Tighnabruaich District Development Trust. Minutes of Meeting of Directors, Monday 20th January 2024

 Attendees: Alastair Barge, Andy MacDonald, Steve Williamson, Sheena Currie, Euan Stirling, David Mitchell, Andree Hawke, Fiona McPhail, Robert McPhail, George Watson, Janie Boyd plus Mick Eyre via Zoom call

Apologies: Ronnie Irvine, Chris Trainer

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting 18th November 2024 –

Minutes discussed to clarify some action points, and agreed.

3. Treasurer's Report -

Current position: very limited activity since previous meeting with main income relating to SLF grant for the petrol station feasibility study and a VAT repayment. Main outgoings were also around petrol station costs, along with defibrillator battery replacement, development officer's fees and Kyles 10 Miles website redesign.

Forecast: pending final capital repayment to REIF of £9,693.09 in the coming weeks.

Wind farm: a calm November brought lower than anticipated revenue and December likely to be similar due to varied weather conditions.

4. Development Officer's Update -

Kyles 10 Miles: This will take place on 13th September 2025 with new website launching in February. Some focus on social media coverage to boost numbers was suggested to grow participation. Consideration given to recruiting a business student from the college or member of Dunoon Hillrunners Club to develop broader social media reach.

Website: Mick will approach the designer who renewed the K10 site regarding a proposal and report back at next meeting.

Community plan: the list of completed projects requires updating prior to sharing final plan.

Filling station: the untimely death of Mark requires that, although TDDT intentions and applications for funding to acquire the station have not changed, the pace at which the various next steps occur will be mindful of Barbara's needs. The survey summary shows local support for the project and maintaining the service. A proposed date for the in-person consultation event to inform the next stage of funding application (deadline end Feb/March) will be postponed to give respect to the Critchley family. The basis on which the project develops may also need to be flexible given the closure of one source of funding, the potential that development may need to occur in stages or be more modest, and that community support for the day-to-day running may all be necessary. A general valuation will be required to proceed with funding applications also.

FLS land at tank slip: the valuer has been in touch with enquiries considering any possible commercial income potential this land has for TDDT. The existing features hold no income potential, and some significant investment would be required in order to generate income, so solely a community asset acquisition as is.

High Brenfield status etc: no further discussion

5. Heritage Centre

Robert McPhail was present along with Fiona as his involvement in a community facility in Tarbert and architectural knowledge can inform the plans and possibilities for considering how the existing building structure can be improved and developed to house both the Heritage Centre and a commercial outlet/shop front as a focal point in the village.

6. Paths

Andree provided a summary of current path conditions including basic works required to ensure safety and easier access. Some wooden posts, replacement wire on boardwalks and removal of obstructive plant life is necessary. Andree will approach Donald McVicar regarding post supply and placement. Local work parties and/or a King's Court taskforce could deal with obstructions.

7. **Jetty**

Costings for the proposal to acquire and manage commercial moorings to tie in with the village jetty are estimated at £1,500.00. This would cover refurbishment of four moorings and upgrading them to have a distinctive uniform appearance incorporating QR codes to process payment for use.

The jetty itself requires ongoing maintenance and a quote from a new parts supplier is expected along with a replacement block to trial. 1,200 joining pins are required due to wear and tear with some necessary, along with a replacement float for the far end, prior to the jetty returning to use around Easter time.

8. Status of Grant Applications

Current – no current or new applications **Future / Potential –** some promotion could be beneficial to draw new applicants

9. Residual Ardlamont Estate Land

Agreement to appointment of Euan MacDonald was last known development.

10. AOB

V.E.T.S – a review of volunteers, training and public awareness is to be undertaken.

11. Timing / Schedule for 2025 meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for 17 March 2025.

Thereafter proposed dates are 19 May, 21 July, 15 September and 17 November.