

Balloch Castle Country Park Regeneration Group
Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 20/3/25 at 7pm,
Balloch House Hotel

Present: Sally, Gillian, Audrey, Fiona, BDCC, James, Karon Battersby, Anthony O'Shea,
Caroline, Angela Burns, Jack Fordy, BDCC, Cat.

Apologies: Cara Thom, Fraser McLaurin, Heather Vincent, Aileen Suter,
Mary Sweetland.

Previous minutes proposed Sally, seconded Audrey.

4. Sally will write to Peter Hissett, CEO, WDC to chase up the Memorandum of Understanding.

5. North Lodge needs some work completed before drone access can be granted, it is understood that this will be done when the new financial year's budget is released. South Lodge requires refurbishment before it can be allocated to a new tenant.

6. Sally will contact WDC to arrange a date for the Group to give a presentation to the Regeneration Committee.

7. Flags Project

Banners should be installed on Drymen Rd by April, the Main Ave will be some time in the future.

8. Heritage Lottery Fund

Audrey has spoken to an officer at The Lottery Fund who advised that an award would be made in two stages.

Stage one could be used to employ a Development Officer and to refurbish the North Lodge. (up to £250,000)

Stage two would be considered if stage one successful (up to £2.5million).

Sally will book onto the next HLF Webinar.

11. Castle Information Display Area.

We have been awarded £2000 by the Strathleven Foundation to install Information boards in the foyer of the Castle toilets area.

These will cover History of the Park/ CHAS/ Natural Environment/BCCPRG/ SCENE

Jeremy Watson and Fraser McLaurin will be asked to help out with the history board.
Laura (artist) could be asked to develop our board

12. Fundraising

Our application to the Commonweal Fund was unsuccessful.

Sally will pursue funding opportunities for the Natural Capital Accounting Report.
Another date to be arranged to meet with Mary Sweetland for advice on funding applications.

13. Treasurer's Report

Balance 1635.33

Strathleven Foundation grant is outstanding. Invoice for £660 to be paid to Laura.
New bank account with Virgin Money almost completed.

Cat advised us that due to work commitments she has made the decision to step down as Treasurer and a Trustee of the Group. Sally and Audrey, on behalf of the Group, thanked Cat for all her hard work since the Group began and wished her well for the future.

14. Canva

Cara has offered to run another training session, date to be confirmed.

DONM 1/4/25 (Trustees)