

Meigle and Ardler Community Development Trust Minutes of the Annual General Meeting		
Date:	31 st January 2022	
Time:	7pm	
Location:	Kinloch Memorial Hall, Meigle	
Present:	Kevin Stirling (KS), Steve Ebbitt (SE), Martin Elvin (ME), Bob Ellis (BE), Ali Napier (AN), Wanda McGregor (WMcG), Hannah Woods (HW), Ken Hanning (KH, via Google Meet)	
Apologies:	Derek MacKenzie (DMcK), Andy de Vale (AdV)	
Declaration of interest:	None declared at outset; any arising to be announced	
Agenda items		Actions
3	Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 30 th November 2021, were agreed to be an accurate representation of this meeting. Minutes were proposed by KS and seconded by AN.	
4	<p>Annual General Meeting</p> <p>A report by the chair on the activities of the company</p> <p>KS began the Annual General Meeting with a report reflecting on the first 15 months of Meigle and Ardler Community Development Trust, a transcript of which is available in Appendix 1 at the end of this document.</p> <p>The Trustee Annual Report, compiled by KS with contributions from various trustees, had been shared prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Consideration of the annual accounts of the company</p> <p>AdV has compiled the annual accounts, which were independently examined by Edith Christie. The accounts were presented by KS in the absence of AdV.</p> <p>KS will pen an introductory email between AdV and KH, so that KH can take ownership of the macdt.finance email address and become a signatory on the bank account.</p> <p>KS clarified that membership fees were always to be either nominal or non-existent, with funding coming principally from grants. KH asked if we are able to seek sponsorship and donations from industry; KS didn't think the MACDT</p>	KS

	<p>articles of association precluded such sources of income, but cautioned against conflicts of interest. KS acknowledged that our financial reserves would need to be bolstered, though our outgoings are currently very low.</p> <p>Election and re-election of trustees</p> <p>Current trustees ceased office, becoming eligible for re-election. KS reminded all that the roles were voluntary, and thanked everyone present for the time they have given so far. Roles are long-term, but people may/should only be in the position short term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: SE proposed Kevin Stirling, seconded by BE (closely followed by others) • Vice chair and fundraiser: KS proposed Steve Ebbit, seconded by WMcG • AdV stepping down from the role of Treasurer. Ken Hanning volunteered for the role; proposed by KS, seconded by BE and AN • Hannah Woods stepping down as secretary, so position remains vacant for the present • Lead for business development: AdV is currently unavailable, so the position remains vacant. • Community shed initiative: KS proposed Ali Napier to lead, HW and WMcG seconded • Lead for environment and green spaces: KS proposed Bob Ellis, HW seconded • Lead for Bowling Club: vacant for now • Lead for arts, music and literature (including Flame of Fusion): KS proposed Wanda McGregor, seconded by AN and HW • Lead for Resilience: KS proposed Derek MacKenzie (with permission in his absence), seconded by SE. 	
	<p>Formation of sub-committees</p> <p>It was agreed by all that seven sub-committees would be established to drive forward the core work activity of the</p>	

trust. Leads for each sub-committee, where established, gave updates on each project.

Communication - KS

The communication sub-committee will work with the secretary to raise awareness of the Trust. MACDT now have ownership of the Smart Village, which is hosting the minutes from MACC and MACDT, and other groups could also host there (with a validation process). The site headings may need to be reworked now there is a better understanding of how the site is being used, but the Smart Village should be championed. KH emphasised the need for branding, and consistent messaging. SV is a place for MACDT to curate information, with social media the means to broadcast it. KH, HW, ME and new secretary to initially form the communication group.

Business Development

AdV unable to take on this role for now. Jackie Brierton (GrowBiz) may know other individuals who could assist with sub-committee.

Community Shed – AN

Still awaiting a decision from Scottish Outdoor Education Centre (SOEC) regarding the use of a hut at Belmont Camp for a Community Shed. SOEC Board of Directors meeting next month, where it shall be discussed. Positive feedback from funding application to Community Investment Fund, despite our application being withdrawn, is a potential future source of funding.

Environment and Green Spaces – BE

Key priority is to create safe walking and cycling routes between Ardler and Meigle, which BE has now done. Signposts and advertising the new routes will require funding. Eastern Perthshire Action Group and SSEN potential sources of funding. BE is part of the SSEN substation committee; would not be able to be part of any application process. Sustrans may also have funding, although their focus is (usually tarmacked) cycle paths, which may not be suitable.

BE is meeting with Newtyle Path Network to discuss various options for working together to enhance the whole area, and is taking part in an online survey regarding a safe

	<p>route for walkers and cyclists from Dundee to Newtyle. Potential for this to be extended to Meigle and on to Alyth?</p> <p>BE and KS to meet with Christopher Dingwall from Ardler to visit the village hall site and try to get a way forward for future use.</p> <p>BE to talk to Alastair Kay, Team Leader for Asset Management at Dundee City Council re potential Community Asset Transfer of Belmont Camp. Very preliminary, as woodland management etc is a huge undertaking.</p> <p><u>Bowling Green</u></p> <p>The Bowling Club Committee prefer to lease to MACDT and with a later review to possible ownership. Wylie & Henderson are acting on behalf of the Bowling Club Committee; KS suggested engaging our own solicitors to progress with the contract content. A better understanding is needed as to division of responsibility for a proposed possible tripartite agreement between MACDT. MACC and Pride in Meigle.</p> <p><u>Arts, Music & Literature/Flame of Fusion (FoF)– WMcG</u></p> <p>WMcG gave a summary of the history of the Flame of Fusion project, and the work done so far. Through building relationships with some of the long-term residents, WMcG has been collecting oral histories that will be used both for FoF and stored by Culture Perth and Kinross. The school have contributed sound recordings and drawings, WMcG has written a community poem, and is exploring the possibility of a friendship tree. BE has given details of a film-maker who may be able to record footage.</p> <p><u>Resilience</u> (update from SE in lieu of DMcK)</p> <p>A recent close exploration of sites behind and adjacent to the Kinloch Memorial Hall have revealed neither is suitable for situating the storage container for the resilience equipment. The purchase of equipment can go ahead (though pumps not to be stored either in the Hall or in residential dwellings), but the purchase of a storage container to wait until a new site is identified. Adjacent to the Bowling Club Pavilion is a possibility, but appearance would have to be sympathetically managed.</p>	KS
9	Any other business	

	<p>The Strathmore Development Trust Roundtable is to resume meeting in March, initially to look for common priorities in local CAPs and potential collaboration opportunities. BE volunteered to attend.</p> <p>Edith Christie examined the yearly accounts for MACDT. Whilst she asked for no financial remuneration, it was agreed that the committee should thank her with a gift voucher for the Ardler Tavern. KS to organise.</p>	<p>BE</p> <p>KS</p>
10	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>With new members and trustees joining, a different day of the week may be more suitable for the majority. Next meeting provisionally set for 28th February, 7pm at the Kinloch Memorial Hall.</p>	
Signed:		<p>Date:</p>

Meigle and Ardler Community Development Trust was formally registered with OSCR in August 2020. I have been privileged to be the chair since the start of the Trust's journey and I just want to spend a few minutes describing our journey to date and also recognising the contribution that people have made along the way to make the Trust what it is today.

The Trust was established as a means of coordinating activities which promoted meaningful regeneration and renewal in response to the impact that the current COVID-19 pandemic (and the associated restrictions on daily life) had on those who work and live in the Meigle and Ardler area.

The Trust was founded on three guiding principles which informed everything we did and do today and these are promoting Resilience, Innovation and Sustainability across our local area.

When the Trust began there were only three trustees (myself, Alison McLure and Peter Menzies). As a small group of trustees, we were really trying to find a meaningful way to engage with our local community and that means of engagement became the appointment of Community Development Worker. As most of you know, Caroline Ness was successful in being appointed to this position and she took on this role in August 2020. This was an incredible achievement for a new trust a few trustees to be able to secure sufficient funding to allow us to appoint Caroline to this position. Over the six months that Caroline was in post we managed to have some success with engaging with our local community and deliver projects such as launching the Smart Village and being the first development trust in the Strathmore area to complete the process of developing a Community Action Plan.

I just want to acknowledge the significant contribution that these three people made in getting the Trust established. Caroline achieved an incredible amount of work to a very high standard during her time in post. Alison was an enthusiastic ambassador for her local area and the environment (the Trust's guiding principle of sustainability was founded on this passion). And Peter, well when he wasn't wielding a strimmer, an axe or some huge piece of machinery in a bid to successfully reclaim some local land from being too overgrown he was an ardent advocate for community resilience work.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with these people.

And then you all joined the Trust as well! I have always said that no one joins the Trust unless there is a role that they can fulfil, and I'm delighted to see that you have all been able to take the aspirations of well-intended ideas or passing conversations and turn them into viable work activity. We are almost about to launch seven sub-committees to drive forward the work activity of the Trust. This is a huge achievement and this is a testament to your commitment to the Trust. Thank you for all that you have done for the Trust to date I really appreciate it.

I just want to acknowledge the fact that Steve stepped up to become chair when I had to take some time off. This situation was unexpected and unplanned for and Steve did an amazing job to take the Trust forward in my absence.

On reflection, launching a Trust during a pandemic is never a good idea but we were established to help out local area through these unprecedented times. I've been privilege to work with you all of this last year and your enthusiasm for improving the well-being of those who work and live in a local area has been something that has inspired me time and time again.