

Balloch Castle Country Park Regeneration Group

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 8/4/25 @ 6.30pm via Teams

Present: Sally, Audrey, Cara, Matt, Cat, Gillian, Mary Sweetland.

Mary Sweetland gave us a list of possible funding opportunities:

SSE

King's Fund Foundation

Robertson Trust

Architectural Heritage Fund

Forth Valley Environmental Link

Garfield Western

Rural Development Fund

To also consider having an Advocate for the Park eg Gordon Buchanan.

Sally has signed up for the HLF Webinar in May and Ian Bain will sign up.

Minutes proposed by Audrey, seconded by Sally.

Matt will contact SCVS to discuss the role and responsibilities of BCCPRG engaging a Development Officer.

Sally and Audrey met up with Ian Bain today to sign off our Memorandum of Understanding. Ian and Sally agreed that any procurement of under £50,000 would be down to us, anything over that amount would be WDC as they can reclaim VAT. Ian will contact LLTNP to ask if we can access NP Ranger volunteers now that we have the MOU in place.

Ian is happy for us to start work on our Action Plan, we will discuss this at our next Partnership Meeting, TBA. Trustees to have a look at our Action Plan and feedback any changes required to Matt who will make any necessary changes. Audrey suggested that the Flags Project and Foyer Information Display be added to A.P.

Ian will have a look at the disability access issue with the main doors to the Foyer area.

WDC Regeneration Committee next meet on 21/5/25, Sally will contact WDC by 7/5/25 to request permission for us to give a presentation to them. Sally will also contact Dr Heather Reid, LLTNP to ask if she would like to attend to support us, Matt will also attend.

Gillian to contact Michelle Lynn @ WDC for an update on drone access to the North Lodge.

Flags Project, banners will be in place by the end of April.

Ian Bain is meeting with the WDC Lighting Dept to assess which other lampposts would be suitable to have banners on them.

Audrey suggested we have a Publicity/Engagement Event in May.

Chas are delighted with the banners and happy to continue working with us.

Audrey suggested we could contact local businesses to sponsor a banner in Phase 2 of the project. Sally will contact John Sweeney to see if he could help local businesses.

Information Boards should be themed and have our logo on them, Sally will contact Laura [Artist] to ask if she would help us develop the boards. Matt will assist.

Bank Account Balance, £4616.33, £2000 grant from Strathleven Foundation is now in our account.

Virgin Money account now up and running.

We are now signed up with the HMRC to claim Gift Aid.

Cat in the process of handing over her duties as Treasurer.

Cara will advise new dates for CANVA training.

Matt and Cara will investigate a Donate button on our website.

Website to be updated to moderate mentions of WDC.

Blogs required for the following

Flags Project - Audrey

MOU - Sally

Strathleven Foundation Grant - Sally

DONM 29/4/25 [Teams]