



Grantown Initiative - Board Meeting

**Agenda for Meeting on Tuesday 09 May 2017 –
House, Grantown-on-Spey**

at Town

1. Welcome

2. Apologies

Tom Clarke, Jane Hope, Isla Game

3. Present

Dan Cottam, Stewart Dick, Melanie Dick, Neil Martin
Advisors – Karen Derrick, Cllr John Bruce

4. Approval of previous minutes

Proposed – Stewart Dick
Seconded – Melanie Dick

5. Matters Arising from minutes

As previously discussed and agreed, an item for Community Council to be added to agenda as standard.

6. Election of office bearers

Chair – Dan Cottam (Proposed – Stewart Dick, Seconded – Neil Martin)
Vice Chair – Stewart Dick (Proposed – Dan Cottam, Seconded – David Duncan)
Co- Treasurers – Melanie Dick & David Duncan (Proposed – Stewart Dick, Seconded – Dan Cottam)
Minutes – Stewart Dick & Jane Hope

7. Declarations of Interest

None

8. Membership of Grantown Initiative

9. Rails to Grantown & Bus Service

Stewart Dick reported on this project that it had begun running on Saturday 15th April (Easter Weekend) and had already run a number of passengers to Grantown. It was explained that in working with Lindsay Jack, the route into Grantown had been adjusted to give visitors a brief tour of some key places in town, namely The Anagach Woods and The Grantown Museum.

It was agreed that The Grantown Initiative should invest some money in marketing the service across Badenoch and Strathspey. Dan explained he had been in touch with Landmark Press about the distribution of leaflets and that he would follow this up more formally.

The possibility of allowing passengers to board the bus in Grantown and then take the train to Aviemore was discussed and it was agreed that Stewart would speak to Lindsay Jack about this.

Actions – DC and SD

10. CARS Scheme

Bill Sadler gave a recap of the project so far, for the benefit of the new Directors and Cllr John Bruce present at the meeting and agreed to re-circulate the paper outlining the aims of the group.

Bill explained that the steering group had met and was moving things forward with the CARS project, the next stage of the project is a conservation area appraisal which look at the history of the area and assess what specific items of historical importance exist within the area. This appraisal would form the basis of a future management plan for the conservation area which would help to ensure future development is in keeping.

This project has been made possible thanks to a match funding grant from the CNPA for which the GI is extremely thankful.

11. Tourism / Marketing

12. Grantown Business Association

13. Grantown Community Website

Items 10, 11 & 12 were discussed together as the three areas ran into each other.

Bill Sadler gave a recap of the CNPAs Snow road project. The discussion moved onto a general discussion of the marketing of Grantown.

It was agreed the new Business Association subcommittee would take up the project to create a marketing strategy for Grantown. Proposals for discussion included.

The marketing of Grantown as a centre for motoring tourists and possible creation of “The Grantown Cloverleaf”, a series of circular route to/from Grantown.

10 reasons to come and stay in Grantown

10 reasons to spend the day in Grantown

It was highlighted that accommodation providers had commented on the loss of the old availability search site previously provided by Chris Hurst which was used by the visitor information centre to provide visitors details of available beds. It was explained by Dan Cottam that museum/VIC volunteers were now using the availability links on the new Grantown website to provide this information. Neil Martin pointed out that some businesses were unaware that Chris Hurst had removed the previous site.

It was agreed that there was a need to increase awareness of the new site to Grantown businesses. It was agreed the Business Association would contact its members and encourage them to list on the new site. The directors present also agreed that they would split up the list of businesses not yet listed on the site and contact them directly to encourage them to list. To aid this task, Stewart Dick agreed to create a list of reasons why businesses should list on the new site. Stewart also agreed to look into sourcing window stickers for listed businesses.

Actions – SD, NM, ALL

14. GI Projects

Mossie Playpark upgrade, Cemetary entrance wall, Gateway marker on Inveralland roundabout, Community Storage Facility.

There was no update on any of the projects.

An outline of the projects was given for the benefit of the new Directors and Cllr John Bruce.

It was agreed that the Community Storage facility project should be reinvestigated.

15. AOCB

Neil Martin explained that he had attended a recent meeting of the Hogmanay in the Square committee. He explained the committee was having issues seeing a way forward and was struggling with issues relating red tape. He had suggested to the group that they follow suit of the GBA and consider merging with the GI. It was agreed by the directors that this would be an acceptable course of action and Neil would liaise with the Hogmanay group and discuss whether this was something they would be keen to progress.

16. Next Board Meeting

The next Board would be on Tuesday 6 June 2017.

Minutes Secretary – Stewart Dick (Interim)