

NICE

NOTE of DIRECTORS MEETING on 7 November 2017 at 1930 hours

Directors Present: Alastair Noble (Chairman)
Michael Barnett (Secretary & Acting Treasurer)
Iain Fairweather
Steve Westbrook
John Hart
Mandy Lawson

Apologies: Magnus Swanson
Susan Hey
Sam Hey
Matthew Hilton

1. The minutes of the previous meeting on 19 October were approved. After discussion about the requirements of the Community Empowerment legislation that copies of Minutes be made available upon reasonable request by a member or by the public, it was agreed that the formal minutes should in future contain less narrative and essentially record decisions made.
2. The Treasurer reported that the main bank balance was £18,041, comprising grants for the BID and general funds. The Team Hamish designated account balance is £26,665. The paperwork for the release of BID funding from HIE has just been received and will lead to a grant of £19,240.
3. No new membership applications have been received.
4. The Secretary reported that a new officer at the Community Assets Branch of Scottish Government had requested changes to Articles 20 and 20A of the revised Articles of Association that had been filed with them, and a copy of the proposed changes were circulated. It was agreed that the changes were small and technical in nature and within the ambit of the authority provided by the EGM Resolution. The Secretary will make the changes and file the newly revised Articles with SG and OSCR.
5. The Treasurer reported that the bank statement for Team Hamish showed steady deposits and the balance recorded above. The publicly reported illness of Susan Hey was of great concern at the personal level, and it was agreed that the Team Hamish working group should be immediately expanded to give additional support to Susan and Sam Hey and to enable acceleration of the project.
6. The Chairman & Secretary provided an update on progress with the BID. The Steering Group had been expanded and is working well. The project coordinator Alan Rankin now has office space in the Nairn Signpost Office, and terms have been agreed for Liz Main's time at an hourly rate plus a monthly "rent" for use of the office space. The next BID event is an

open meeting on 29 November whose agenda is to shape the BID as part of the process of developing the business plan and proposal that will go to ballot. Alan Rankin was meeting Highland Council officers on 6 November to discuss the Baseline Services Agreement and the Operating Agreement, both of which Highland Council are statutorily obliged to enter into with the BID.

7. A Draft Heads of Agreement had been received from Iain Bruce of the Nairn Spa and Lido Company Ltd. It was agreed that we would not respond to this until we had received his comments on the position paper that had been prepared following the Board meeting on 19 October.
8. There was a brief discussion about the CAB's proposed acquisition of the King Street building (the OSWB), it being understood that they have engaged an architect to prepare design drawings. Concern was expressed that the building is in the area of the Town Centre that the 2015 Charrette focussed on, and that decisions appear to be being made without the community consultation and collaboration envisaged in the Charrette report.
9. There was a wide ranging discussion around Loreine Thomson's paper on Community Empowerment (written in her personal capacity) and how it related to the report that Steve Westbrook was preparing for Highland Council on the outcomes of the work by the NEI that Highland Council had funded. It was agreed that NICE should write a paper integrating our recently discussed proposals for establishing working groups to deliver local projects with the analysis of Community Empowerment and associated Flowchart. Steve Westbrook, Michael Barnett, John Hart and Mandy Lawson will undertake the task and work up a first draft for discussion.
10. Steve Westbrook mentioned that he had been approached by David Munro who has undertaken projects in Forres and is keen to take on a new project. It was agreed that Steve should have an initial discussion about possible projects, including bringing empty properties into use.
11. No date was set for the next meeting, leaving it to be driven by events.

Michael Barnett
Secretary