

GRANTOWN INITIATIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7.30 pm via Zoom

MINUTE OF THE MEETING

		Action Points
	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Directors Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Karen Derrick (Chair)Karen Martin (Treasurer)Declan Gallacher (Vice Chair)Ingrid ArtusKaty TurtonMike Causey <p>Others present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ginny Hall (Minutes) <p>KD opened the meeting and welcomed all present.</p>	
1.	<p>Apologies:</p> <p>Directors: Pete Grant, Beverley Cartwright</p>	
2.	<p>Approval of 02 October Board Minute</p> <p>The Minutes were approved unanimously. GH agreed to upload the minutes on the website.</p>	
3.	<p>Matters arising from Minute not on the agenda</p> <p>There were none.</p>	
4.	<p>Declarations of interest on items appearing on agenda</p> <p>There were none.</p>	
5..	<p>Membership</p> <p>The Board was happy to accept Alice Fogg of Kinross House in Woodside Avenue as an Ordinary Member. She is particularly interested in events and promotion.</p>	
6	<p>Treasurer's Report/ GMcPhail</p> <p>KM reported on the finances up to the end of October.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">£5000 had been received for the Burnfield Toilets, with the remaining balance having been spent on final Colin Lawson Builders invoice.For the GBA, £1,167.50 has been spent on equipment and hanging baskets etc for the High Street.£1,314 had been spent on covering the increased costs of new PA system for the Square.For TiTG, there was a slight deficit but there should be money coming in from the sale of badges. <p>The account balance stands at £47,296.95.</p> <p>There was a discussion about financial arrangements for the Burnfield Toilets for the first few months after opening. Since there would be costs of the cleaning and operating costs, accompanied by less income (due to lower footfall over the winter), it was agreed by all to transfer £4,000 from the GMcP Events pot into the Burnfield Toilets pot, and to review the situation in the spring.</p>	
7	<p>Insurance (KT)</p> <p>The Board had reviewed the pre-contract papers from Zurich circulated by KT in advance of the meeting. It was highlighted that the cost of the Public Liability was very high, at £1551.87.</p>	

	<p>KT was to go back to Zurich to ask if this cost could be reduced. KT asked if KM could bring up the last 3 years' insurance premiums so that she could use this information to assist her discussion with Zurich.</p> <p>KM suggested an alternative solution which was that the insurance liability be paid from the GMcP pot as most of the GI's activity is for related activity, like events. It was agreed that this approach would be used.</p> <p>Action: KT to go back to Zurich for a final quote for the cover.</p> <p>There was a query from IA about p.10 of the C&SO Schedule which listed some events but didn't specifically mention Torchlight or the Festive Lights. KT said she thought they were covered even if not specifically mentioned. KM noted that Grantown Does Christmas is covered by insurance for Craic Events, and that otherwise no insurance is needed for GDC. Therefore, it was suggested that Torchlight be added and GDC removed in the documents.</p>	<p>KT</p> <p>KD, KM</p>
Sub Group updates		
8	<p>Burnfield Toilets</p> <p>KD reported that there were a few snagging issues and bits of signage that still need to be resolved, and a confirmed opening date to be sorted. However, everything else is ready. KD and IA have been in touch with Grantown Grammar School about the opening, and are awaiting a response. Likely date is 28th November 2023 in the afternoon.</p> <p>KM and KD are to meet the electrician to understand how the technical details and maintenance of the toilets will work.</p> <p>KD noted that 2 skylights in the roof have not been replaced and have asked Lawsons for a quote.</p>	<p>KD, KM</p>
9	<p>Festive Lights: funding</p> <p>IA had received a summary of progress from Paul Mathieson.</p> <p>The lights are going up and will be switched on on 29th November. This includes the Christmas tree by the Courthouse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · All new overhead lights have now been delivered and connections fitted. 11 new lights will go up across the street. All lights have been tested and Duncan Thorpe has carried out numerous repairs. · Single cherry picker ordered for the 24th/26th and we will also have a forklift for the 26th. · Rope lights have now been delivered. The Christmas tree has been ordered, expecting delivery on 24th. · Council due back on site this week to test power for the strands across the street, also PA system. Power supply to trees have been checked and all work bar two. Down side is there are many lights out due to broken wires and faults. Paul has requested some additional help from the the Highland Council (THC) but had no response to date. While Paul will do all he can to replace damaged sections over the weekend 24th-26th, extra Council help would be appreciated. <p>Other things for next year, cherry picker certs need to be refreshed and Paul will be looking for a few more helpers to join the team. Projects to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full upgrade of tree lights in the early spring before trees leaf - Replacement Merry Xmas Grantown light - Professional lighting for the large conifer at west end of the town. <p>An article for the Strathy is planned, for the Thursday 7th December issue. The article will focus on Sean Sullivan's legacy of 3 Christmas lights which have been added to the display this year. The idea of a press release for the Strathy, together with a photo of the lights was discussed.</p> <p>Action: IA to speak to Anne Sullivan.</p>	<p>IA</p>

10.	<p>Grantown Does Christmas</p> <p>MC updated the Board about the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are now 45 stalls, mostly small businesses but with 5-7 charitable organisations. The Market Licence is with the THC. The Common Good application had been put in to THC with a suggested donation to the Common Good fund of £50 agreed, for the use of the Square. <p>KM summarised the plans, which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual businesses doing promotional activities, eg Ewe and Me & Fiona's Wholefoods Art and Craft Fair GI Tombola and Lego competition Santa's Grotto run by Grantown Firefighters Wellbeing Fayre in Community Centre Xmas Tree Festival Free Distillery Tours run by Cairn Distillery 4-week advert in Strathy The market will run from 10.30am until 7.00pm. <p>KM will buy some drink for the Tombola, and some Lego kit.</p>	KM
11.	<p>Torchlight Parade</p> <p>IA reported on the arrangements for this event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reindeer and Pipe Band have been booked, and Fire Service will be attending. Four local lads will be dressing up as dinosaurs to fundraise on the night. KT suggested that the 'dinosaurs' wear Santa hats. No dogs will be allowed this year. A stage has been procured, with Hamish Napier providing his own equipment. Marie-Louise Napier will lead the singing, supported by the Community Choir. <p>IA asked if the Board could recommend any semi-professional photographers who would take photos of the event free of charge. KM suggested approaching Jane Candlish.</p> <p>Re: the road closure, IA submitted a request to THC in October but has had no response, although she has a reference number.</p> <p>Action: IA intends to drop THC a note, letting them know of the plans for the event.</p>	IA
12	<p>Hogmanay</p> <p>BC had provided an update in advance of the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All paperwork apart from a couple of risk assessments and the bar licence have been sent in. Awaiting feedback from the Highland Council. MC is doing his bar license exam on 15th November. Advertising for Hogmanay has been submitted for the What's On guide. The Royal British Legion is booked for the concert and tickets will go on sale next week, along with advertising. The band will be Maggie Adamson and Friends. There are nearly enough stewards but BC will do a final call at the start of December. Steward training hopefully to be organised for end November. 	
13	<p>Grantown Business Association</p> <p>DG reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some of the grant funding has been spent on flowers and baskets for next year, which will be used to decorate the whole length of the High Street. Advertisements have been put in the Landmark Press visitor bedroom folders, and some leaflets have been designed for distribution in the local area. Bunting is being made during the winter 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mandy McDonald has been assisting with the GBA work, including putting together hampers for a raffle. · There will be a late night shopping day in December. · The GBA is about to go out to members for renewal of their membership. 	
14	<p>Thunder in the Glens MC described some ideas for the future of TITG, noting that with the outline planning permission for building work at the Macdonald Resort in Aviemore, the future hosting of TITG in Aviemore is in doubt. MC's solution would be to use the Grantown Show Field instead, with the event being hosted in Grantown and the rideout to Aviemore instead of the other way round. MC is in the process of contacting George about this idea. KM mentioned that Stuart Willox, Head of the Dunedin Chapter, had contacted her recently, and agreed to give his contact details to MC. Action: KM to give Stuart Willox's contact details to MC Action: KD asked MC to keep the GI Board updated.</p>	KM/MC
15	<p>Sustainable Strathspey KT reported that SS would be showing the Oil Machine, a film about the oil industry and climate change, at the Grant Arms on 15th November.</p> <p>KM asked how people could hear about SS events. KT informed the Board that there is a Facebook page, as well as a page called The Green Hub, which is Strath-wide.</p>	
16.	<p>Dulaig Play Park IA reported that the committee has ordered some play equipment with the remaining budget and also that no further grass cutting will take place until the spring. IA suggested removing the Dulaig Park from the agenda for the next few meetings, and to pick it up again in the spring.</p>	
17.	<p>AOCB Parkrun: KD asked MC for an update on this event. MC reported that the Anagach Woods Trust had approved a circular route of 2 laps, avoiding areas where the Capercaillie might be found. MC is working with Becky Stanton and expects the event to start in May 2024.</p> <p>Grantown Common Good Fund: KD to email the Board about charges for the Square usage and the Common Good consultation. KM noted the need for clarity about whether charges being introduced applied to each event or to each individual stallholder.</p> <p>Ian Charles Hospital Redevelopment: A sub-group meeting has been arranged for Friday 8th December in the Courthouse. KD is happy to convene the first meeting, which will be attended by representatives of a range of organisations across Grantown, as well as doctors at the Health Centre. The aim of the sub-group is to help direct the redevelopment project, including in the first instance undertaking surveys, feasibility studies and business planning.</p> <p>Business Directory: KM raised the issue of the Short Term Lets Licence which is being administered by THC. All accommodation providers had a legal obligation to apply for a Licence by 1st October 2023, and VisitScotland are now removing listings from all those who have not applied. In light of this, the GBA agreed that all accommodation providers who have not applied will be removed from the Grantown Online website.</p>	<p>KD</p> <p>KM</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting 12th December 2023</p>	