



Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

**Strathnairn Development Company (SDC)
Board Meeting 18th December 2025**

Date: 18th December 2025, 7.30pm

Location: Croft Croy

Present: Mike Danson (MD), Elna Harvey (EH), Megan Bee (minutes) (MB), Iain Campbell (IC), Seonaidh Mackenzie (SM) Hilary Lacroix (HL)

Apologies: Seonaidh Mackenzie (SM) Susan MacLennan (SM)

Welcome and apologies (19:30)

Minutes of last meeting 20th November (previously circulated)

Minutes approved

Matters arising: adding new trustees to annual report to OSCR,

Details now uploaded to OSCR Website, including former trustees.

Funding applications

2 Proposals submitted by MD through Strathnairn Heritage; SSE Transmission and Bord na Gaelic for Gaelic funding for Gaelic Development Officer. Offering Language learning and Gaelic Heritage links. Needs to be cross community work with neighbouring trusts.

HIE suggested MD apply for general funding. Funding application to DTAS for Resilience and Recovery fund. This could be enough to cover a CDO

As a development trust we should have a vision, principles and strategy document. We have a vision statement which needs expanded on. Template to in Google Drive.

Under Google Drive- New folder about Governance

In that. Recovery and Resilience Documentation to support Development Trusts going through any difficulty. MD

MD has had a successful funding application for Gaelic week.

HL noted Tidy up required of WhatsApp members and Website to ensure only current trustees have access. MB to tidy

Paul Robinson to share switchover google admin to another trustee. MB queried (SM)

New applications and recruitment of members/trustees

None noted.

Board agree to appoint Susan MacLennan.

Sophia Headricks interested in joining the board. MB to share further details and enquire as to whether she wants to sit in on a board meeting as a trial.

Treasurer's Report - now IC

IC met with Paul Robinson to handover the Treasurer Role.

£75 owed to us from HRMC

IC working with Paul on some small discrepancies to tidy up.

Insurance needs renewed. With the limited board activities at the moment and lack of staff we could let it lapse until the New Year. IC to let Paul Robinson know we are happy to let it lapse.

IC to investigate options for other insurance policies that give us liability cover.

Paul Robinson will do the latest treasurers report.

As we are so small, we do not need an official auditor for the Annual Report. It doesn't need to be someone with a finance degree.

IC and MB needs added as a signatory (MD)

Local Place Plan

Agreed that it makes sense for us to develop our strategy out of both the CAP and the Local Place Plan.

Website

Ensure that SM is given a log in to the website.

Mail Chimp has been difficult.

Housing

Powerpoint presentation from Community Housing Trust. Step 1- Housing group needs established. We need to set this up to progress.

No data from Highland Council about rural housing needs. So that data collection is up to us. A Housing group is required. HC agreed to take this forward as a sub committee and will aim to promote this before the AGM. HC offered to draft a statement regarding this.

Potential to share an anonymous survey online at AGM re Housing (IC)

AGM and Annual report

Call to AGM put out 15 days prior to the meeting.

Share Annual report a month before meeting to allow any correspondence to take place in good time before the meeting. .

We will put out a call to elections at least a month before the AGM.

Next Board meeting- decide on an AGM date and share the following Monday.

Contact with SCBF

Agreement to redraft a letter calling for mediation. Let's look at the draft and review any changes by the next meeting. We also need clarification as to who speaks for the Benefit Fund.

AOCB

MB had a meeting with Highlife Highland to discuss potential After School Club. Highlife would be happy to provide a service when we have established our funding source.