




Minutes of the meeting of Trustees of Bailies of Bennachie held on Teams only, on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2023, at 7pm.

In Attendance, Trustees: David Bale (DB), Ann Baillie (AB), Lorna Bell (LB), Fiona Cormack (FC), Alex Doig (AD), Willie Linklater (WL), Kim Morgan (KM), Peter Stock (PS).

In Attendance, non-Trustee: Stella Gauld (SG)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
1 Apologies	Apologies were received from Alan Henderson (AH), Jim Herbert (JH)	
2. Minutes	Previous minutes were noted correct. Minutes were more in note format.  <b>Items arising,</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No matters arising</li> </ul>	
3	Pre-reads were all previously issued, and no comments on these.	
4	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> Report read and all ok. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Still waiting on date for audit, likely to be complete to allow AGM to be held May.</li> </ul>	AH
Bid for Time	<b>David Bale</b> – self introduction, used to work for Scottish National Heritage, now retired, and enjoying more natural history, plant surveys, etc. Has worked with the Wildlife Group before, running the botanical side, and bird life.  Keen on land management, biodiversity, and looking forward to working as a Bailie Trustee.  The attending Bailies also introduced themselves to David.	

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
	<p><b>Trustee Complement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For family reasons, Ann will step down at the AGM in May. Will continue with handovers in the meantime. Her work in the past decade is much appreciated. She covered Vice-Chair, BLP and BVC Trust committee, so 3 roles now vacant. FC thanked AB for all her support to all the Trustees. Seconded by MG with thanks, massive loss to the Trustees. AB did comment that she would still be around to volunteer such as with work parties etc.</li> <li>PS asked for all trustees to consider whether they would like to take any of Ann's roles and to consider suitable trustee candidates, both for these roles and more widely.</li> <li>WL will change constitution to reflect that the Vice Chair will now be an office bearer.</li> <li>WL thought still not enough Trustees, as example, MG not able to have core role covered as the GDPR, Governance has overtaken. This impacts on all the roles.</li> <li>Vice Chair is a post which requires filling, no volunteers from meeting, request that trustees consider if they would like to cover this role.</li> <li>The BLP Trustee role should be filled from BLP internally, will be discussed at BLP meeting 06-02-23. Colin Miller also resigning from BLP chair role.</li> </ul>	All
	<p><b>Marketing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission from 42 was not compelling in Nov, as too much too soon. Individual theme now, production shared by PS.</li> <li>General consensus and comments were that this message using</li> </ul>  <p>the hill's voice was really strong.</p>	



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various comments received:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- giving nature a legal status, the hill is intrinsically valuable, along with the interests which go along with that.</li> <li>- it articulates what and who the Bailies are – using their voice and the slide summarises that well.</li> <li>- focus had been lost on the hill, this brings it back</li> <li>- Bailies are the only voice for the hill which advocates solely for the hill without any other representation.</li> <li>- it resonated with the Work Party Group.</li> <li>- was profound, while still being simple, and children could use this to add input.</li> <li>- This could rebadge everything that the Bailies do, as previously the what we did was relatively easy, but the why was missing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was little appetite for a follow on workshop and proposed PS / FC / JH refine the product</li> <li>• PS working with JH and FC, will put it out to the various groups, BLP, Work Parties (Team Leaders &amp; Long standing volunteers) with a covering letter requesting comments. Comments back by mid Feb. 2 weeks to revamp a new draft and 4 weeks for comments, ready for the next Trustees’ meeting</li> <li>• Once there is input back from the groups, we can have something to flesh out with 42. 42 have already progressed with a How To Use the info, but need their skills on how to share with the various parties, different approach to each audience. May attract diverse groups of people to work with Bailies. 42 can advise on how to implement it.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Teams Channels</b> , all owners. Offline with WL, AD and SG.	
	<b>Speakers for AGM</b> – PS requested that if anyone had any suggestions for the speaker to give this some thought	All
	<b>Burns Supper at AB house 21-01-23</b> - All very welcome with food and drink and being organised with some contributions from round the table.	All
	<b>Bailies Email with SPAM</b> over 50 emails in the last couple of weeks, Smart History Digital. DT has asked them to take our email off, and no answer yet with one undeliverable. PS to chase this week.	PS
	<b>Hall Hire for Wildlife Meetings</b> , approved, reported for completeness	LB
	<b>FLS Meeting 27th Jan</b> - are there any more topics for FLS to be considered? Request info on toilets at Donview. Historically only about work parties. Only 2 hours, and a lot on agenda.	WL



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
	<p><b>Bennachie Toilets. RowanTree and Donview.</b> Storm damage and council has taken a long time to be resolved and toilets were still shut at end of season at Rowantree. People were toileting behind the loos and in the car park area. Paid Estee to get feedback from local residents on the Donview situation, happens every summer. Already have feedback that locals are fed up with the mess. PS &amp; MG had a discussion with FLS re situation, the furniture maker has tenancy of the toilet at DonView. What measures can Bailies put in place? Can BoB find out the length of lease at FLS meeting next week? AB talked informally with Malcolm White regarding Rowantree. There are compostable toilets which can be a fraction of the cost. Is council going to refurbish the toilets or provide something fit for purpose? Also, unofficial overnight campers increasing. Need to ensure BoB are not lumped with costs, only advocacy role.</p>	<p>WL/PS</p>
	<p><b>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>  <b>Open Day proposals, 20<sup>th</sup> May</b> Inverurie Town Hall, 12 – 4, May 20            Current proposals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• display banners,</li> <li>• free access within the time,</li> <li>• commissioned piano and traditional music being played.</li> <li>• Being inside allows IT availability.</li> <li>• Trustees showcasing each area of the Bailies.</li> <li>• Celebrating past 50 years, also presenting ideas for next 50 years with vision. It’s a good profile opportunity for the Bailies.</li> <li>• Birthday cake (donated?)</li> </ul> <p>Additional suggestions –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how hill has changed over last 50 years</li> <li>• what Bailies have worked on.</li> <li>• Suggestion box on the day for what they would like the Bailies to be doing for the next 50 years.</li> <li>• Foraging wood naming competition?</li> </ul> <p>Costs to be refined based on revised format. £2k is a nominal max</p> <p>Need to market heavily to get the footfall. Big press campaign by 42. Ensure invitation list includes key players of local teachers, influencers are included.</p> <p>General approval to ensure the show concept goes ahead.</p>	<p>AB/PS</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests also that something should be held on the hill for the 50th as members would expect this. Travelling shows at GHC, Chapel of Garioch hall, etc (to be defined) could also be at BVC. Should retain some focus on the hill itself. BVC has iSpy books, could do events in conjunction.</li> <li>• Programme of Wildlife Group have some hill events, could be badged with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. (These Wildlife events currently advertised to Wildlife Group only, could be spread to all membership or public.) Dates?</li> <li>• Action required to define on hill events in 2023. Wildlife Group will take that on, with Treasure Hunts, iSpy books, and BVC Ranger service with walks and talks.</li> <li>• Also walks to the archaeology sites in July and August to showcase what they do. EventBrite could be used to limit folks.</li> <li>• <b>VIP Visit</b> is not confirmed yet, FC will chase.</li> </ul> <p>MG thought a few suggestions could be Ops Manager role.</p>	
	<p><b>Path Upgrade.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed that this item is deferred until further Trustees on board. FLS may reclassify paths depending on grade, possibly as a way to avoid maintenance and paths are ‘as found’.</li> <li>• AB suggested Bailies should look after all ability trails nearer the BVC.</li> <li>• AB suggested that the TurnPike is Pittodrie rather than FLS ownership.</li> <li>• What is happening with FLS income from Car Park, as proportion should be for the paths etc? WL will take this to the FLS meeting.</li> <li>• Partnership with FLS on the paths as suggestion from MG, and easier sell to memberships to partner and not use just BoB monies.</li> <li>• AD thought protecting the landscape, rather than paths for access.</li> <li>• Chris Yorke suggestions were to sustain and improve quality of the paths to give longevity.</li> <li>• Maintenance must be given funding. Mountain (down) bike trail called The Line, so new path would encourage more Mountain Bikes to uphill.</li> <li>• General agreement on the actual deferral.</li> </ul>	WL
	<p><b>Macular Society</b>, talk by PS on the Bailies. Will take some artefacts.</p>	PS
	<p><b>QR codes</b>, MG needs volunteers with the phone survey, please be proactive in adding names to do the spot survey for reception coverage. (PMN – PS, Ab, MG and LB will record coverage by their phones at QR sites</p>	PS/AB/MG/LB



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
	<b>Pre-reads</b> – request for all in the Thursday night prior to the meeting to allow time for reading. SG to issue reminders.	SG
	<p><b>Outdoor Co-Ordinator</b> WL has prepared the role description at 1 day per week for Work Parties only. If additional scope, then up to a further half day. Approved in principal at the budget meeting. MG suggested that was 1 day a week max, and 10 work parties plus mid-week work parties. Proposed 400 hours per year. Agreed to advance recruitment based on the current role description but revert to trustees before a final appointment.</p> <p><b>Ops Manager</b> role would work with the Habitat projects. DB said more than one skillset there, employing is different from contracting. Projects are still in abeyance as still no permission from landowners, no agreement in place as to responsibilities, and contractors could be brought in per project. There is agreement to press ahead with this. DB offered to review Outdoor Co-Ordinator role.</p>	<p>WL/KM/PS</p> <p>DB</p>
	Meeting finished 21:05	
	Next meeting 28 <sup>th</sup> February at Garioch Heritage Centre, 7pm	

Signed – Chair – Peter Stock  
Date 28th February, 2023

Signed – Secretary – Willie Linklater  
Date 28th February, 2023