



Grantown Initiative

Iomairt Bhaile nan Granndach

Grantown Initiative - Board Meeting

Minutes for Meeting on Tuesday 13 June 2017

at The Courthouse, Grantown-on-Spey

1. Welcome

2. Apologies

Directors – Basil Dunlop, Jane Hope, Isla Game, Neil Martin

Advisors – N/A

3. Present

Directors – Stewart Dick, Melanie Dick, Tom Clarke, Bill Sadler, David Duncan

Advisors – Karen Derrick, Jaci Douglas (Grantown Hogmanay) Gavin Fenton (Grantown Online)

4. Approval of previous minutes

Proposed – Bill Sadler

Seconded – Melanie Dick

5. Matters Arising from minutes

None

6. Declarations of Interest

None

7. Membership of Grantown Initiative

None

8. Grantown Hogmanay

This item was moved from AOCB as Jaci Douglas was unable to remain until the end of the meeting.

The Hogmanay event currently sits as a subcommittee of the community council. The proposal of bringing the Hogmanay event under the umbrella of The Grantown Initiative had been discussed by the Hogmanay committee and positively received.

Jaci D explained that the committee was looking to boost support as costs had increased significantly in recent years. There were a number of suggestions made as to how further funds could be raised and it was agreed that the Hogmanay committee would consider a formal arrangement of how the event could operate under the umbrella of The Grantown Initiative. It was agreed, that if the Hogmanay group were in agreement, a new subcommittee of The Grantown Initiative would be formed to manage the event. It was noted that there would need to be GI director leading this subcommittee, although no names were discussed.

Stewart D agreed to forward the terms of reference for Thunder in the Glens and the Business Association to Jaci D for discussion by the Hogmanay committee.

Actions – SD

9. Rails to Grantown & Rail Bus

Basil Dunlop provided the following written report in absentia.

David Fraser, SRCT, has finally received the Transport Scotland comments/advice on the draft TAWS application - 14 months later than promised. He states there are a few technical points to resolve but does not consider them "show stoppers". SRC continues to request that SRCT holds its delayed AGM and has asked for details of SRCT finances, to no avail. It is pressing for a meeting. I have confirmation that the SRC Board still supports the R2G project.

This report was received positively by the board.

Stewart Dick updated the board on the Rail Bus project.

The project was conceived as a pilot to establish if there was a demand for a larger scale bus service to run on Saturdays. Unfortunately, demand has been far lower than hoped.

The Grantown Initiative secured funding to market and partially subsidise the running of the service. The hope was that each bus would be part full and therefore only part, unfortunately this has not been the case and at this point the funds reserved for subsidising the service were all but exhausted

The decision was made to run a further 3 busses and then withdraw the service. The board also agreed to contact SRC to discuss the possibility and viability of a service during the week next year. Stewart D agreed to take this forward along with David D

Actions – SD

10. CARS Scheme

Report – Bill Sadler reported that a further meeting of the CARS steering group was being planned.

11. Tourism / Marketing

David Duncan advised the board that there was a public meeting to be held by CNPA regarding the snow road.

12. Grantown Business Association

No Report

13. Grantown Community Website

Stewart Dick and Gavin Fenton reported on the progress made with the new town website. It was explained that there had been significant uptake of the facility to list businesses and community groups on the site but that there was still a substantial number of businesses who had not taken up the opportunity to list on the site.

It had previously been agreed that directors would contact individual businesses; however there had been some issues with the sharing of the electronic list. It was agreed that Stewart D would bring a printed version of the list to the next meeting for directors to select targets.

Actions – SD

14. GI Projects

Mossie Play park upgrade,
Community Storage Facility

There was no update on any of the projects.

Actions –

15. Community Council

There had been some concern that the community council would fold as a result of a number of resignations. Bill Sadler confirmed that it would not fold.

16. AOCB

Report

17. Next Board Meeting

The next Board would be on Tuesday 6 June 2017.

Minutes Secretary – Stewart Dick (Interim)