

**Strathnairn Development Company (SDC)  
Board Meeting 20 March 2025**

Present: Mike Danson (MD), Raghnaid Sandilands (RS) (minutes), Megan Bee (MB), Paul Robinson (PR), Elna Harvey (EH), Isla MacLeod (IM)

Apologies: none

Location: Zoom, 7.30

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**1. Welcome, introductions, apologies, proxies and quorum**

We are quorate.

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**2. Minutes** - Approved as circulated.

Minutes of last two meetings (previously circulated 16 Jan, 13 Feb - both on shared drive).

**3. Matters arising (Funding consultant, Kids' Club, Independent Examiner)**

*Funding Consultant* - Natalie has been working well although signed off her work. Currently progressing applications on housing in particular. Better if we ourselves approach comm housing trust. MD at a webinar over 2 days. Will progress that soon when she is better.

She has contacted HIE about some of their grants. To have a meeting with James Turner and Beth Rose - about work done previously on parks and provision work.

**Farr Gala** - PR sought confirmation that we would be providing funding for Farr Gala insurance. Gala committee need specific insurance for the event. MB / MD raise point that this would make SDC responsible for the running of the event in some way and the hope was to establish a separate committee to run the gala.

Events policy recommends assigning tasks and responsibilities, including risk assessments and safety briefing. All to sign off on a risk assessment, and updating undergoes due process, organizers/ volunteers to help on the day would need a walk through of the risk assessment form.

Farr Gala Committee need to come forward with risk assessment and to approach with a request to SDC to apply for funding for insurance. Committee of the Gala need to be in charge of the risk assessment form and briefing of this on the day etc.

Gala is a community event - Farr Gala committee not under our auspices.

SDC suggests adopting the guidance of our basic events policy would be helpful. A gala committee going forward might develop their own events policy.

Farr Gala will perhaps apply for a tent to SCBF.

### **Action points:**

PR to seek advice from Vivienne re; insurance.

PR to share the template for guidance and communicate the above points to Gala committee.

**Kid's club** MB - asking for clarity on funding and where that might be sought.

An obvious route is to approach the SCBF. Parents don't pay fees in Strathdearn at the moment, but they are considering a nominal amount. In neighbouring community the funding almost all comes from their Benefit fund.

Next step to approach the hall - desired night a Thursday. P1-7.

### **Action points:**

MB to contact Hall and Highlife.

**Independent examiner** - OSCR says we need to approve Donald MacKenzie. Self-employed, lived in Strathnairn. Accountant. Approved by SDC board.

### **Points raised by Phil Mackintosh/ SCC**

Phil Mackintosh raised a point about AGM emails to members - All members have been e-mailed so concern unfounded. SCC should be saying SDC should be contacted directly if issues raised about SDC. SCC have been reminded of this so any problems can be actionable.

AGM is for members of the company. All members of the company have been informed about when the AGM is. We will send round a reminder after the meeting tonight with a post on the SDC Facebook page, our website and shared to Strathairn page. Members of the community can come along.

PM suggests we should put out information to how people should apply to put themselves forward as members of the board at the AGM. Come September PR and RS have served their 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year terms.



**4. New members** - none applied.

## **5. Annual report and financial statement**

Shared on shared drive by MD.

Annual report and financial statement approved by the Board.

Can be put on the website.

In mailchimp we can point to both being available on the website.

### **Action points:**

Mailchimp to be sent and circulated after this meeting.

## **4. AGM**

MD has a meeting in Wales. MB to chair meeting.

Request as to whether there will be video access. MD has said we will try. The link will have to be included in the mailchimp reminder.

### **Action point:**

E-mail reminder to go out.

## **6. AOCB**

**Film project** - e-mail from Grazina - to be discussed at a later date.

**Workshop and gig 8/3** - successful event - Fèis Farr covered musician tutor costs x 2 - £150 to pay for the gig. Events money to cover this was agreed.

**Group on active travel** Monday after AGM - trying to arrange a meeting with Colin Ross at Highland Council. Hoping to put in application in Autumn/ September.

**7. Date of Next Meeting - AGM on Monday then TBC via e-mail.**

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