

Minutes of the meeting of Trustees of Bailies of Bennachie held in person at Garioch Heritage Centre on 27th June, 2023 at 7pm.

In Attendance, Trustees: Lorna Bell (LB), Alex Doig (AD), Alan Henderson (AH), Willie Linklater (WL), Peter Stock (PS), Allan Will (AW) in person.

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

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
1 Apologies	Apologies were received from David Bale (DB), Fiona Cormack (FC) and Kim Morgan (KM). Not in attendance Jim Herbert (JH).	
2. Minutes	<p>Previous minutes were accepted as correct.</p> <p>Items arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Actions from meetings are now showing within the Pre-Read section of Teams, which may include actions raised via info@ emails. Closing out actions need to be recorded there. 	
3. Finance	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Updated accounts sent out to auditors on the 18th June. •Dividend income increased from £15k to £25k by above date. Progressing to expected of £52k pa. •Lot of costs coming in. Mostly re 50th Anniversary £12k. Main items £4.9k re George Walker, £2.5k to CP&Co re banners, plus music and play. Invoice from hall to be recd. •Montage of the event is available now to put on the website, from Douglas Stalker. •Comment that future events need a professional support e.g. George Walker as lots of volunteers are not available as in the past. Budget this early for any future event. •Audit is still ongoing. AH has had feedback a week ago, and now additional disclosures required. Wanted a cashflow, now done. And also governance information, particularly expenditure over £1k, this also provided. •The Accounts & Annual Report needs to be signed and returned to OSCR by September, so will be finalised and signed at meeting of 8th August. No red flags showing. Likely audit not required in future. <p>Rathbones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Based on May meeting, Rathbones have agreed to write on regular basis on performance. April was ahead of benchmark, now behind the benchmark (ARC Charity Steady Growth). Info filed in pre-reads for this meeting. •Medium term is 5 – 10 years on our approach. 	

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
Bid for Time	<p>Donside Planning. New build close to Tillyhashlach House, on site of old house, c .5 mile from Donview Forestry office, back of Millstone Hill. What is impact on Bennachie? AD suggested to create criteria for a screening tool to review any sites that involve Bennachie. Minimal impact on this build to Bennachie, although wildlife, particularly protected birds may be affected. Majority recommend abstention from comment, based on 5 principles of Voice for the Hill. LB will contact DB to get a definitive comment. (PMN no comment lodged by us by close of comment window</p>	<p>AD/MG/LB/ PS</p> <p>LB</p>
	<p>Pittodrie New Owners, Foresight Group, RTS: AW said first contact Murray Aitchison made re Pittodrie Dig, presented evidence from previous dig. Then presented all the other archaeological sites in case of future forestry work and consideration be given to avoid these areas. They are amenable to meeting up. Permission was granted for Maiden Causeway work party, and they were delighted on receipt of photographs detailing the work completed. Clearing fallen trees on access road to Fog House and Turnpike requested with map, received and discussed internally, but waiting on response. Asset manager for the area. MG recd letter as local householder (to Turnpike) on works forthcoming. FC wanted to comment on their wider work with their management /forestry plan, Veronica Lorente and interaction of the Bailies, including the Wildlife, Ecology, Work Parties, etc. and thought to build on relationship now after seeing BLPG work. AH declared personal interest as small shareholder in Foresight. WL suggested Agenda and meeting to view all the points noted, to ensure a two way relationship. AW will put together part of Agenda, along with PS / WL. PS to send meeting invite to Foresight.</p>	<p>AW/PS/WL</p> <p>PS</p>
	<p>Trustee Photo and Bios AD will try to photoshop the AGM photo??, also take photo with the 7 in attendance tonight. WL will chase bios on the Action Tracker.</p>	<p>AD</p> <p>WL / All</p>
	<p>Trustee Complement: IT trustee is not found at the moment. New trustees still being researched via networking.. MG suggested to reconsider the Ops Manager. WL reminded PS of Mike Stuart from Whisky Shop. WL suggested Phil Beattie of CP&Co (may be conflicts re printing work) - after discussion will approach. MG suggested Bill Bird of Fennel. (PMN I have approached Jim again for recommendations of potential candidates PS)</p>	<p>PS/WL</p>

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
	<p>Governance Refinement /Event Management FlowChart: PS demo'd and walk through of chart as highlighted in Pre-Reads. Iain Ralston had agreed with the governance, welcomed positively. Some areas of concern re lone working. Comments are welcomed on document. Risk assessments required on most events which will highlight issues and remove/add to scope. WL mentioned Sports Village requiring info as a typical example where such info is common to be required. Everything to be proportional, but general acceptance that most sites now do require this information. (PMN Margaret and I met NatureeScot at Forvie Nature reserve. They shared some of their paperwork and we are not too far apart)</p>	All
	<p>Wildlife External Walks. Now walks to Crawton and Farm Walk, outside Bennachie area, but demarked as learning for Bailies. Is this a Bailies event? If Risk Assessments are done, then should be covered on insurance. Can there be a disclaimer on events which are not part of Bailies to avoid risk. PS and LB to take this off meeting to finalise.</p>	PS / LB
	<p>Entities – BLP is an entity with Treescapes, etc., but BLPG which mentions some BLP matters and also some Bailies matters. Allan and Peter to discuss</p>	AW/PS
	<p>PS encouraged all to use Bailies emails and Teams. Use Teams as primary means of communication between trustees and Stella.</p>	
	<p>Oil & Gas investments to be cfwd to next meeting.</p>	
	<p>Cleaning of Rowantree AH commented 3 times a week, costs £150 pw, and perhaps could go down to 2 times? MG commented men's toilet is generally worse, does have a grant from the Council. Perhaps some signage to encourage flushing would help. Contract to stay as is this year.</p>	MG
	<p>Awards of Grants:– Award of grants could allow us to meet our aims with little demand for trustee time. WL suggested that review to constitution may be required. As example, a Pine Martens Group could put up boxes and collect data on Bennachie geography, then both us and their organisation will benefit. Cultural and ecological aims can be considered. AH suggested grants may be sought by FLS, or similar. All requested to consider options. Useful method to expand BoB limitations by utilising other parties. Agenda item for next meeting</p>	All

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	Rowantree security: no overnight parking, caravan appeared, people entered local houses, police incident. Council owned. FLS do allow some overnight parking, but not on Bennachie locations. Litter hub could be put in place as car park is main littered area. MG to approach community council to progress litter bin as there are only litter bins at access to Maidens Causeway end of car park.	MG
AOCB	<p>Play on Colonists Wed July 4th, 5th, 6th 7.30, 7th 2pm, 7th & 8th 8pm to man a Bailies of Bennachie table. Book 1 could also be given away. Contact LB if able to volunteer to man the table. (PMN PS interviewed by STV)</p> <p>Gin – sales of ¾ of stock to date, need to promote the sales.</p> <p>BLPG – FC now back, so being asked again to promote dig and conference on FB.</p> <p>Essons Croft, Mark Humphries the owner. Jackie Cumberbirch, Colin Shepherd, PS, MG to meeting owner at BVC on Tuesday, 2pm. All welcome to join. Humphries family also own Newton of Braco.</p> <p>Bins to be cleaned AD mentioned that powerwashing of bins to be carried out monthly. In Action Tracker.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>FC</p> <p>PS / MG</p>
	Meeting finished 21.08	
	Next meeting Tuesday 8 th August at Garioch Heritage Centre, 7pm	

Signed – Chair – Peter Stock
Date 8th August, 2023



Signed – Secretary – Willie Linklater
Date 8th August, 2023

