

Strathnairn Development Company (SDC) AGM Minutes 23.2.2024

Present: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Paul Robinson (PR), Guy Harris (GH), Jillian MacLennan (JM), Justyna Szczachor (JS), [REDACTED] Elna Harvey (EH), Aileen Taylor (AT), Scott MacDonald (SM), Raghnaid Sandilands (RS), Megan Bee (MB), Mike Danson (MD)

Apologies: Jessica Boughey (JB), Neil Dawson (ND), Kirsty Adam (KA), [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Abbreviations:

SDC: Strathnairn Development Company
SNCC/CC: Strathnairn Community Council
SCBF/BF: Strathnairn Community Benefit Fund
CDO: Community Development Officer
FHC: Farr Hall Committee
SHA: Strathnairn Heritage Association

Location: Farr Hall

1. Welcome, introductions, proxies and quorum

This meeting was quorate.

Noted proxies were acknowledged: [REDACTED]

2. Minutes from AGM 2022/23 approved.

Minutes from the last AGM approved. [REDACTED]

3. Chair's report

A review of the year - (see Annual Report and Financial Statement previously circulated to all members prior to the AGM)

A lot of progress made, collaboration with SCBF, FHC, SCC. Events reinstated, looking to implement the action plan, talking to groups, to the community. Hub as a medium to long term objective. Collaborating with groups - Strathnairn Connect and cafe under the direction of Farr Hall and the purchase of Dunlichity Church with Strathnairn Heritage Association.

MD notes thanks to the trustees who are stepping down. SM, JM, KA deep thanks for their commitment and long standing efforts and JM who joined later but was helpful in every way.

MD noted thanks to SCBF for funding.

MD offers thanks to SCBF / SNCC on behalf of the SDC.

MD offers thanks to the SDC board.

4. Annual report - trustees' report and financial statement

Treasurer's report {see Annual Report and Financial Statement previously circulated to all members prior to the AGM}

Income just under £60,000, funding for JB's position and community events and running cost for SDC. Expenditure £23,326, bulk to CDO salary, taxation and pension. Leave us as of Sept last year £36,000.

PR gave an overview of income and expenditure.

The finance account was approved with no objections.



Question / points raised

Clarification - £20,000 for events

CDO ongoing salary £36,000 - [REDACTED] asks when will SDC be seeking funding for further funding, MD April 2024. Events - in Sept.

JB has prepared a plan for the coming year regarding funding going forward. Proposing, as part of this, workshops regarding fundraising skills for groups, volunteering.

[REDACTED] asks for an edit on the fine detail of the summary. MD replied to explain his reasoning there.

5. Confirmation of Charity Trustees

8 members put their names forward which leaves 2 vacancies as election not required. The 10 trustees are:

Mike Danson
Neil Dawson
Megan Bee
Raghnaid Sandilands
Paul Robinson
Guy Harris
Hal Robinson
Justanya Szczachor
Aileen Taylor

Elna Harvey

Stepping down; Kirsty Adam, Scott MacDonald and Jillian MacLennan

6. Questions and answer session

Topics/ questions raised and discussed in order;

Chair, Treasurer, Secretary stand down at the AGM.

Trustees appoint them. Will announce new chair, treasurer, secretary at the next board meeting on Tuesday.

MD summarised: SDC asked by membership to revise constitution, minutes published on website, communicate with members.

For a number of groups, waiting for umbrella website. [redacted] gave some details about the website. 8-10 week lead in time.

SDC took a trip to Kyle of Sutherland and learnt about newsletter publication.

[redacted] asked about CDO performance indicators.

1 day a week public facing, 2nd day so that people can make arrangements to community groups etc. She'll otherwise be in community or at home.

Work plan going forward - financial, digital, volunteering workshops, delivering events, consultations she's led on or worked with others such as Hub Steering Group.

Affordable housing - community housing trust, HIE, Highland Council.

SDC will look at the plan and put performance indicators in place, developing. These will change as we go forward. CDO gives a monthly report. Will put this up on Facebook / on website to let people see what CDO has been achieving.

For residents - We'll give plans as to what we've done, what we'll do, what we take from the CAP etc. MD gave assurances that this would happen after the next board meeting.

MB fed back on the Hub Steering group. Report involving FC, SCBF, SCC and they would take that information for discussion in their groups.

Question about social housing demand. MD reassurance is that all discussions held so far are first and foremost about whether there is a demand for social / affordable housing. Consultants would be tasked with that.

Points raised about stock, demographic projection, need - value of housing stock retained.

8. AOCB

Nothing raised.

9. DONM

To be decided.