



**Strathnairn Development Company (SDC)  
Board Meeting 01 July 2025**

Location: GMeet online

Date: 1st July 2025

Time: 19.30 - 20.30

**1. Welcome and apologies - Present - Mike Danson (MD), Megan Bee (MB), Elna Harvey (EH) Raghnaid Sandilands (RS) minutes, Paul Robinson (PR) Isla MacLeod (IM)**

**2. Minutes** approved from three previous meetings, **PR to redact and post**

**online 3. Matters arising**

1. Applications Natalie to enquire as to why applications not successful. CLLD the larger of 2 applications' feedback suggested they were concerned about what funding we would have after any money for a CDO. Natalie will go back to query as part of the role was to generate those funds. Good feedback from HIE who like to be funder of last resort so she has a meeting with Gabbi. Finalising various applications that are good to go as we near various deadlines.

2. SCBF mediation Questions we would like to resolve: who speaks on their behalf. Seeking clarity on what can we take to be an agreement to go to mediation or not. Given SCBF minutes of meetings are so terse we can't tell if things have been discussed. **MD to revisit the questions.**

3. Email from SCBF chair re our e-mail addresses - We have a collective address therefore we all have oversight. Made clear to him that we share email contents. PR replied to this effect and no response. We can ensure that all emails go to all trustees this way. The SCBF have a similar set up with emails going to secretary.

4. Gaelic officer application to share work with Strathdearn and Abriachan and having other connections. The chances of getting funding are not great as applications have significantly outstripped funding - results will come through on Friday.

**4. Child protection legislation** – change in legislation suggests all trustees must be registered, so means if we do anything regular and connected to children then we need to have child protection. In past, we have run young people meetings and cinema but not regularly - we required parents to stay for the cinema at that time. Now, wider range of people that need disclosure. If we would have an event that would require this and we need to be aware if it's something in the pipeline. There is also now a

charge for each check. Disclosure Scotland have large backlog of enquiries so delays in getting definitive answers. Upcoming gala suggests some urgency. **EH to pursue further.**

5. **Treasurer's report** – to follow.

6. **Membership** - No new members. Some interest to be pursued directly and with stall at Farr Gala.

7. **Discussion with Chair of SNCC** - Chair of SNCC had requested the opportunity to address the SDC Board, invitation had been issued and accepted. However, called off just before meeting started.

8. **Board and Trustees and Election** - Impact Hub's Polly Chapman has new post with DTAS. Met with MD. We do need to let RS and PR step down from the board in September who have been on for 2 full terms. We need to attract new trustees. Agreed timetable for seeking new trustees, to be promoted from late July. Good idea to make direct approaches to potential good candidates. We need between 4-12 trustees. Previously, when we asked for candidates we had fewer than the maximum so we didn't have a vote. The idea of successful candidates having to be endorsed by the membership would be unusual and divisive potentially.

Some discussion on how to phrase the notice to let people express an interest in being a candidate. If more than 8 applicants we would need an election. By 11th August.

Calling notice out at end of July. **RS to add IM as admin of Facebook page.**

Trustees encouraged to speak to new potential trustees and cast the net wide re new members, young folk, women, new talents, experiences, interests. As joining a Board can be a barrier to possible candidates, stress support, induction and training will be given and meetings online. Subcommittees may be an attractive half-way house for some.

**IM happy to draft social media report.**

9. **DONM** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August.

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