

DUNBLANE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Draft Minutes of the DDT Board meeting

held on 21st March 2011 at 7.30pm in the Braeport Centre

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: Keir Bloomer (Chair), Dougal Thornton (Company Secretary), Janice Stewart (Treasurer), Lawrie Dewar, Tim Hughes, Steve Mason

In attendance: Monica Cessford (Minutes)

Apologies: Alan Booth, Malcolm Dougall, Jessica Lindohf, Bill Stewart, Morag Watson

The Board welcomed Alistair Mutch and Alistair Mathers, HMIs, who were conducting the inspection of Dunblane High School. They had attended a briefing session at the Dunblane Centre and were interested to hear more about the work of the DDT. After a short discussion it was agreed that they would meet with Keir at 10.30am on 22nd March. They observed the first half hour of the meeting, and then withdrew.

The meeting was not quorate and it was agreed that decisions would be taken with a view to their being homologated at the April meeting of the Board.

2. Approval of agenda

Approved as presented.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2011

Approved as presented. Proposed by Janice and seconded by Keir.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

KGT (min 6) – Keir was still to write to Richard Stirling-Aird.

Mill Row car park (min 9) – no response yet from Stirling Council Roads Department.

Spatial Strategy (min 8) – a report would come to the April meeting.

5. Business Plan

The structure suggested in Keir's paper (copy given to the HMIs) was accepted and Keir and Tim agreed to develop the Business Plan further along these lines.

It was agreed Board meetings would be conducted in future according to the following principles:

- all papers to be issued at least a week before the meeting;
- all those attending to have read all the papers;
- all reports from other groups to be in writing;

- reports to be discussed only if decisions were needed;
- there would always be a Finance Report.

Steve agreed to revise the standard agenda accordingly.

6. KGT

Keir reported on his useful meeting with Mark Richardson at the end of February. The Board had agreed by then to repay the KGT loan in full, and the discussion centred on two issues:- firstly, Mark's view that repayment of the loan did not automatically terminate the agreement between KGT and DDT; and secondly Mark's belief that dialogue between the two parties could be of benefit to the DDT. The Board agreed to formally terminate the agreement with KGT. It was also agreed that we would be happy to meet with KGT (and any other landowner or developer) to discuss their plans, particularly those which relate to the future of the High Street.

7. Gladman

An email had been received from the Chairman of the DCC (not circulated) about discussing community gain with Gladman. Terence was advised by Stirling Council that they did not want to be involved and he suggested that he, Keir and Lawrie should meet with Gladman. The Board agreed:

- to Terence's basic proposition but preferred two reps from DDT and two from DCC;
- that the views of all DDT Board members and all Community Councillors should be canvassed in advance of the meeting;
- that a similar approach should be taken with all the developers.

8. Audit of Community Facilities in Dunblane

The Board noted the report which had just been finalised and posted on the website. It was due to be discussed at the Community Facilities Group later in the week.

9. Banking options

Agreed that Janice should bring a proposal to a future Board meeting about changing the bank account, but there was no urgency.

10. Finance Report

Janice's written report was noted. She reported Lorna had found that the follow-up phonecalls to lapsed members had made a difference to membership renewals.

Regarding the Project account, all the VAT claimed had been repaid; the SIS loan was expected shortly; and a small amount would be left in the Scottish Widows Account.

11. DDT (Projects) Ltd Report

Noted Malcolm's report. Lawrie would arrange for Board members and other interested parties to visit the building.

12. Dunblane Community Council

Lawrie gave an oral report. Stirling Council would not be making any cuts in services. Meals on Wheels deliveries would be frozen ready-meals from now on. The Windfarm Committee met on 8th March. It was clear that the administration of the fund was not running smoothly. One year's receipts needed to be returned before the next year's payout could be made. Keir undertook to speak to Terence about the administration of the fund. Action Keir.

13. Environment Group

The minutes of the meeting on 14th February were noted, as were the arrangements for the Hosta and Path day on 16th April. A further meeting had been held on 14th March where it was agreed to have a fund-raising presence at the Fling. The Board supported this.

14. Development Group

The Board noted the minutes of the meetings on 3rd February and 3rd March and discussed a paper of 3rd March entitled Town Centre Improvements. Noted that a meeting would be arranged (by Tim and Ian Stein) with Lindsay Lennie who is an expert on historic high streets. The Board agreed that the Midweek Group should be invited to attend, as some of the work to be undertaken might be within their area of expertise.

15. Braeport

All the winter problems were now resolved. Thought was now being given to the possibility of a long lease on the Braeport rather than asset transfer.

16. Midweek Group

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th February were noted, as was the provisional works programme for 2011.

17. Dunblane in Bloom

Noted the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January. Dougal had met with Sandy and was trying to pursue the acquisition of a DDT van.

18. Correspondence etc

A letter about People's Project had been received from D Young.

Ristol had approached the DDT with a view to one of their clients renting a floor of the Riverview restaurant space as offices. They have been advised that this was not an option that the Trust was currently pursuing..

Correspondence had been received from Bryan Grieve regarding the agreement with Kippendavie.

The Allanwater News had asked for an article about the Riverview building.

A meeting arranged by Stirling Council for 31st March on roles and responsibilities of trust directors would be attended by Dougal.

Links and potential Sources of funding - Dougal had registered for CVS Stirling and Open4Community. It was decided not to go ahead with SCVO membership due to the cost.

Dougal and Steve had attended a meeting of local community trusts which had been hosted by Fintry Development Trust. The DDT will host a reciprocal; meeting on 5th September.

19. Future Agenda Items

Sustainable Dunblane wished to present its Community Renewables details to the DDT. The consultant would give a 10-minute presentation followed by 10 minutes for questions at the 18th April meeting. There was a lot of information on the Sustainable Dunblane website, and members were encouraged to look at this before the meeting.

A paper on the future of Sustainable Dunblane would be submitted for the April Board meeting.

DDT membership renewals to be discussed with reports back on the phone calls made to lapsed members.

Agreed the May Board meeting should take the form of a brainstorming away-day with a view to establishing priorities. Details would be agreed at the April Board meeting.

20. Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on 18th April 2011 at 7.30pm in the Braeport Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.