



Grantown Initiative

Iomairt Bhaile nan Granndach

Grantown Initiative - Board Meeting

Minutes of Meeting on Tuesday 12 December 2017 at The Court House, Grantown on Spey
at 7.30pm

	Item	Action Points
1	<p>Welcome /Apologies</p> <p>Present: Directors – Stewart Dick (in chair) Neil Martin, David Duncan, Jane Hope, Basil Dunlop Advisors- Karen Derrick</p> <p>Apologies: Tom Clark, Melanie Dick, Dan Cottam, Isla Game, Bill Sadler (who had arrived after the start of the meeting and been unable to gain access to the building).</p>	
2	<p>Approval of previous minutes</p> <p>Minutes of Nov 2017 approved subject to two changes: - J Hope had not attended. - KD was drafting a new constitution for consideration at the 9th January 2018 meeting (not the December meeting)</p> <p>Proposed – DD Seconded –BD</p>	KD
3	<p>Matters arising from Minutes (not otherwise on agenda)</p> <p>AOCB (third bullet point) BD had approached Seafield estate, and contacted CNPA about the riverside access road between Cromdale Bridge and the old Spey Bridge. CNPA’s funding was largely already committed. For future reference it was noted that if done by the estate, pathwork would fall under permitted development and would not require planning permission. GVCC had no objection to GI’s involvement – it would be discussed further at the forthcoming meeting between GI and GVCC.</p>	Chair
4	<p>Declarations of Interest BD – Director of SCRT DD- Director of Speyside Golf and Whisky Trail, and member of steering group for the Snow Road project.</p> <p>It was noted that a register of interests existed (which Directors were reminded to keep updated), and there was no need to reiterate its contents under “declarations” unless particularly relevant to an agenda item.</p>	

5	Membership None to report.	
6	Hogmanay in the Square Various meetings held – things in hand for current year. GI had agreed to take over the lead role, and would call a meeting early in January 2018 to start planning for the 2018 event. It was noted that there was likely to be no funding to carry forward, so an early task would be starting the process of raising funds of around £8k. There was some discussion about the PA system. Following the ICONIC report, and recent experience, GI would flag up to the GVCC at the forthcoming meeting that they (GI) would like to look into the state of the current system, what the needs are in the future, and options for improving its useability and reliability.	TC Chair
7	Meeting with Drew Hendry MP This had been held on 7 December, and been very positive. Note of meeting attached. He was very positive about the Rails to Grantown, and had some useful suggestions about possible funding for the proposed Mossie Playpark, about which he would get back to the GI. BD had given Drew Hendry a briefing note on R2G and GI action plan, and a copy of his (BD's) letter in the Strathy that day.	
8	CARS (Conservation Regeneration Scheme) No report in absence of BS.	
9	GVCC No report in absence fo BS.	
10	Rails to Grantown (RTG) BD reported. No SCRT since last GI meeting therefore nothing new to report. At the next SCRT meeting there would be a number of important issues to consider, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Estimated date of submission of TAWS order; currently summer 2018; - TAWS is a process, in which SCRT will be required to submit documents to Transport Scotland's satisfaction. Three were particularly important: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - -Cost Benefit analysis: done previously, but may need updating; - -Business plan; also done but in need of updating; - -Funding availability Although it is difficult to secure funding in advance of confirmation of the TAWS order, nevertheless the application will need to be accompanied by some form of reassurance to Transport Scotland that there is a funding plan, even if funds are not yet guaranteed. This is likely to need considerable marketing effort. BD would report back after the next SCRT board meeting. KD reported further to her investigations that Scottish Government were content with the Mem and Arts of the SCRT. BD suggested that aside from this, it was likely that the SCRT would need a business restructuring in order to be fit for the task ahead.	BD

	SD said he would be interested in being involved in the marketing work as part of the drive to attract funding.	
11	<p>AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gordon Strang is looking into a project for building improvements to the Inverallan Church ; he asked to come along to the January GI meeting to talk to Directors (agreed). - GBA account would need to be closed soon. Next meeting of the GBA subgroup to be arranged shortly. - In view of the timetable for the revised constitution (see item 2), the AGM would be held on 13 March 2018. - 	NM/DD
	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 9 January 2018, 7.30pm The Courthouse.</p>	

List of Action Points C/F from Previous Meetings

Date	Item	Discharged
17/10	Mossie Play Park- MD and DC to meet to progress.	
17/10	Money from Harleys event to be identified and ring fenced for the Tourism Sub Committee. (MD)	

Jane Hope
12/12/2017

Meeting with Drew Hendry Thursday 7th December 2017 at The Grant Arms Hotel

Several directors met with Drew Hendry MP on Thursday the 7th of December to discuss current and future project and to seek support for these projects.

Mr Hendry attended the meeting with his assistant Nicholas Lyon, in attendance from the GI were David Duncan, Bill Sadler, Basil Dunlop, Melanie Dick and the meeting was chaired by Stewart Dick.

Mr Hendry was briefed on the aims and objectives of the company and on the company's past and ongoing projects.

Of particular focus was the Rails to Grantown project and the need for governmental support to help progress things once the TAWS application is complete. Mr Hendry was enthusiastically supportive of the R2G project and suggested ways to make the application more appealing to government ministers.

Mr Hendry was initially contacted on the back of news that free WiFi was to be rolled out to a number of towns across Highland, Mr Hendry informed us that he had already put in a request that this roll out be extended to Grantown-on-Spey and that he would be pushing to see that it happens.

Mr Hendry was briefed on the other ongoing projects and offered his support and some advice for a number of these which will be followed up by the relevant directors.

Mr Hendry was thanked for his attendance which proved to be valuable and led to a productive meeting.

Thanks must also be extended to the Grant Arms Hotel where the meeting was held

Report prepared by Stewart Dick