

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

Committee Meeting

11.06.2018

10.00pm, Town Hall, New Galloway

Minutes

1. Present: Ros Hill, Ray Bridgeman, Bob Glaister, Ann Glaister, Debbie Hardy, David Hardy, Debbie Daly, Eleanor Wilson

2. Apologies: Ingrid Gemmell, James McCrossan, Sue Vest, Craig Millar

3. Minutes of Meeting of 26.04.18: These were approved

4. Matters arising: It was noted that there had been no response to our email of 28th April to Robert Lowther re painting the outside of the Town Hall. Agreed that a reminder query should be sent **(AG)**

5. Chair's Report: A report was tabled by Ros, who talked it through.

6. Financial Report: Ros apologised that the accounts were not yet finalised. A copy of the accounts would not now be made available to the trustees until after they had been examined and approved.

Bob reported that LING currently has in the region of £11,000 in the bank of which around £9,000 is committed. We have a regular annual income of about £4,000, made up of approximately:

£1000 from Town Hall lettings

£1000 from LING-run events

£1000 from weekly Sports Evenings

£1000 from Town Hall 'Friends'

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

8. Report from Sue Vest: No report today

9. Sub-committees:

i) *Celebratory events Committee:* It was reported that the May 20th Picnic in the Park was very successful. There was a double-page spread about it in the Galloway News. £336.10 had been raised from drink sales and donations and the subcommittee were thinking of using some funds towards setting up a memorial bench in the park. This would provide helpful seating particularly for visitors to the park who cannot walk far.

Another concert is under consideration for later in the year, possibly a St Andrew's Day celebration.

ii) *Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership Project:* It is envisaged that an open meeting will be held to launch the project, possibly on 21st June.

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Ros reported the involvement of a post-graduate student looking for a placement. Her project will be looking at what motivates people to get involved with community-based initiatives.

10. Report from (Community Engagement Worker): No report from Sam on this occasion.

11. Future Plans for the Town Hall: responses to key questions

The same paper was used as a reference point, together with a time-line that had been drawn up to assist the discussion (attached). In relation to the specific questions:

1. Does LING feel ready to explore this in earnest – the answer was ‘yes’.
2. If ‘yes’ what kind of timescale might be involved – it was suggested that the first stage of collecting all the necessary information and advice and developing and submitting fully-fledged funding bids, might take us to the end of 2018, rather than mid-October as proposed on the time-line. This was agreed to be more realistic.
- 3 & 4. Relating to sounding out and, hopefully, harnessing community support for the project – agreed that this needed to be properly addressed, while recognising that there were a number of relevant processes in place already. Agreed involving young people is important.
5. What local/volunteer expertise might be drawn upon – it was noted that Andrew Ward had been contacted and a meeting set up. It was agreed that any contacts or advice should now be explored.

It was agreed that an informal meeting of trustees would be useful with a focus on this issue specifically and a date was set for July 26th at 2.00pm.

12. Publicity/Promotion: The circulated paper was discussed, and it was agreed that it was surprising to see how much was already being done. It was agreed that it would be useful to have a) a checklist of what actions are routinely done to promote events and b) have a distribution list for where posters can usually be posted and perhaps allocate people to particular areas for distributing posters. A draft could be drawn up initially to see if it would be useful or not (**AG**). Ideally one person taking a bit of a lead or co-ordinating role on publicity might be helpful in the longer term.

Noted that A3 posters can be printed in the print shop; Loreburn is setting up an information board at Carson’s Knowe, which we will be able to use; that Tim Curtis is developing a way of lighting and preventing steaming up of the Town Hall notice boards; that visitors often look for information about the Town Hall and we might think of some kind of story board; there is an old notice board just inside the front door where a newer poster might look good; we should not forget about signage for the Town Hall; that a notice at The Smithy about LING lunches for when they are full, might be useful.

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

- i) car parking space: Craig has now taken his ID to the lawyer’s and Ian Rodger has been asked to progress the purchase.
- ii) kitchen installation: David had done some investigation about kitchen regulations; agreed that Darrel Wilson might be approached for an estimate and Andrew and Margaret might be

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asked for any advice. A bid has been submitted to the Glenkens Charity shop for £500 towards the cost of a refurbished industrial dishwasher. We also still have £500 from NHS which might be allocated to buying a fridge-freezer.

iii) Architectural Heritage and Resilient Heritage: nothing further on this

iv) Stewartry Area Committee – It was thought that some grant had been awarded for running costs, but it was not yet quite clear.

v) We were alerted to another local trust fund – the Winnifred Kennedy fund – which funds capital expenditure related to supporting people with disabilities or mental health problems. As the timescale for this round of bidding was very tight, a bid has been put in for a pavement edge ramp and a doorbell, both recommendations made by the ‘Experts’ who contributed to the ‘Ask the Experts’ report.

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

i) Waiting to hear when laptops will arrive. Jackie at the IT centre is exploring ways to help. A screen might be used in future to help with privacy for CAB advice sessions. We have a printer donated.

ii) The Geoff Davidson concert was a great success – sold out in the end – raised £475. Geoff and Janette have been thanked.

iv) Old photographs and paintings exhibition, as reported in Chair’s report, was held on 9th and 10th June. Admission was charged at £3 a head and £221 was raised, plus some from donations and mug sales. Avril and Ray were thanked for their hard work in setting this up. Many visitors stayed and chatted over old photographs etc for hours and some came back a second day. A formal thank you on behalf of LING should be sent to Hamish Yeoman who helped a great deal (AG).

15. Fund-raising workshops summary: This paper had been circulated for information and may be of interest. Agreed important at some stage to find key punchy wording to clarify what LING is about. Also need to think about a ‘Vision Statement’ as well as a ‘Mission Statement’.

16. Data Protection and Privacy Statement: paper received for information. Agreed that Ann would be the ‘controller’ as far as data protection is concerned.

17. Membership and Friends: Bob reported that we have 8 new members as a result of the weekend exhibition. Agreed to approve them. Names will be sent around the Trustees.

18. AOB: There was no other business.

19. Date of Next Meeting: An informal meeting of Trustees is scheduled for July 26th at 2.00pm to discuss the future of the Town Hall. If there is urgent business, it will be added to this meeting. A date for the next formal LING meeting will be canvassed in due course.

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Exploring Glenkens

Objective: Improve local economy by increasing attractiveness to visitors and thereby :

Raise profitability of tourist accommodation, shops and restaurants.

Ensure continuation of local services to residents

Provide jobs

Improve leisure facilities for residents and visitors.

Projects led by LING with GGLP support:

Rescue local footpath in New Galloway Golf Course woods.

Maintain 20 miles of footpaths on a local estate.

Create leisure facility in a derelict walled garden

Projects promoted by GGLP and DG Council with LING support.

Create off road link from Core Path into New Galloway.

Create a long distance footpath linking Carsphairn, Dalry and New Galloway with potential to link to a Core Path to the Raider's Road and Loch Stroan. This path will use Forestry Commission and Forest Estate logging roads and existing Core Paths thereby minimising costs.

(Summary tabled by Gerry Cinderby)