Hall parking space was discussed. Agreed there should be two boards at the back and possibly one near the front using the existing planter. Noted concern about wind bending the current signs. Wording might include words like 'Please give priority to blue badge holders'. **(BG and AG)**

ii) discussion of draft poster/board for inside front door of Town Hall. Suggestion that a logo would be nice. Also that community hub wording might be deleted. Otherwise the approach was liked. Final wording would have to be approved/tweaked at last minute. Agreed Ann should contact a designer for estimate. **(AG)**

iii) Notice board for outside Town Hall – agreed in principle – perhaps to go on side wall outside.

iv) Draft of 'Forthcoming events' poster not yet available

v) leaflet summarising activities in Town Hall not yet available.

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

i) Visit from Angela Orro (note: item was taken earlier in meeting): Angela was enthusiastic about opportunities for LING to bid to Tesco Bags of Help scheme. She explained the process – bid at any time, advised apply for full £4000, goes to Greenspace Scotland to decide if it qualifies, then wait for turn to go into public vote. Process is approximately 6 months from start to finish, then you have 1 year in which to spend the money. As soon as you've spent it, you can apply again. After discussion, it was felt applying for the adaptation of downstairs toilet was possible. Would need to find a good title for it! Maybe a colouring competition for schoolchildren to raise profile.

ii) Kitchen installation plans and costs: no further word from either Darrel or Loreburn.

iii) Wind-farm money – should we be thinking ahead: no clarity as yet, so nothing can be done at this stage

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iv) Downstairs toilet: discussed as potential for Tesco bid

14. Town Hall activities and events – past present and future:

i) Report on Wine and Cheese fund-raising Evening – 21st September: This had gone well. Friends' draw won by Geoff Davidson

ii) Sensory Impairment Awareness training 11th October: alerted to this free workshop run by Visibility D&G by Sue Vest – to be hosted by LING tomorrow.

iii) Plans for Family Bingo evenings – 20th Oct and 24th Nov – plans and publicity in place

iv) Shop Trail progress – nothing to report

v) Oral history project – Ros and Aiden Nicol (Catstrand Youth Co-ordinator) have this in hand

(vi) AGM – agreed date for next AGM should be 21st February. Need to liaise with NGCE.

(AG)

15. Data Base development and data storage: Ann reported data base now completed and available on google drive. Advice available to anyone who wants to access it. Will add more items into google drive store and provide a list of what is available there. **(AG)**

16. Membership and Friends – Five more members approved; two more Friends in the pipeline but not yet committed.

17. AOB: No AOBs

18. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th November at 2.00pm.