

DUNBLANE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Minutes of the DDT Board meeting

held on 12th January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Braeport Centre

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: Keir Bloomer (Chair), Steve Mason (Company Secretary), Alan Booth, Alan Cessford, Malcolm Dougall, Tim Hughes, Sandy MacKay, Bill Stewart, Dougal Thornton

Apologies: Janice Stewart, Kate Fawcett, Ian Gill, Neil Mackie

In attendance: Monica Cessford (Minutes)

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th December 2011

Approved as presented subject to amending the amount of VAT recovered to £93,204.85 (minute 5).
Proposed by Alan C and seconded by Dougal.

3. Matters arising

Sandy queried the signatories for Dunblane in Bloom. He understood that his membership of the Board meant that he plus one of two designated DiB members would be sufficient and that the Treasurer would not need to sign cheques. Keir agreed to clarify with Janice.

4. Riverview update

Malcolm reported that there had been eleven parties seriously interested in the restaurant premises and failure to let was due to the economic climate. Rental from the flats was covering expenses, but they would increase when the contractor ceased to be responsible for upkeep of the lift. The retention fund was also due to be paid to the contractor at that time. Malcolm is investigating refinancing; he has also held preliminary discussions with the Scottish Government about selling part or all of the property.

5. Development Group update

Keir, Alan B and Dougal had met with Terence O'Byrne to discuss the Group's role and, after discussion, the Board agreed that it should not be a standing committee but should be convened, in liaison with the Community Council, when a specific topic needed to be addressed that did not fall within the remit of any of the other DDT groups.

6. Guidance on appointing co-opted directors

The proposed amendment to the policy was approved.

7. Restricted/unrestricted funds

Costs of running DDT's activities, which could only be met from unrestricted funds, have risen. It was agreed that the accountants should be asked to reduce their fees, and if this was not possible that other accountancy firms should be considered. Keir agreed to ask Janice to do this and also to clarify what was covered by the insurance policy. Tim agreed to follow up Gift Aid and to look into payment by direct debit. A pitch at the Fling in May should be secured for signing up new members and for fundraising. Sandy confirmed Dunblane in Bloom would not be doing teas. It was agreed Alan C should approach Tesco for permission to do a can collection over two days in the early Spring.

8. Finance Report

There was no finance report in Janice's absence.

9. Draft response to LDP Report, December 2011

Alan B's draft was considered and a number of amendments were agreed in relation to 'community gain', void and underused properties, a spatial plan, extending the High Street, and the Laighhills.

10. Correspondence

It was agreed that the offer of an intern from the International Summer School at Stirling University should be investigated further.

11. Future agenda items

- 11.1 Fundraising - a paper from Jessica
- 11.2 Signage at entrances to Dunblane
- 11.3 Laighhills

12. Other business

It was agreed that an email to members would be sent the week after every board meeting pointing up matters of interest.

Coop building : Steve updated the board on progress

13. Dates of next meetings

- 20th February 2012 at 7.30pm
- 19th March 2012 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9pm.