

Minutes of the meeting of Trustees of Bailies of Bennachie in person on the 2nd July, 2024

In Attendance, Trustees: David Caney (DC), Alan Henderson (AH), Willie Linklater (WL), Allan Will (AW).

In Attendance, non-Trustee: Stella Gauld

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	RESP/ ACTIONER
1 Apologies	Apologies were received from Lorna Bell (LB), David Bale (DB) and Peter Stock (PS) Non-attendance from Alex Doig. Request to put in apologies for every meeting.	
2. Minutes	The minutes of 21 st May were accepted and approved by WL and DC.	
3. Actions Outstandi ng	<p>Some actions are closed off.</p> <p>Fog House has Forestry Action signs up, but no activity shown yet??? Is this the clearance work??</p> <p>Governance Score Card review still outstanding, AH will have another push at the review of this document. WL offered assistance.</p> <p>Donations to Firefighters re fire on Millstone Hill, PS & AW. AW has met new Fire station Chief, they do not require £ or kit but do need information. AW has a fire landscape and a boundary for the Forbes Estate. No input to request from Monymusk Estate or FLS about a Fire Plan. FLS reported that water Butts had wildlife casualties so helicopter is better. Need info of fire plans with water access on the hill.</p> <p>Bennachie App, still pending. AW will continue review after the Dig.</p> <p>Review IT Presence at BVC, re photo loop, still OS.</p> <p>Arranging archaeology walk, still a possibility, forestry work activity at Pittodrie area may preclude this. Still need to understand which sites can be accessed.</p> <p>Status of windfarm planning applications, with David. Hill of Fare review has had extension to date. Close off the comment re DC as he contacted DB.</p> <p>WL to follow up Frankie Hay memorial.</p> <p>Gordon Way, reporting condition to LB. Still to walk this. Most active part of this walk is BVC to Oxen Craig. Aim for end Aug.</p> <p>Indicator Anniversary, article in FB only.</p> <p>Veronica Llorente meeting to be followed up with AW.</p> <p>PS arranging Governance refresher once the next revision is ready.</p> <p>Calendar strategy and review of photographs in hand.</p>	

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4.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Fair amount of expenditure. Security review of Junior Bailies website £3k, Trail Cameras £2k, Signage Colony Trail and Training. Expenditure about same level as last year, in line with budget. £46k spent to date this year. Estimate expenditure was £115k, with £84 Opex and Projects £35k. Projects spend still to arrive as still no commitment on movement on any major project. Contacted FLS and meeting scheduled with RTS to gain momentum on Timeline path upgrade.</p> <p>Additional time (cost) spent on admitting corporate volunteers. Looking at waiver to be used instead. Various types of waivers to include say walks to aircraft memorial, wildlife walks, etc. Could we request a donation from corporate work parties? To cover Hugh's costs at least. E.g. £500. PS to review wording to request donation.</p> <p>Wildlife group has swung round to be more signed up as volunteers & numbers of the Walk & Talk reducing.</p> <p>Review of the expenditure vs project is shown in the pre-reads for the Trustees.</p>	PS
5	<p>FLS</p> <p>Send msg to AD on Thursday 11th 10am.</p>	
6	<p>Archivist Cost</p> <p>Will not exceed £8k, set in the budget as £7k, the person is pushing through the work, and will include plan to complete. Only the filing cabinet of printed work is scheduled so far. All going to the Google drive.</p> <p>Agreed to increase the budget to above.</p> <p>There is scope to be considered in the future of the last 15 years or so which is electronic but not filed for posterity.</p>	
7.	<p>Update & republish update to Guide to Bennachie</p> <p>Review of the existing document may take time. What is the benefit of having a paper copy? Can we have a downloadable copy on the website? Agreement that there is merit in having an updated copy, think that the younger audience will not purchase. There will not be new information in it, as most of it is in public domain. The Macaulayite quarry is not reported within it. Suggestion to have it included with membership or discount to membership without.</p> <p>Budget to reprint required. Potential of £5 cost.</p> <p>Could be £X to download? Not print at all, is this an option?</p>	PS

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	Agreed to review costing implications of producing a guide before deciding whether to proceed or not?	
8.	Email move from Globalweb to Microsoft (Outlook): Options are for in-house admin team or engage a new company at at possibly a much higher cost. Recommendation to stay with Admin to kick off this process mid-July. Discussion that the website is dated and requires updating. There was a budget for this approved, requires resources to support and not highest priority.	SG
9	Bennachie Community Newsletter Will not be printing their newsletter going forward if funding not found. Agreed a donation to be given £150 for next quarter's issue. Karen to give AH the information.	AH
10	Toilets: Rowantree toilets are near end of life. Subsiding, frames warped. Council unlikely to fund replacement toilets. Sponsor feasibility study to look at options, compostable or otherwise to work out a budget. See if we can get external funding to replace. Great example of what a project could do for good PR. Agreement to push ahead and find someone who could conduct the feasibility study for this at Rowantree and obtain a cost for the study.	WL
11.	Field of Flowers: The seeds didn't grow. Seeds were scattered on surface only. Considering to resow in autumn.	
	Garioch Heritage Centre: Not received invoice for meetings, require to contact them.	SG
	Meeting Closed 20:42 Next meeting 13th August:	

Signed – Chair – Peter Stock
Date 13th August 2024

Signed – Secretary – Willie Linklater
Date 13th August 2024