

MINUTE OF MEETING

MID DEESIDE COMMUNITY TRUST – BOARD

20th January 2021 at 7.00 pm

Conference Call on Zoom

Present:	Alan Emslie (AE) (Chair), Johnathan Kitching (JK), Mark Mitchell (MM), Nadine Stuart (NS), Lynn Mackie (LM), Dave Marshall of MDCC (DM), Brian Rae (BR), Cllr Peter Argyle (PA), Richard Smout (RS), and Gail Amey (GA) (Minutes)
Apologies:	Duncan Cassie (DC) and Wilson Forbes (WF).
1.	Welcome and Approval of Minutes: Minutes of 16 th December 2020 were approved by NS and seconded by PA.
2.	Accounts: GA put forward the quote from Grant Considine to audit the end of year accounts for 2020 for discussion.
3.	Project Updates: Transport GA updated the board on the 9-month accounts for DCT. The ACTI grant to December comes to £45,617.40 and the 65.41% grant spend is £33,105.01 which means that to date £12,512.39 is due to be returned to Aberdeenshire Council. It was agreed that this would be discussed in greater depth at the next meeting. Fiona Mallett has given her resignation due to a recent injury she has suffered. We hope to have a get together to celebrate the years of service she has given MDCT in the future. Once again community buses are on stop by the users due to the lockdown. The dial-a-bus is reduced to only carry passengers who need essential groceries. The Mid Deeside Medical transport continues to support passengers who need transport to get to ARI and local medical centres. We have been asked to support the vaccination programme soon. Woodlands There are plans to complete the final planting of 200 trees. However, it was noted that there is a surplus of trees and AE asked if anyone had suggestions for their use. A list of trees is to be sent to the board since the mens shed and APTG have expressed an interest. There are COVID safe work parties planned to continue with the maintenance to clean some paths. It is planned to restart selling Christmas trees in 2021 and DC is identifying suitable trees for display. DC is thinning down selected areas as part of the quality control plan. ABPA Material has been delivered for maintenance for the repair of the runs which are quite worn in places. Work parties are on hold due to the current lockdown. Wheelers

The landfill fund was felt not suitable due to the 10% admin fee charged at the end of the grant. The group are looking at other funders.

Aboyne Paths Group

There is an agreement from the two landowners involved in new fencing projects that they will have the works done by the end of February so the grant can be claimed and closed off.

The castle wood ideas for an all-abilities path and some other initiatives are on hold until a meeting with Alister Aboyne can happen. For the ideas with the west oak wood JK asked if any path in the wood could link with the paths on the Court hill.

The situation on the low road with new barbed wire on the gates and gates being barriered shut is proving problematic at the east end of the road next to the water works. JK will talk to Chaz the ghillie and follow up with AC outdoor access supervisor to see if they can remedy the situation.

A meeting between APTG and Michael Bruce is planned to discuss the Aboyne Glen Tanar link path ideas.

It was agreed to put the Paths map on the MDCT website.

There are some bits of new path around Queens Loch and there have been some more works with diggers in the loch to improve the amenity of the area.

Huntly Hotel

The draft phase 1 of the survey has been completed and the first invoice is now due for payment. The completion of phase 1 will be completed shortly, and the group hope to speak with the new owners (as yet unknown) to share the findings of the survey.

Station Square Renovation Project

NS explained the current options for the project and expressed that it will come in over budget. The project will need to be scaled back after further review of the options. The plans will be sent to all board members for their input the deadline for feedback is 25th January due to tight deadlines of project. Discussions ensued regarding pedestrian safety, zebra crossing safety, planters, watering maintenance, lampposts, and lighting options.

Aboyne FareShare

A total of nine volunteers now registered with MDCT.

We have continued to supply food Mid-Deeside Parish, Aboyne After School Club, Cromar Food Waste Group, Ballater Pop Up Soft Play and sheltered housing in Ballater. Aboyne Dinnet Church have indicated that they would like to work with us to distribute food within the community. Details are to be confirmed and it is hoped that this project will start early in the new year. Information continues to be sent out to relevant organisations in the area to encourage greater use of the facility.

	<p>Two food deliveries were received from FareShare Grampian – two pallets of mixed groceries on 10th and 31st December.</p> <p>Donations of food and other goods were also received from Sunshine Nursery in Torphins, Morrison’s in Banchory, shoppers and staff at the Coop in Aboyne, Thistle and Clay, members of MDCT and individual members of the community. Cash donations totalling £290 were also received in December.</p> <p>It was decided to provide additional help to families and individuals during the week before Christmas, in the form of food bags, containing essential groceries and some additional festive treats. Posters were displayed in Aboyne, Ballater and the surrounding villages, the event was posted on the Aboyne Local Facebook page, and emails were sent to organisations and health and social workers in the area. Bags were distributed from the Victory Hall on 21st, 22nd and 23rd December, and delivered on request. A total of 37 bags were given out – 21 to individuals, 5 to couples and 11 to families.</p> <p>There has been no further news from FareShare Grampian regarding operational changes.</p> <p>COVID-19 Support The support from MCDT is ongoing and has slightly increased since the lockdown. Volunteers have experienced problems from the staff of Bonty Court due to COVID restrictions. We have been restricted from delivering food to residents. This is causing undue stress to the residents of Bonty who all were vaccinated in December.</p> <p>CPR Deeside MDCC have agreed to take on the maintenance of the defibrillators. A group of volunteers will take on the responsibility to check, repair and fundraise.</p> <p>Community Garden RS is encountering problems contacting the landowner of the low road site. The group has allocated 2 days maintenance to improve the site at Castlepark. It was discussed to link a new country walkway with current pathways to enhance the project.</p> <p>H&W Nothing to report.</p> <p>Jubilee Fountain Nothing to report.</p> <p>Education No update.</p>
4.	<p>A.O.B.:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New project - <i>Socially-Engaged Artist in Residency in the Village of Aboyne, An Open Art Studio for the Village and surrounding area.</i> The Community Shed have agreed to support the project by offering a space but this will not be available until June 2021 at the earliest. An application to

	MacRobert trust has been completed. Funding and admin support are still required to kick start the project.
	Date of next meeting: The next meeting will take place on 17 th February 2020 at 7pm via Zoom.

Date Approved17.2.21.....S.O.O.....Chairman