

GRANTOWN INITIATIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 7pm via Zoom

MINUTES

		Action Points
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Directors Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jane Hope, ChairKaren Derrick, TreasurerKaren MartinTom ClarkeKaty Turton <p>Others Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Beverley Cartwright (future director)Lorna Cottam (GI Fundraiser)Mike Causey (Future Director)Ginny Hall, (Minutes) <p>JH opened the meeting and welcomed BC (who is taking over responsibility for the Hogmanay event from TC), LC (who is one of the Development Officers with the GI), and MC (who is joining the GI due to his interest in setting up a parkrun event in Grantown).</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies: Ingrid Artus, Isla Game, Declan Gallacher(on sabbatical)</p>	
3.	<p>Minute of previous meeting held on 14th December 2021</p> <p>MC noted that parkruns are held on Saturday mornings rather than Sundays. The minutes were then approved.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters arising from the Minute (not otherwise on the agenda)</p> <p>None</p>	
5.	<p>Additional Item: Fundraising</p> <p>LC, who along with GH is a Development Officer with the GI, presented her ideas for fundraising events for the GI. LC had been tasked with 2 categories of event:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Specific events to take place before end March 2022Ongoing fundraising events <p>1.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Jogathon (or walkathon) to take place with a local celebrity, eg MFR DJs Dan and Grace. LC had spoken to Mairi Crawford, who helped set up the parkrun in Aviemore. The Primary School in Grantown used to do a 3k fun-run so KT suggested that LC speak to the Headteacher at the school Kip Clarke.Pop-up Charity Shop. Inverallan Church did a pop-up shop in the premises formerly occupied by the Hydro-electric shop, 2-3 years ago. KD said that she has contact details of the owner of the premises, but she cautioned that she assisted with the Church event and that it had been a lot of work for those involved.Film and curry night. This could be adapted to different themes, such as the film Casablanca with Moroccan food afterwards, or a French theme such as the film Amelie with French food afterward. LC suggested using local caterers, such as Restaurant Kits. The cost, if held in the YM, would be £55. In addition, LC suggested that a raffle could be held.Quiz night. LC has looked at venues and found that the British Legion would be the cheapest venue. LC offered to be the MC in order to keep costs down.	

	<p>e) Race nights. Kits can be purchased on Amazon for £20</p> <p>2. Ongoing events:</p> <p>a) Monthly lottery, along similar lines to the one run by Strathspey Thistle. The Highland Council is the Licensing Authority so an application would need to be made to register with HC as a non-commercial society ('cultural') activities. LC noted that once it was up and running, it could be a good earner.</p> <p>b) Social Enterprise Fund for High Schools A Social Enterprise Fund has allocated £3000 for S4 pupils to pitch for funding, with 4 pupils pitching for funding to their year group. LC suggested that school pupils could undertake tasks such as packing shopping or washing cars, in order to raise funds.</p> <p>c) Santa procession. A vehicle could be decorated with lights and play Christmas music, in order to look like a sleigh. It would then tour the centre of town at a pre-determined date and time, with children being given sweets and a collection bucket to collect donations to the GI.</p> <p>There was subsequently a discussion about the different options. KM clarified that the division between events as before end March and ongoing was because the Development Office position was only funded until end March. The Film and Food model had been successful in Kingussie. It was felt that at the current time, any events taking place in the next few months would need to be compatible with any changes resulting from Covid. In this respect, the Jogathon and the Quiz would be good options.</p> <p>Other ideas were discussed. BC suggested a wine tasting via Zoom, or a variation of this such as a whisky tasting run jointly with Gordon and MacPhail. TC noted that the (horse) race night idea had been used in Carrbridge a few years ago and had raised £5000 so this was worth bearing in mind for the future.</p> <p>After discussion, it was agreed that the two events to proceed with would be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Jogathon (with a possible link to the parkrun event) 2. Quiz (Preferably in person but with the option of using technology for online participation if needed). 	LC
5.	<p>Declarations of Interest on items appearing on the agenda:</p> <p>None</p>	
6.	<p>Membership applications</p> <p>None</p>	
7.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Our current balance on all accounts is £94734.23 of which, £3031.97 is unrestricted funding. All other funding is dedicated to projects.</p> <p>The issues with Zero raised at the last meeting have been actioned and resolved.</p>	
8.	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>In the light of the decision to proceed with the Jogathon and Quiz, it was suggested that the available volunteers be contacted sooner rather than later. There was a brief discussion about how to bring volunteers in and how to engage with them, and the idea of a newsletter to volunteers was suggested. KT shared her experience of using an article in the Strathy for Sustainable Strathspey to engage with local people.</p> <p>GH has completed a spreadsheet of volunteers but doesn't have email addresses for a number of volunteers.</p>	GH

	Action: GH to call volunteers in the next few days to record email addresses with a view to sending newsletters and updates by email.	
9.	<p>Potential new Project: parkrun</p> <p>MC had been invited to present his idea for a parkrun to be set up in Grantown. He explained that parkrun is a concept run all over the UK and globally. It is a 5k run held every Saturday at 9.30am throughout local venues in Scotland, on the same route every week. MC has experience of helping set up parkruns in Surrey and China. Parkruns are run by volunteers and are designed to involve the local community as much as possible. Those under the age of 12 need to be accompanied by an adult but those over 12 could participate on their own. It would cost £4000 as a one-off set up cost. This cost covers admin costs ie setting up the website so that run times can be recorded every week, and purchasing a defibrillator which is provided at the start and end of the course.</p> <p>MC estimates that it could take 6 months to set up but that he has around 15 volunteers. He has engaged with the CNPA, the Anagach Woods Trust and the GI. After discussion, it was decided that a parkrun would be good for Grantown and that the GI would formally take on parkrun. The Board agreed MC's request to use the GI bank account for the setup of the event, and it was agreed that MC would become a Director on the GI.</p>	KD/KM to send forms for completion
	Reports on Workstreams:	
10.	<p>Town Centre Fund</p> <p>KM reported that Jules Akel has drawn the maps and these are now ready to go into the design of the Information Boards.</p>	
11.	<p>Burnfield Toilets</p> <p>Chris Stuart from Stuart & Co has been waiting to hear from Highland Council. There had been a delay in approval of the relevant minutes from a meeting held on 9th December.</p> <p>Action: KD to speak to the relevant officer at Highland Council</p> <p>KD has completed a form for funding, which must be submitted by w/c 17th January, but needs quotes for the work required by Colin Lawson and Ron Laing first.</p> <p>Action: KD to obtain quotes and submit funding application by w/c 17th January 2022</p>	<p>KD</p> <p>KD</p>
12.	<p>Events</p> <p>Hogmanay</p> <p>TC summarised the series of events which led to the cancellation of a number of Festive Events, including Hogmanay. The Scottish Government announced a ban on outdoor events in the week before Christmas, so TC got in touch with everyone to cancel Hogmanay. On the finance side, most costs were either refunded or pushed forward to next year. This means there is £8000-£9000 in the account. Fireworks, which had been designed specifically for the Hogmanay event in Grantown, will be stored for next year at a cost of £300.. The band who were to play never travelled and were able to obtain a refund from the ferry company, and the fee for the licence is being brought forward to next year. BC is up to speed on the event, although TC will remain on the Hogmanay Committee to assist the transition.</p> <p>Festive Lights</p>	

	<p>These worked well and feedback from visitors to the town is that the lights create a very good impression and help the town seem welcoming. The lights are coming down on Sunday 16th January, and will go back into storage. Duncan Thorpe will carry out maintenance.</p> <p>Torchlight Procession</p> <p>After cancelling the Torchlight Procession, Martin Grant suggested a Santa drive around town which raised £463 and was donated to the Torchlight fund. The £600 reindeer cost was transferred to next year and £105 for LED torches was refunded by Amazon</p> <p>Truck in 2 Grantown</p> <p>TC mentioned that Martin Grant is very good at supporting the town, and it was agreed that the GI should help support him. IA has Martin's contact details.</p> <p>Grantown Does Christmas</p> <p>KM noted that GDC had made a small loss, but that the GBA sub-committee would be meeting on 1st February to discuss feedback, ideas for the future and the possibility of setting up a group to take it forward.</p> <p>TC responded that match funding is there to be used and that some events are good for the town but won't make a profit every year. He wondered if spreading the event over 2 days was too much and that perhaps a single day event might work better.</p> <p>The Christmas Tree Festival and the Museum would both want GDC to continue.</p> <p>Overall, JH noted that Grantown puts on a great set of events around the festive season and that the last couple of years have been a difficult situation. On behalf of the Board, JH thanked TC for his work on the GI. BC stated that she was happy to help with the GI and become a Director.</p> <p>Action: KM and KD to go through the paperwork with BC for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Membership of GI b) Companies House 	
13.	<p>Play parks</p> <p>Dulaig Park</p> <p>Berryburn application will be submitted this week for the football area.</p> <p>Sheena Corcoran (Chair of the Dulaig Park Renovation Group) has been chasing Alban Thom to plant the trees (should have been planted in the autumn) and Kompan to finally complete the plan prior to ordering. Kompan has stated that all costs have risen 'exponentially' so we will no longer be able to have wetpour surface for everything.</p> <p>Sheena has also discovered that companies are currently unwilling to quote for work when funds aren't already in place due to rising costs. This may answer in some way why we're struggling to get quotes for the football area.</p> <p>Mossie Park</p> <p>No update. It was suggested that Isla Game be contacted as she has not been present at recent meetings.</p>	

14.	<p>Business/Visitor Matters</p> <p>HIE Money HIE funding was discussed and it was agreed that we would approach HIE to see if it is possible to move some of the money into the marketing fund.</p> <p>Consultation on the Entrance Signs A notice about the consultation will be in the Strathy on Wednesday. Around 160 responses to the consultation have been received so far. The closing date for the consultation is 19th January. Funding has only been granted for 3 signs, but 4 are needed, so KM is going to ask the CNPA if they have a slush fund which may be used for the extra sign. Action: KM to contact CNPA to see if they have some extra funding. Website – There have been some issues with HiCreate, so KM has engaged Kathy Maxwell to help bring it forward. This is because the VisitScotland DMO fund requires the website to be live in order to receive the funding.</p> <p>Anagach Woods Signs BC highlighted the fact that the main signs in the Anagach Woods at the carpark at the end of Forest Road, have been knocked down by a falling tree. These signs display the Speyside Way route as well as providing information for visitors and need to be replaced. The Anagach Woods Trust and the Seafeld Estate have responsibility for these signs, and Gavin Miles is taking this forward. It was suggested that this issue be raised at the next Grantown Forum meeting which takes place on Monday 17th January.</p>	KM
15.	<p>Sustainable Strathspey (SS) KT reported that the next committee meeting will be taking place on Wednesday 12th January. They are likely to discuss fundraising and an event reporting on the outcomes of COP26. This event is likely to take place in February 2022.</p>	
16.	<p>Communications and Publicity TC raised the issue of broadband infrastructure, which had been the subject of an article in the Strathy, and asked if this was being supported by the GI. This issue is being taken forward by the Grantown Forum.</p>	
	<p>AOCB Community Building Bill Sadler has contacted the GI about the creation of a community building. The committee discussed this idea but had concerns as there are already community buildings in Grantown, such as the YM, the Museum and Inverallan Church. KD emphasised the importance of seeing a study which was done some time back which, it is believed, concluded that there was no support for an additional community building.</p> <p>Platinum Jubilee BC asked if any events were planned for the 4-day weekend in June to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. KM responded that the Cairn Distillery is planning to open that weekend and that there might be an opportunity to organise a joint event.</p>	
	Dates of 2022 board meetings, using Zoom: Tuesday 8 th February	

	Tuesday 8 th March Tuesday 12 th April Tuesday 10 th May (AGM)	
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