



Glenkens & District Trust (SC042489)

Report from meeting of Trustees – May 2021

We noted the appointment of Graham Walker by Dunscore Community Council and welcomed him to his first meeting.

The focus of the May meeting was on the following areas:

Funding Round

The latest round of applications closed on 6 April - we will consider 17 applications in early June so applicants should hear back by mid-June at the latest. A further two applications were found to be ineligible and a third was withdrawn by the applicant when they successfully sourced funding elsewhere.

Foundation Scotland updated us on the due diligence and eligibility checks that they carry out to inform the assessments reports provided to support our decision making; we also took the opportunity to refresh ourselves on good and effective decision making on applications to ensure that we discharge our responsibilities.

Fund Statement and Grant Making Report

We reviewed the Fund Statement prepared by Foundation Scotland to inform us on the monies received, awarded, repaid and therefore available for new awards. The fund balance at 31st March 2021 was £111, 159 with anticipated receipt of the year three payment from BWFS Limited in June of £264,500. A total of £42 956 is ring fenced for CAP 'implementation phase' projects (see below), the 2021 Community Council payments and the fund management costs, meaning that GDT is anticipating a maximum of £332 703 being available for distribution in 2021.

The current plan is that the payments to the Community Councils for their micro grants will be made in July 2021, dependent on funds being transferred by Temporis Capital.

We carried out a detailed review of the Grant Making Report to assure ourselves that the monies had been utilised in line with the awards made and that the necessary completion reports had been received. We were pleased to see an increase in the number of these being completed in a satisfactory manner and Foundation Scotland also updated us on the improvements they are making in their processes to remind applicants of the timeline for these reports and to measure impact against the Fund Strategy.

As reported last time we are working towards producing a report, later in the year, on how the money from the fund has been utilised.

Community Action Plan

SKS, an organisation with a track record of working with communities across Scotland, has been awarded the contract to carry out the childcare work that we recently put out to tender.

The Steering Group continues to meet virtually with a current key focus on:-

- developing proposals for the monitoring and oversight arrangements for the Community Action Plan;
- reviewing the output from the report done on the local response to COVID;
- how we develop the plan associated with Theme 4 relating to a Carbon Neutral Community;
- the short-term priority projects currently underway.

Associate Members

We formally signed off the arrangements for Associate Members and the Privacy Policy for GDT. The application form accompanies this update and we would be grateful if you could make this available within your community. Please note we have a new contact email address info@glenkenstrust.org.uk who can also provide a copy on request.

Trustees

We reviewed a draft Trustee Recruitment Pack in relation to the recruitment of further independent Trustees to join us in GDT. This will now be finalised and the process started shortly.

Potential further developments

We continue to engage with wind farm developers with plans in our area and have had helpful and constructive discussions recently with a number of developers. The projects are at a range of stages, but it is fair to say that the current focus of all the developers locally is either on the consent, financing or construction elements of their projects and, while they are all building constructive relationships with us, community benefit arrangements are not the immediate focus for them. Updates will be provided to Community Councils when there is movement.

Awards and Extensions

No further awards have been made since the last report. We have granted extensions to Kirkpatrick Durham Recreation Association to give them additional time to achieve matched funding in relation to their project at the Bothy and to Springholm School (Parent) Council where delivery of music tuition has been delayed by the lockdown arrangements.